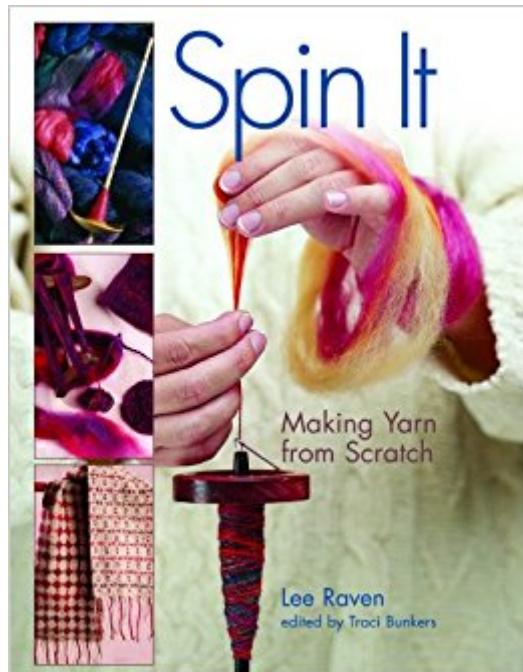


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# Spin It: Making Yarn From Scratch



## **Synopsis**

Here are step-by-step instructions and illustrations that explain how to make yarn from scratch using handspindles--simple tools used to turn wool into yarn. Designed to appeal to the beginning spinner, tips and hints are provided that illustrate how easy, enjoyable, and relaxing spinning can be. This manual also includes complete instructions for five simple, appealing projects: a woven sleeve, a knitted bunny bag, a knitted baby hat, knitted fingerless mittens, and a crocheted hat.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Aug 10 Spinning instructions in this book start from putting twist into a strand of fibre using only your hands, then a hooked stick, only moving onto spinning with a homemade spindle after having explained drafting, twist, tension, how lumps in the yarn occur (and how to avoid them). Making a handspindle from CDs is explained, then how to spin and how to ply. Carding and combing wool follow, and scouring fleece rounds up the skills taught before ending with a handful of simple knit, weave and crochet patterns. Excellent tutor book for beginners who haven't spun before and want to make yarn on a spindle. Yarn Maker Sept 06 With this great little booklet you can learn how to make your own yarn from scratch. None of the methods use combersome equipment, rather there is a selection of hand-held techniques that need only a spindle or just a simple hook. Some of these can be made at home from a wire coathanger or follow the ingenious instructions to make use of all those free CDs to produce your own spindle. The step by step guide then takes you through your first home-spun yarn using a handful of fleece. The friendly tone of the book guides you through

each stage with plenty of tips and advice as you perfect your art and your confidence increases. Once spun, the book talks you through processing your yarn to create a perfect ball of wool. With lots of information about preparing wool straight off the sheep's back you can really start from scratch or opt to buy ready to spin wool. There are also five projects to make with your hanks of home-made wool. This booklet will bring out the Barbara Good in everyone and give you a satisfying glow of self-sufficiency while opening a door on a fascinating craft. Knit Today

Lee Raven is a former systems analyst who helped found the Bay Area Spinner's Textile Study Group and organise the Northern California Spinner's gathering, and is former editor of Spin-Off magazine. When she discovered spinning in 1980, she found it more exciting than anything she had previously done and she 'jumped in with both feet'. Lee teaches spinning locally and nationally and holds the world record for spinning fine silk.

I picked up "Spin-It" along with several other new spinning books to add to my library (the others being "The Spinners Companion" and "Spin to Knit" -- both excellent books). I was very surprised when I opened the box and found that what I thought was a reasonably sized book was in fact a twenty-five-ish page booklet. The content is good and mainly covers the mechanics of spinning. It also includes a good how-to on how to make a CD spindle, although you can find similar instructions for free on the Interweave webpage. The booklet additionally covers a brief introduction to scouring and carding. There were three or four knit projects in the back, although how any spinning beginner could tackle a three ply angora still boggles my mind. The booklet does not cover anything other than basic spindle spinning. If you need a intro to wheel spinning you would be better off with the author's other intro "Hands On Spinning" or or Shannon Okey's "Spin to Knit." I would actually recommend "Spinning in the Old Way" above this title for new spindle spinners as it has much more information to grow with as you become more proficient with spindle spinning.

Nearly 40 years ago a sheep farmer neighbor taught me to spin wool into yarn using a homemade drop spindle (a dowel with a carved hook stuck into 2x4 which was cut into an octagon ...) I was first attracted to Spin It by the picture on the cover; I had never before seen a drop spindle with the whorl under the weight, and was curious to see what else might be new to me. I did not expect very much, but was pleasantly surprised. This book is in no way intimating. It encourages experimentation. Spin It gently leads a curious person with a bit of fleece through the various steps to some interesting and useful wool projects. These can be accomplished with little or no expense. There are even

instructions for making your own drop spindle. While Spin It presents information on a variety of drop spindles, do not expect information on spinning wheels, dyeing, sheep, fibers other than wool, or on fancy varieties of spun yarn. The resource list at the end of the book can lead the reader to further information.

This book helped me with not only spinning but how to prepare the fiber. It also shows how to use hand carders. Very helpful.

I think this is a great little book that covers a variety of information on spinning and learning to spin specifically with a spindle. The information that is not covered is how to choose a spindle. Specifically how to choose a spindle related to what you would like to spin. What does weight of the spindle have to do with my choice of spindles? If this information is in the book, I do not see it. I did find the information that I need in an old copy of Spin Off magazine, so I really did not need the book at all.

the book is very good, I just do not have the same spinal stick. but will keep trying. thank you

Lovely book. Easy to read and work from. Highly recommend.

Good book, a lot to learn.

Great educational book!

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