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Gail Yellen shares a wonderful technique for making a felted jacket using your own wool sweaters.

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## Felting wool sweaters

Felting wool sweaters is far from an exact science—every sweater felts differently. Here are some tips.

- Use 70% - 100% wool sweaters.
- Use the regular, not the gentle wash cycle. The combination of hot water, agitation laundry detergent and the dryer will felt wool.
- How densely felted you want your sweaters is personal choice. I like to maintain some drape for jackets, but prefer a denser texture for bags.
- Wash black sweaters with other black ones only. Fibers from other color sweaters will show when they mesh into black wool.
- Evaluate each sweater after a wash and dry cycle to determine whether it needs more felting for your project.
- Cut the felted sweaters apart along the seams, press them with steam and store in a large ziplock plastic bag.
- Some 100% wool sweaters won't felt at all! The yarn has been chemically treated to prevent shrinkage.

For more information:

<http://gailpatrice.com>

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