

There are many different techniques when it comes to using a Drop Spindle. This will cover just a few. It is highly recommended that the beginner seek out help from a fellow spindler, or look online for additional assistance.

To assemble, insert the hook into the predrilled hole on the top of the spindle shaft. Place the shaft through the hole on the disk and push gently to secure. Attach the leader yarn to the shaft as shown.

Or use the wool to create a leader as shown on the following page.







Prepare the fiber by pre-drafting a small amount. This means to pull the fibers gently to loosen and separate without breaking the roving into two pieces.

"Park" the spindle under your arm or between the knees. Take the pre-drafted fiber and loop it through the hook.





Hold the end of the fiber along with the roving you will spin. Give the spindle several good spins, thus locking the end and attaching the fiber to the spindle. Draft out a bit more yarn, either while the drop spindle is parked (easier for beginners) or while it is suspended. Twirl the spindle again to spin the fiber into yarn.





Notice the notch on the side of the disk. Lay the yarn into this notch and down to the shaft.



Wrap the yarn around the shaft several times.





Bring it up through the notch again and back onto the hook.



Wrap it around the hook once more.
You are now ready to spin!





Spin the spindle until the yarn begins to kink up on itself. Then "park" the spindle.

Pinch the end of the twist to prevent it from entering the working roving. Draft out some roving and then, while pinching the top of the roving that you've just drafted, release the pinch closest to the spindle.

This will allow the twist to travel up the roving, stopping where you have it pinched, thus creating yarn.



Unhook the yarn and wrap it around the shaft and back up to the hook as before.



Then drop the spindle, give it a whirl to create more twist and park it again to repeat the process.

Once you've mastered that, you may want to try spinning with a non-parked spindle. Use the same pinch technique to control the twist. Pinch, draft and spin, pinch, draft and spin until you have enough yarn to wrap around the shaft. Continue until you have spun all of your yarn or your spindle is full.



To ply the yarn, first spin 2 balls of singles. Hold the end of each and spin the spindle in the opposite direction as you used while spinning the singles.





Using a Drop Spindle takes practice. Don't get discouraged. **Keep at it and soon you will be making your own beautiful yarn!**