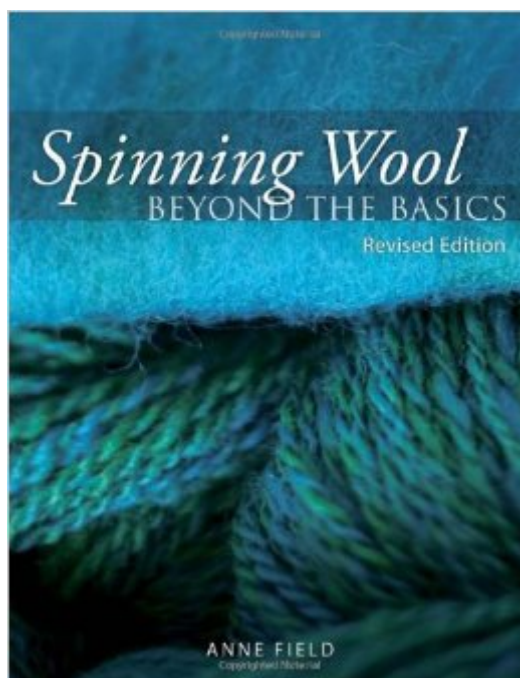


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Spinning Wool: Beyond The Basics



Synopsis

Spinning has changed hugely since its upsurge in popularity in the 1970s. These days spinners want to know more than just how to spin an adequate yarn: they want to extend the range of yarns they can produce, to understand what is happening as they spin, and to learn about the raw materials they are working with. The first edition of this book gave spinners, for the first time, a fully illustrated manual that provided straightforward, authoritative advice and information on their craft, while spinning wheel manufacturers developed wheels to meet the changing needs of spinners. This revised and updated edition, now in full color, is intended for spinners who have mastered the basic spinning techniques explored in the author's *The Ashford Book of Spinning*. It builds on those basics to encourage spinners to extend their skills and to teach them how to analyze fleeces with their end purpose in mind, and to help them get the best out of their spinning wheels. Part One covers what spinners need to know about wool and types of wool, analysis of a fleece, and how to store and prepare it for spinning. The chapter on wool types has been updated, with completely new samples and photographs. Part Two includes information on many of the new spinning wheels currently available. The yarn design section continues to provide thorough coverage with step-by-step instructions and photographs of the process of spinning yarns to a predetermined size and twist count, as well as detailed explanations of spinning methods, relating this information back to the properties of the chosen fleece. Finally, there are many new projects, all illustrated with full instructions, suggesting interesting and innovative ways to weave, knit or crochet your beautiful, newly spun yarn. *Spinning Wool: Beyond the Basics* is intended for spinners who have mastered the basic spinning techniques and will build on those basics to further expand their spinning skills. This new edition is organized in four sections: wool, spinning wheels (with up-to-date information), yarn designs featuring new color photos, and seven new projects.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is the book that first got me interested in all of the sheep breeds and how their wools differ from each other. I was a knitter who thought wool was wool except for Merino. Then I took up spinning and read this book and I was off and running. I now collect wool from every sheep I can and spin the in as many ways as I can. This book was my jumping off point for my 10 year obsession. Out of print for a long time, now it's back. if this book isn't in your spinning library it needs to get there pronto even if you never have any intention of touching a raw fleece.

Spinning Wool Beyond the Basics is the best spinning reference I have ever seen. I am not a novice, but having this book when I first began to spin would have been a God send. Even now, I seem to learn something from nearly every page. If I could recommend one book to every spinner, no matter what the skill level, it would be Spinning Wool, Beyond the Basics. This book is worth much more than the cost.

I don't do reviews. This is something I feel the need to do every night when I curl up in bed with this book. Finally I understand the relationship between wool breeds, whorl size, twist and yarn size. Until I read this book everything was a guessing game. I finally can plan to spin the right yarn from a particular fiber and with this knowledge, feel that there is a logical approach to my favorite craft. This is what was missing from my library of dozens of spinning books. I'll keep it short-just make sure, after you have the basics down, you get this and read it until it all makes sense.

Spinning Wool: Beyond the Basics appears in a fine revised guide to all spinners who want to move to the next level in their work. It's now in full color and goes beyond basics in teaching spinner how to analyze fleeces and get the most out of a spinning wheel. Yarn design is presented with step-by-step instructions and photos of the spinning process as a whole.

My go-to spinning book has always been Judith McCuin's Intentional Spinner and I thought it couldn't be more comprehensive. But I was pleasantly delighted by Anne Field's book. Interesting

information on spinning various types of wool (although perhaps not many spinners would have access to many of the wools included) and the information on spinning to the number of crimps per inch in the fleece and to the various drive ratios on your wheel is very helpful. The book is heavily illustrated with useful step-by-step photos including how to use hand carders, combs, drum carders and spinning woolen and worsted yarn techniques. The projects at the end of the book are probably the only disappointment in an otherwise outstanding book. Many look kind of dumpy or are a retread of things you can find in other books. Still, it's worth five stars or more for all that the book offers. It will definitely make you a better spinner if you experiment with some of the techniques offered. Bravo!

This book has lots of good information about wool that is a step beyond the bare-boned basics, including information about different breeds of sheep and how the wool varies among breeds. This should give more understanding about why some techniques work well on some wool and not on others, and give a less experienced spinner some basic knowledge that will enhance their experience of spinning.

This is an excellent resource that bridges the gap between what you learn in a beginner's class, and what one expects to learn in a more advanced class. The writing is clear and concise, the author feels approachable through the text. I have this book next to my spinning chair for a quickie reference on the go.

Read this book if you are a beginner and spin the right way! I have read so many books on spinning and am a very accomplished spinner myself, and this is the first book that nails it on the head! Whether you are an art yarn spinner or a classical spinner it will elevate you to the next level of spinningdom.

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