

# Open Book Newsletter

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM PEN COED PUBLISHING



## Special Book offer

### Congratulations

This month you have a chance to receive a **free** copy of **“Badly Chopped Carrots”** by Dr Anita Rogers Burrell! Add “Carrots” to the **Contact Us** form by 24<sup>th</sup> October and we will pick a name at random

## What’s New

### Welcome to our 3rd Newsletter

Thank you for signing up to our monthly Newsletter. Hope you find it interesting and inspiring!

Feel free to share it with friends

## Hints & Tips

### Tips about Writing, Editing and Publishing

This month we have included notes on deciding a structure for your non-fiction writing. We have used the “wallpaper” approach using the topic - well, wallpaper!

PEG LOOM WEAVING  
All you need to know to get started  
Jacqueline Jaynes  
Pen Coed Textiles



FELT MAKING  
All you need to know to get started



Jacqueline Jaynes  
“Like painting with fibres!”

## THIS MONTH’S FEATURED BOOKS

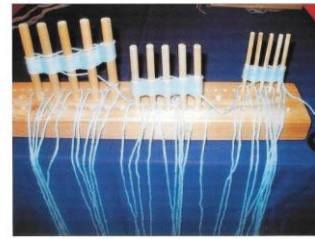
WITH NIGHTS DRAWING IN, WE ARE LOOKING AT SOME CRAFT IDEAS WITH 2 BOOKS - PEG LOOM WEAVING AND FELT MAKING. LOTS OF EXAMPLES TO INSPIRE YOU TO HAVE A GO. Special Offer: Buy 2 books together for £20.00 + p&p

# Peg Loom Weaving: all you need to know to get started

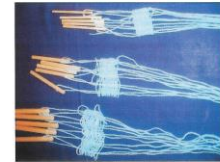
The Peg Loom is a simple loom, easier to work on at home than a larger-scale traditional loom. Pegs stand along a narrow wooden base, each with a hole to thread the 'warp' thread, so making it easy to weave your yarns backwards and forwards along the rows - a bit like basket weaving.

The book has lots of full-colour images on every page leading you through the process, with suggestions for a range of different projects to try.

ISBN:978-0-9926100-0-5 £12.50 + p&p



The same double knitting wool is used on three different sizes of pegs - the 6mm pegs give a finer, denser weave than the 9mm or 12mm



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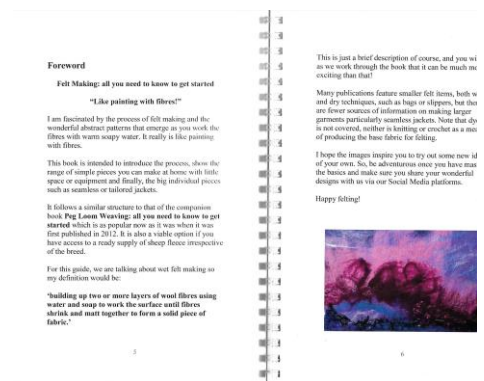
# Felt Making: all you need to know to get started

This is a simple process that needs no special equipment, just a flat surface, a sheet of plastic or bubble-wrap, a jug of warm soapy water, and lots of wool fibres - oh yes, and some 'elbow grease' to work the fibres.

Again, lots of full-colour images to show you how to set out the fibres as a flat pad, usually in 3 layers, then work it vigorously until they start to shrink and matte together to form a piece of felted fabric. A very satisfying process!

You can use natural fleece fibres or beautiful brightly-coloured Merino fleece from online suppliers. You can never quite control the pattern that appears in the final piece, but that just makes it more interesting. From place mats to jackets, the options are endless.

Find more details about both books by our author Jacqueline Jaynes on [www.pencoedpublishing.co.uk/crafts-books](http://www.pencoedpublishing.co.uk/crafts-books)



ISBN: 978-1-9998352-4-8

£15.00 plus p&p

## Tips on Writing, Editing and Publishing

### DECIDE THE STRUCTURE FOR YOUR WRITING: THE WALLPAPER APPROACH TO **THE DANGERS OF WALLPAPERS** BLOG

As a topic to write about, wallpaper may not spring to mind as an inspiring read, so I accept you might be reluctant to carry on reading. But please do!

We regularly have lots of queries about how to write non-fiction, where to start, how to plan the structure. Having referred to the 'wallpaper approach' before, this is an illustration of how I use it. To keep it simple, here are brief notes about different aspects of wallpaper - topic of the article - both personal and historical.

#### Wallpaper topics (in no particular order)

1. Victorian (19<sup>th</sup> century), wallpaper often had a strong stylized pattern and single colour. If it was dyed dark green, Scheele's Green, it was likely to contain large amounts of arsenic.
2. The Yellow Wallpaper, a book with a creepy story that revolves around a woman who is locked in a room by her husband and who starts to hallucinate about the patterns she sees on the yellow wallpaper
3. many well-known early-20<sup>th</sup> century artists designed wallpaper and curtain fabrics for manufacturers such as Sanderson.
4. In the 1970s in the UK, the most popular wallpaper patterns included big swirls or circles in yellow/ orange/ brown colours. Or purple. Or green.
5. My first Victorian house we found 10 - yes, 10 - layers of wallpaper on the kitchen wall, every night after school, we all scraped this wall inch by inch to remove the paper.
6. "wallpaper complex" - wanting to fade into the background/wallpaper when in a group setting
7. The first time I learned how to hang wallpaper was when I got tired of waiting 2 months for ex-husband to hang the last two pieces in the hall, so I did it myself.
8. When I was a little girl, one drop of wallpaper in my bedroom wrapped into the corner so I used my thumbnail each night to try and push it into the corner leaving little thumb-shaped holes
9. One panel of flowered wallpaper in another room was hung upside down. Once you see it, you cannot "unsee" it however hard you try.

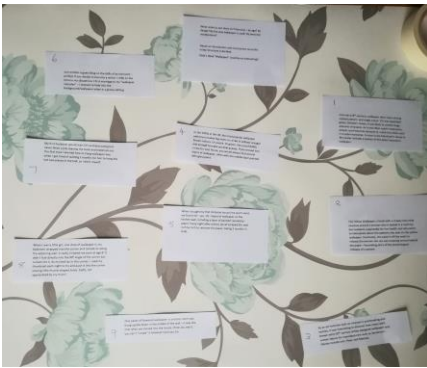
#### Decide the order of sections

Cut out these little notes and place on a large piece of wallpaper moving them around into some sort of logical progression until you are happy with the suggested structure. Rearrange them until you are happy.

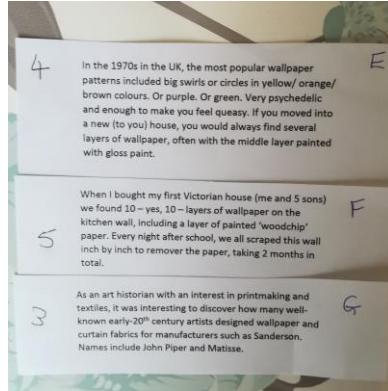
In this example, with 3 distinct sections, I decided on Personal experience/ how wallpaper is used/ Fascinating Facts. This is where I decided the title could be **The Dangers of Wallpaper**.

For each of the 9 factors listed here, decide what research is needed, where to find images, and any extra details you can find.

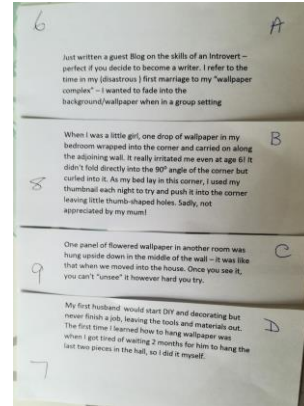
Examples of arranging notes to decide structure



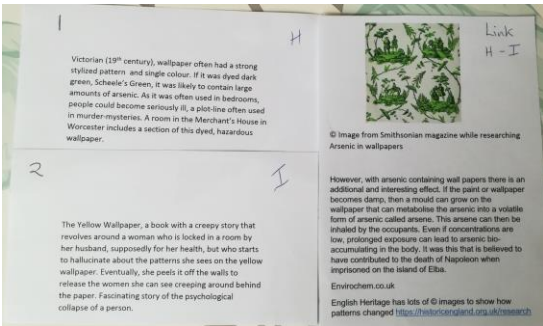
Random order of notes



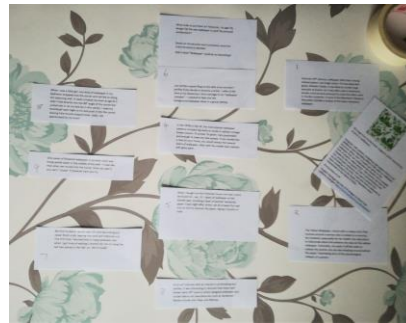
reorder placement (1)



reorder placement (2)



Reorder (3)



Decided on 3 groups - sections



Links between use of arsenic dye for wallpaper



Deciding Section titles

This now gives a picture of a logical structure with 3 section sub-headings. Just need to carry out research, find extra information, add it to the chart (post-it notes, little thumbnail images), add an Introduction and finally a Conclusions section to bring it all together.

I find it works well whether writing a technical book, a memoir, or even a novel, and it provides a useful outline to show you have thought it through when you submit with a Book Proposal to a publisher. Try it out and send us your images!

See more detailed blog on [www.pencoedpublishing.co.uk/blog](http://www.pencoedpublishing.co.uk/blog)