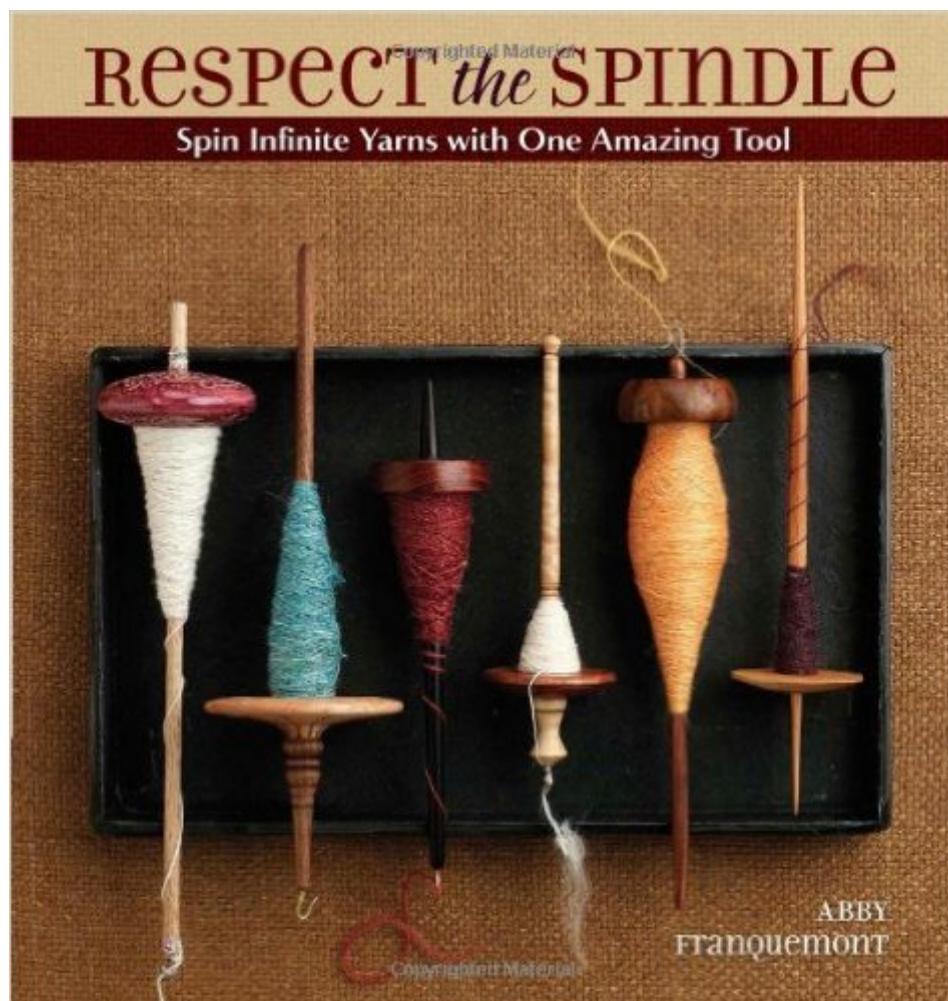


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Respect The Spindle



Synopsis

Enjoying a resurgence in popularity thanks to the current trend of DIY crafts, the hand spindle remains one of the most productive, versatile, and convenient tools for creating stunning fiber arts from home, as this beautifully illustrated guide from a veteran spinner and spindle aficionado demonstrates. With step-by-step instructions, this essential manual details the basic steps of spinning and then advances to the more complicated spinning wheel, showing how to use the spindle to make specific types of yarn, explaining traditional spindle spinning techniques, and detailing five simple projects designed to instill confidence in creating a variety of yarns with this simple tool. Combining fascinating historical narratives, traditions, and cultures from around the globe with vivid photography, this all-encompassing tour of the spindle also boasts easy-to-follow, contemporary techniques and styles that affirm the tool's enduring legacy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ok, why, given we have spinning wheels (and also, we have wonderful yarns available everywhere) would you want to take a rock and a stick and spin your own yarn? It turns out that spindle spinning is very popular, in fact, more popular than ever and crafters are spinning beautiful yarns using this simplest of tool. "Respect the Spindle" gives you an overview of spindle spinning, shows you types of spindles, yarns created by them and gives you basic techniques to start spinning as well as including a DVD that shows you the methods. I first learned to spindle as part of a spinning course. It is FRUSTRATING. They don't call it a "drop spindle" for nothing. Clunk it goes, right on the floor.

Learning to spin is like riding a bike--you have to learn to coordinate. But with about a week or two of practice, you can actually make finer yarns than you do on the wheel. I belong to a group on Ravelry, a large fiber arts website, and the spindle-spun yarns never cease to amaze me. And you can now purchase the most beautiful tool-as-art spindles from artisans around the world, or make your own from a dowel and a CD. The book starts with the basics of spindling, how to choose one shows you how it works, and then you learn about different ways to spin. Drafting (pulling out the fiber to insert twist) is demonstrated, as well as pulling out slubs and thick areas to make your yarn smooth and even in diameter. There is a demo of Russian spindles; these are support spindles, rather like long sharpened sticks, with a thick point at one end (the whorl) and a thin point at the other, the spindle itself, where the fibers get twisted.

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