

People distinguish between hairfelt which consists above all cowhair, and woolfelt which is produced of sheepwool. Woolfelt is by nature composed of different wool types which all grow on one sheep within a year. The classifications of wool types reach from very fine to very coarse.

Until raw wool becomes felt, expeditured work steps are necessary:

1. cleaning
2. mixing different types of wool
3. stuffing: the wolly hairs are aligned in a direction, so that thin rolls were manufactured.
4. felting: it is a process of steam, pressure and circular or shaking movements, i.e. the wool fibres chain together and incur themselves to a diffuse connection.
5. milling: with help of hot water and pressure, as well as possible milling adds, different thicknesses and firmnesses of felt can be manufactured.
6. After milling the felt will be washed and dried.
7. In subsequent treatments the felt is adjusted to its intended purpose by: colour, fire protection, moth protection, surface, quality.

Main distinction characteristic of the different felt types is the specific gravity (mass per volume). The basis for this is the hardness scale after DIN 61200. The thickness tolerances cannot be kept as exactly as on other workmaterials after DIN 61206.

Casimir is called a red wool felt which is not totally coloured. The middle is still white. People in piano facturing say that the felt must be changed as soon as the Casimir is rubbed and the white colour is visible.

Felt has got different properties such as taking on and giving off liquids, saving goods and surfaces, distributing pressure power and oil, damping sound and vibrations. Corresponding to this one can find felt in many products, but it is an expensive nature product because of the expeditured manufacturing.

Wool felt and wool felt with weaved reinforcement are used for string damping. The damping felts with weaved reinforcement are more stable as wool felt, that means the strings do not get into the felt so fast. The disadvantage is that the felt's stability presses the damper slot of the jack strongly apart and the wood brakes possibly. For a good position of the wool felt the thickness is very important.

In that days we recommend the fluffy wool felt with 8 mm width and 1.7 mm thickness for Cristofori jacks, or also the strong wool felt with a thickness of 1.5 mm. Should you prefer the thicker felt with 2.0 mm you are not allowed to press it very low into the damper slot, so that the wood cannot break.