Bow'ling. (Hat-making.) A mode of separating the filaments of feltlin-fur, and distributing them lightly in an openwork frame, called a basket. The oval sheet of fur thus obtained is worked by pressure, and a rubbing jerking motion, which causes the fibers to interlace (felt), so that the sheet of napping can be handled and shaped by the succeeding processes.

In bow'ling, the amount of fur is weighed out, placed in a wad on the bench, and, the bow being held over it, the string is twanged by a wooden pin in the hand of the workman, so as to pick up a quantity of the filaments at each vibration, and throw them on to the basket, or wire screen.