

How to tell the difference between real and fake fur

There are four simple ways of testing if something is made of real or fake fur:

1. The Feel Test:

Feel the difference by rolling the hairs between the finger and thumb.

Real Fur: Feels smooth and soft, easily rolls between the fingers.

Fake Fur: Feels coarse.

2. The Look Test:

Blow on the hairs so that they divide, and look at the base.

Real Fur: Often made up of several layers of thin hairs that form a dense under-wool through which the longer hairs stick out. The hairs remain attached to the leather (skin).

Fake Fur: Simpler in structure, individual hairs are often the same length and are even in colour.

3. The Pin Test (we do not recommend conducting the pin test in stores!):

Push a pin through the base where the fur is attached.

Real Fur: The leather resists; pin is hard to push through.

Fake Fur: Pin goes easily through the base.

4. The Burn Test (we do not recommend conducting the burn test in stores!):

Carefully pull a few hairs from the fur and hold them to a flame.

Real Fur: Singes and smells like human hair.

Fake Fur: Melts and smells like burnt plastic and forms small plastic balls at the ends that feel hard between the finger and thumb.

Remember, if you cannot be sure if something is made of real or fake fur, please give the animals the benefit of the doubt and do not buy it!

[Adapted from the Fur Free Alliance](#)

