

DRYER BALLS

Why make dryer balls: They are cost effective when compared with those plastic ones

They don't off gas and break down

They reduce drying time by separating clothes as they dry

They reduce static cling

They save money – no dryer sheets or fabric softener to buy

They eliminate the waxy build up which can occur in the washing machine when you use fabric softener

They make great gifts and they are really cool!!

How to make dryer balls:

You will need feltable wool (we like Briggs & Little Country Roving)

A needle felting needle (optional)

The leg of a panty hose or tights

Old pair of jeans or other non-linting article (not towels or sheets)

Odds and ends of wool roving for making a design (optional)

Start by winding your feltable wool into a smooth ball the size of a soft ball. Try to wind so that the ball is quite firm, but not hard. Rather than cutting the yarn, pull it apart by tugging firmly. Make several balls this way – from one cake of Country Roving you can make 5 to 6. You can, if you wish, needle felt the yarn ends, so that they are firmly tucked into the ball.

Place the balls into the leg of the panty hose or tights, tying a knot between each ball so that the nylon is stretched firmly around the ball and the balls are separated.

Place in the washing machine with the jeans and set the machine to hottest water, low water level, maximum agitation. Add a little detergent and let the machine do its thing.

Remove from washing machine and place in the dryer, allow to tumble dry. Remove from panty hose and they are done. Use at least 3 dryer balls in your dryer.

If you wish you can embellish the balls with needle felting and odds and ends of roving.

If you find static building up, (which happens every two months or so), just wash your dryer balls with your regular wash and they will be good to go again.