

# **2019 GENTLE ROLLER OWNER'S MANUAL PART 3**

## **ROLLING TIPS AND TRICKS THE GENTLE ROLLER**

**RELEASED FEB 2019**

## Table of Contents

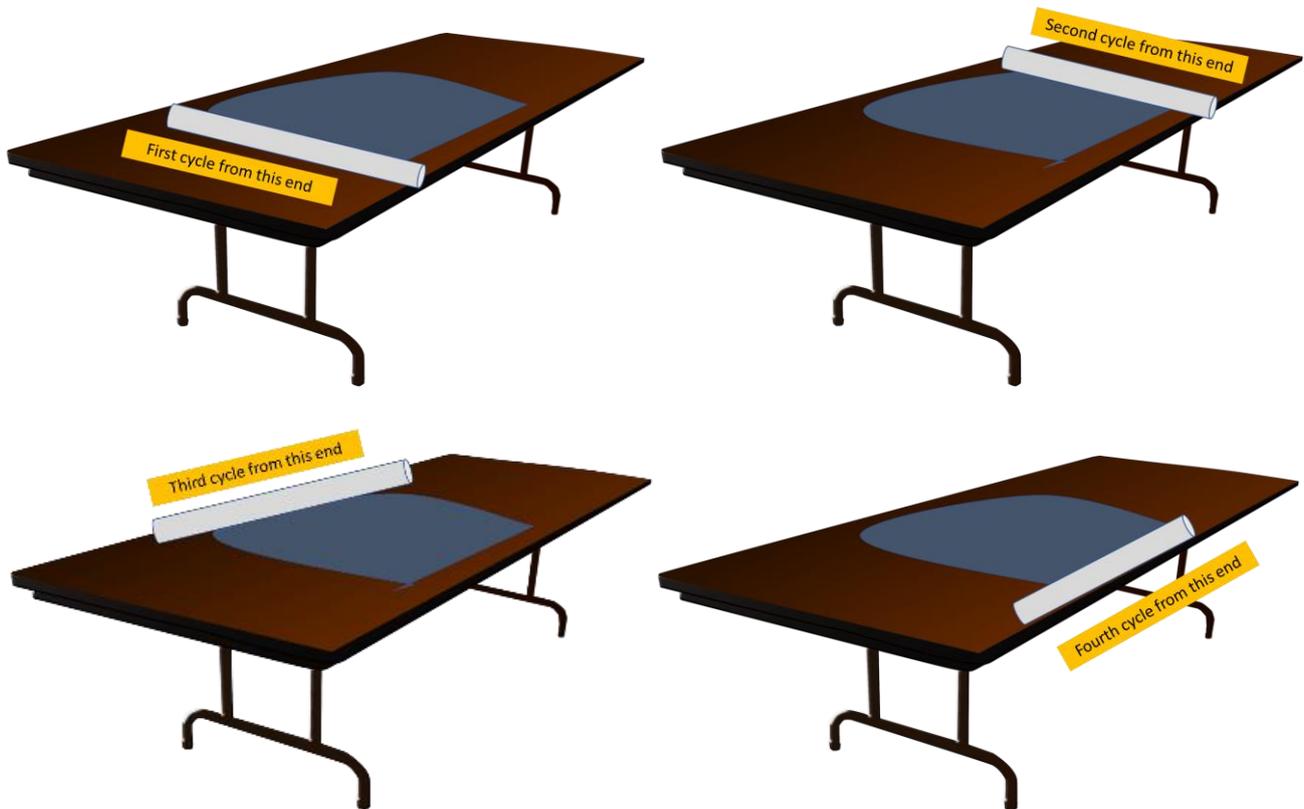
1	SPECIAL FOLDS .....	3
1.1	STANDARD 4 WAY FOLDS .....	3
1.2	PARTIAL FOLDS .....	4
1.3	HALF FOLDS .....	5
1.4	PARTIAL BUBBLE WRAP INSERT.....	6
1.5	ROLLING ON BUBBLE WRAP.....	7
2	ROLLING THICK FELT .....	7
3	YOUR PROJECT WALKS TO ONE END OF THE MACHINE.....	7
3.1	THE BUNDLE IS TOO LOOSE: .....	7
3.2	THE BUNDLE IS CONE SHAPED .....	7
3.3	THE BUNDLE IS ODD SHAPED .....	8
4	CHOOSING THE CORRECT PIVOT HOOK LOCATOR .....	9
5	THE FULLING DRUM .....	9
6	PARK FUNCTION.....	9
7	HAND TOUCHES .....	10
8	THE FULLING DRUM MAKES A SHUDDERING NOISE.....	10
8.1	FULLING BAGS .....	10
8.2	FULLING SPEED.....	10
9	CHANGING THE DEFAULT SETTINGS.....	11

# TIPS AND TRICKS WHEN USING THE GENTLE ROLLER

## 1 SPECIAL FOLDS

### 1.1 Standard 4 way folds

Depending on the size of your item, the easiest way to ensure all your material gets an equal amount of 'work' is to roll the item from each of the four sides.

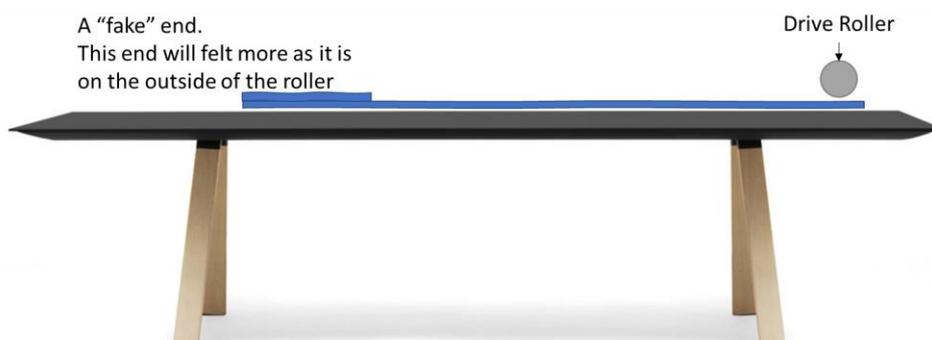
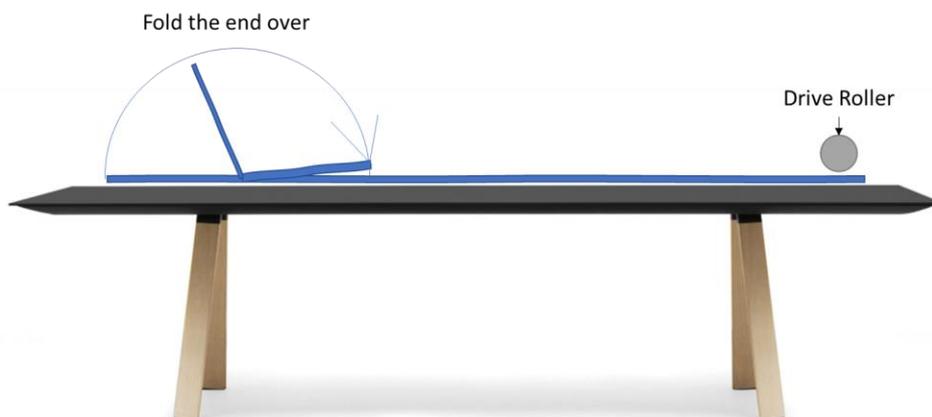
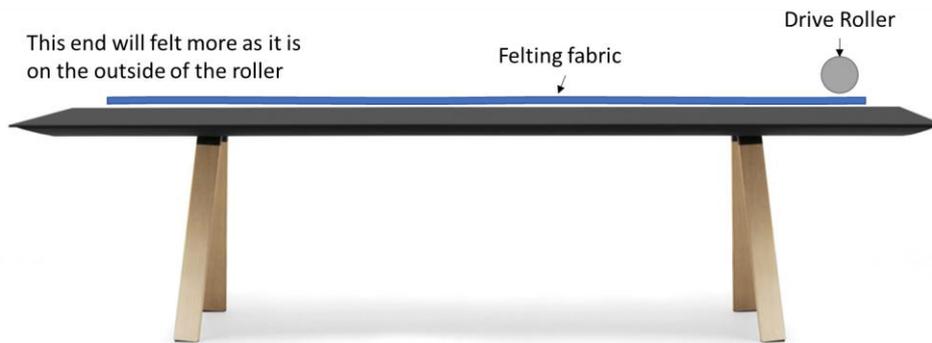


As noted above if doing a nuno item the wool side should be face down.

If your item is thick, double sided nuno, or only wool, it is recommended that after doing the four-fold method, you flip the material over and take it up again from all four sides thus ensuring that the top and bottom of your item has received equal amounts of 'work'.

## 1.2 Partial folds

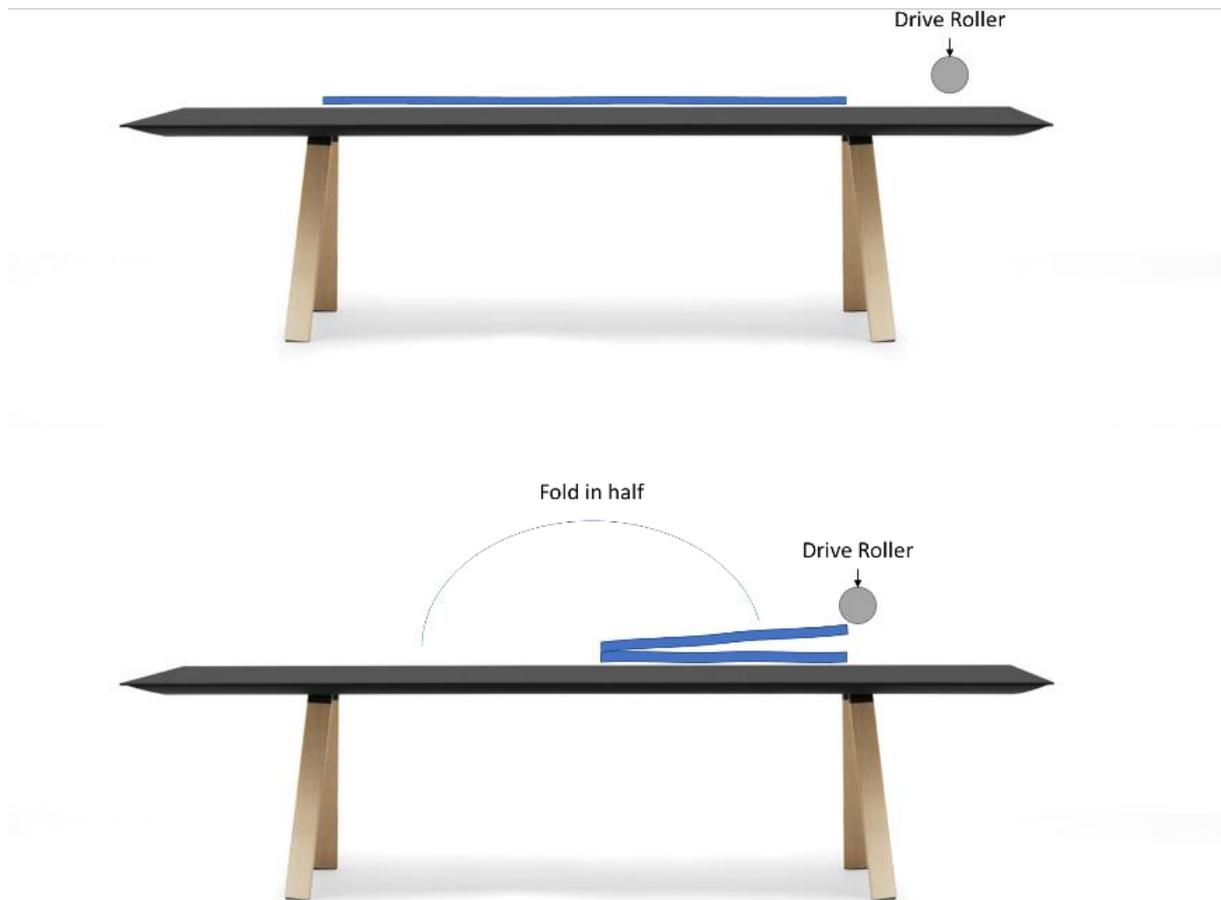
If you are felting a long piece, such as a scarf or wrap, you can progressively fold one end of your fabric onto itself, to create a fake end.



When creating 'fake ends', ensure that after you have rolled the material you smooth out any induced creases before folding the end further along to create another 'fake end'.

### 1.3 Half folds

If your piece is less than 2 meters (6 feet) you can possibly achieve your objective by simply folding the piece in half.



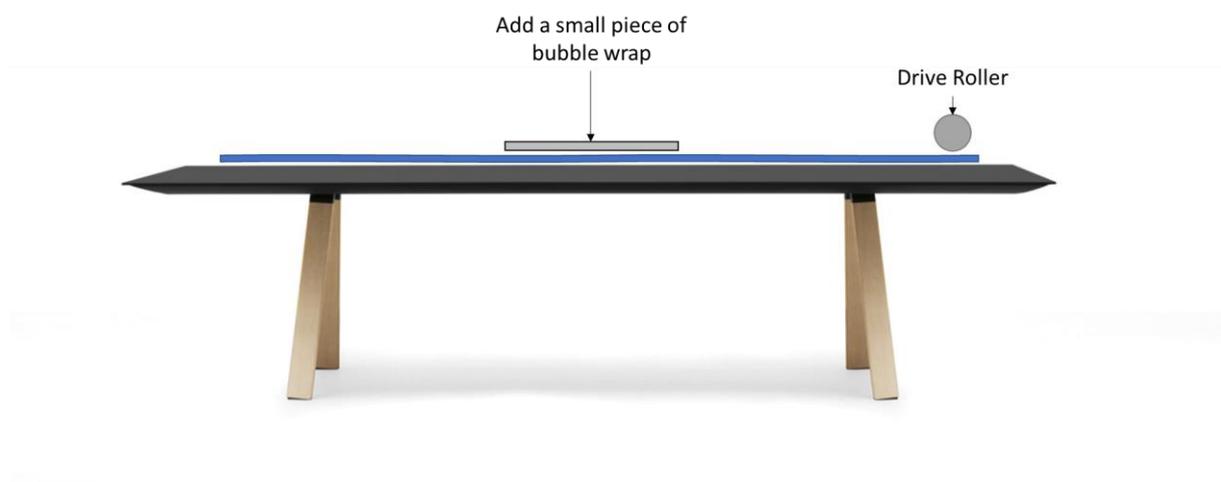
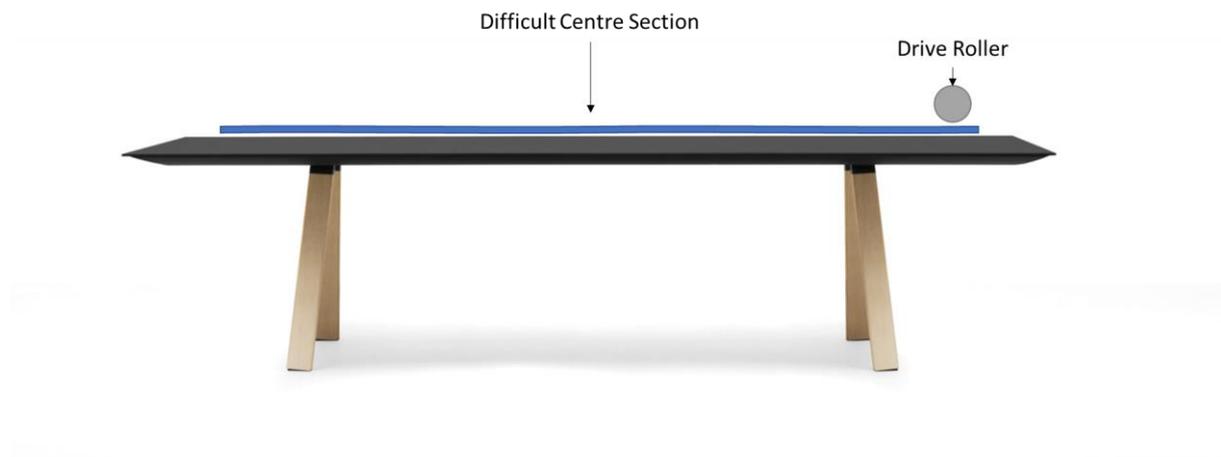
When doing a half fold, it is also recommended to incorporate the standard four-way fold and roll your materials from all four sides.

You may also want to flip it and fold it with the previous inside layer on the outside.

You should note that half folds have a tendency to create a crease or pleat in the fabric which should be massaged out when checking and changing ends.

## 1.4 Partial bubble wrap insert

If you find loose areas in the middle of thick or large pieces you can insert a piece of soft bubble wrap with the bubble face down to the fibres to help with the agitation. The bubble can be on top of the plastic sheet. See diagrams



## **1.5 Rolling on bubble wrap**

If rolling on bubble wrap, use a soft flexible bubble. This may be useful if you find your fabric so fine that the bundle doesn't make good contact with the idle rollers.

## **2 ROLLING THICK FELT**

The thicker your felt the more difficult it will be to take it up on the drive roller (particularly when you are starting a piece).

Roll it up slowly. Occasionally you may need to lift the drive roller and flatten your fabric before continuing to roll.

## **3 YOUR PROJECT WALKS TO ONE END OF THE MACHINE**

There are a couple of reasons why your project may walk.

### **3.1 The bundle is too loose:**

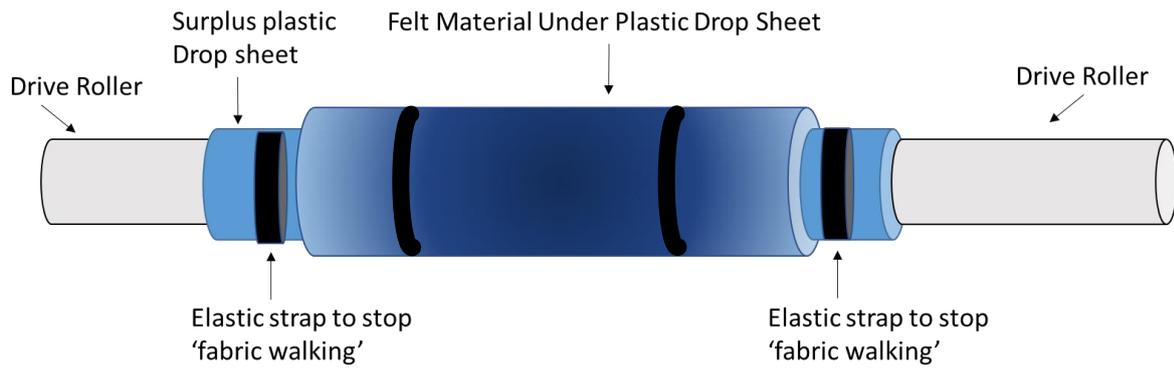
Unroll the material and re-roll it with a little more tension

### **3.2 The bundle is cone shaped**

(fatter at one end than at the other): The idle rollers will try and compensate automatically for a cone shaped bundle. You can also overcome the walking by placing the two side idle rollers at an angle similar to your cone shaped bundle. i.e. place each idle roller on the first pivot hook locator at one end and place it on the second pivot hook locator at the other end (this is shown on one of the tutorial videos).

### **Do not use the third (top) idle roller.**

If you have allowed 100mm (4 inches) of additional plastic sheet at each side of your bundle when you have rolled it, you can use the accessory Hook and loop elastic straps (or elastic bands) to tightly hold the plastic sheet ends in place. See diagram.

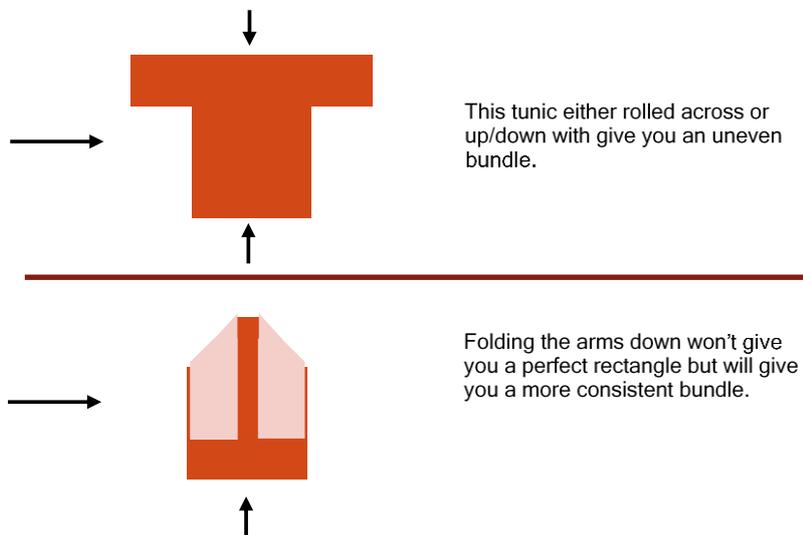


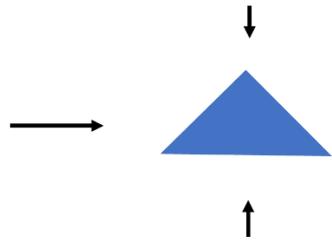
### 3.3 The bundle is odd shaped

(fatter in the middle than at the ends / fat at the ends and thinner in the middle):

If you are making non-rectangular shapes eg a garment, a triangular shawl etc. you will find that you may have a bundle of uneven thickness.

It is recommended that you fold you items to minimize the uneven shape. This is usually possible with a little thinking through your shape and the folds required to achieve a more balanced shape.





This shawl either rolled across or up/down with give you an uneven bundle.



Folding the top down wont give you a perfect shape but rolled sideways will give you a more consistent bundle.



Another fold and you have a rectangle and a very consistent bundle.

#### 4 CHOOSING THE CORRECT PIVOT HOOK LOCATOR

The centre of your idle rollers should be level with or just below the centre of your drive roller. In most cases you will find the first locator of the pivot hook to be appropriate.

If you have a large bundle you may need to use the second or third locator of the pivot hook.

#### 5 THE FULLING DRUM

***Always use the Fulling cycle when using the Fulling Drum***

If you are on the felting cycle you will overload the motor and the auto cut-off will shut down the control panel momentarily. It will re-boot automatically. Repetitive misuse in this manner could damage your motor or your PCB.

#### 6 PARK FUNCTION

If you wish to use the park function The Gentle Roller must be parked before you insert the drum. With the roller housing empty, from the main menu select fulling, then select continue, then select new then press the park button. You can now insert the fulling drum with the opening towards the top.

## **7 HAND TOUCHES**

The fulling drum default fulling setting is 500 cycles. We recommend checking your bundle at around 150-200 cycles to check for the felt sticking to itself or to ensure that corners, or specific areas, are fulling as you would like.

A little manual intervention (hand touches) every few hundred cycles will ensure you get the best outcome as you full and shrink your garment.

## **8 THE FULLING DRUM MAKES A SHUDDERING NOISE**

If you run the fulling drum empty it will make a noise that we call the machine gun effect.

It is not a quality issue. This is a drumming noise created by the small tolerance gap between the plastic end cap and the aluminium hex drive (this is so you can get the drum in and out). It can be eliminated with a piece of tissue paper or light fabric placed over the plastic hex end cap as it is inserted into the aluminium hex drive plate.

It is explained in the “Gentle Roller Noise Level” video on the Exclusive Content page at time stamp 6:20

### **8.1 Fulling bags**

These are not mandatory, but they are useful when fulling a thin item as they help to reduce tangling.

We recommend you place your pre-felt inside the Fulling Bags to minimize entangling. We also recommend that for the first few fulling cycles you leave the material between the two plastic sheets.

Ensure that your bundle is wet throughout the fulling.

### **8.2 Fulling speed**

The default fulling cycle speed is 50%. We recommend that this is increased to 75%. Rotating faster than 75% is unnecessary.

## 9 CHANGING THE DEFAULT SETTINGS

If you are making similar items on a regular basis, you may find that certain settings of the control panel are more suitable for your work. There is a video in the Exclusive section of the Gentle Roller web site describing how to change the default settings so that they are more appropriate for your type of work.

To enter the default settings press and hold the top right hand button. It and it should enter the default settings menu where you can adjust any of the default settings.

Note: We are always looking to provide the clearest possible explanation for Gentle Roller users to get the best out of their machine. If you find spelling or grammar errors, or if you find any section in this document confusing please contact me, [philip@gentleroller.com.au](mailto:philip@gentleroller.com.au), and I will address your comment and update the booklet accordingly.