

WADDING OR BATTING

They are the same thing, but some countries call it wadding and others call it batting.

Please read our T & C's – www.rosamaycrafts.com

DISCLAIMER: Please note this is my very own guideline, there are so many guides and tips, use which one you feel works for you.

Wadding is a soft and fluffy compressed fibre – from cottons to plastics - and comes in a variety of thickness and has a variety of uses. It is used for home decoration – placemats, oven gloves, applique and quilts to name a few.

There are several things to consider when selecting a wadding:

Loft

This is the weight and thickness of a wadding/batting. Low loft is the thin wadding/batting and high loft is thicker and heavier. You will see noted on the packaging or description - *Weight: 70gsm/2oz*. This is the low loft – 70gsm and high is 300gsm.

If you are looking for a flat finish then the low loft is better – e.g. for placemats, coasters, etc. A quilt will need the thicker puffier high loft wadding/batting.

70 gsm = 2 oz = 5 mm

135 gsm = 4 oz = 12 to 15 mm

205 gsm = 6 oz = 18 to 20 mm

305 gsm = 9 oz / 25 to 30 mm

Colour

Wadding/batting comes in white and black. The white wadding/batting is perfect for all project, but if you are making a project with dark fabric, it is better to use the black wadding as sometimes when stitching the waddings comes through.

Price

I know that is always a factor but think of your project and its purpose. Polyester is the most cost effective

Types of wadding.

Cotton wadding



This is made from 100% natural cotton fibre. It comes in a variety of thickness and very easy to use. As it is a natural fibre it is very soft, but is heat resistant, therefore perfect for quilts and oven mitts.

Polyester Wadding



This is very popular and is made from man-made fibres; it is cost effective and washes well. It holds its shape and thickness well. Always check as some polyester wadding/battings are heat resistant and others are not. You will find wadding blends – mix of cotton and polyester/wool/bamboo. The more cotton there is the softer the wadding will be.

Bamboo Wadding



This is something I have not used. It is not easy to find and is very expensive. Bamboo wadding is a natural fibre and therefore environmentally friendly. It is very soft and often found mixed with cotton. It is not heat resistant and will melt under extreme heat or flames

Fusible Fleece



Fusible fleece is very similar to the fusible interfacing in that one side is shiny – where the glue is and the other is matt. This is ironed on and the fleece fuses with the fabric once pressed and heated.

Visit - <https://rosamaycrafts.com/category/sewing-tutorials>

Wool wadding



This is made from a 100% wool, making it perfect for placemats and other home décor. It is soft, easy to use and a natural fibre. It is wonderful for insulation and comfort and therefore commonly used when creating quilts. It does not crease but does not like to be washed regularly.

If buying online check for the following information/description:

- Material – cotton, polyester, etc.
- Shrinkage percentage
- Loft
- If it is a blend or mix – what percentage is each fibre/material
- Heat resistant or not
- Thickness - mm
- Uses

If buying in a physical shop – always the best, but not always possible – just ask.

Best wadding for home decorations

Placemats, Heat pads, Table runners

Use heat resistant wadding, low loft (see below). Decide on whether you would like a thin or thick placemat as there are a variety of thickness and weights. Also check the shrinkage as this is something that you will wash on a regular basis.

Tea Cosy

Here we are looking for an insulating wadding as you need to keep your tea in the teapot warm for as long as possible.

As it does not need to be heat resistant you can use any type of wadding – cotton, wool or polyester.

Do you wish to keep your tea warm for longer, then the thicker wadding will work or is your teapot cover more for decoration, or you have tea lovers that the tea doesn't sit in the teapot for long, then a thinner one is great.

Coasters

With coasters, you will need to use polyester or cotton/polyester wadding/batting that are heat resistant and absorb some of the moisture.

A final few words – always, always read the descriptions or ask lots of questions, especially when it is your first time buying.

Once you have purchased the wadding/batting – read the instructions.

An example of description to look out for:

Material	Cotton blend
Colour	White
Fabric type	20% cotton, 80% polyester
Loft	70gsm / 2oz / 5 mm
Length/width	100 cm x 50cm

Please note these are basic tips to look out for, there is more in depth information that can be found.



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There is a lovely ebook to download and gives you loads of information about the different types of wadding/batting.

<https://www.cottonpatch.co.uk/downloads-and-information/frequently-asked-questions/what-is-wadding-loft>