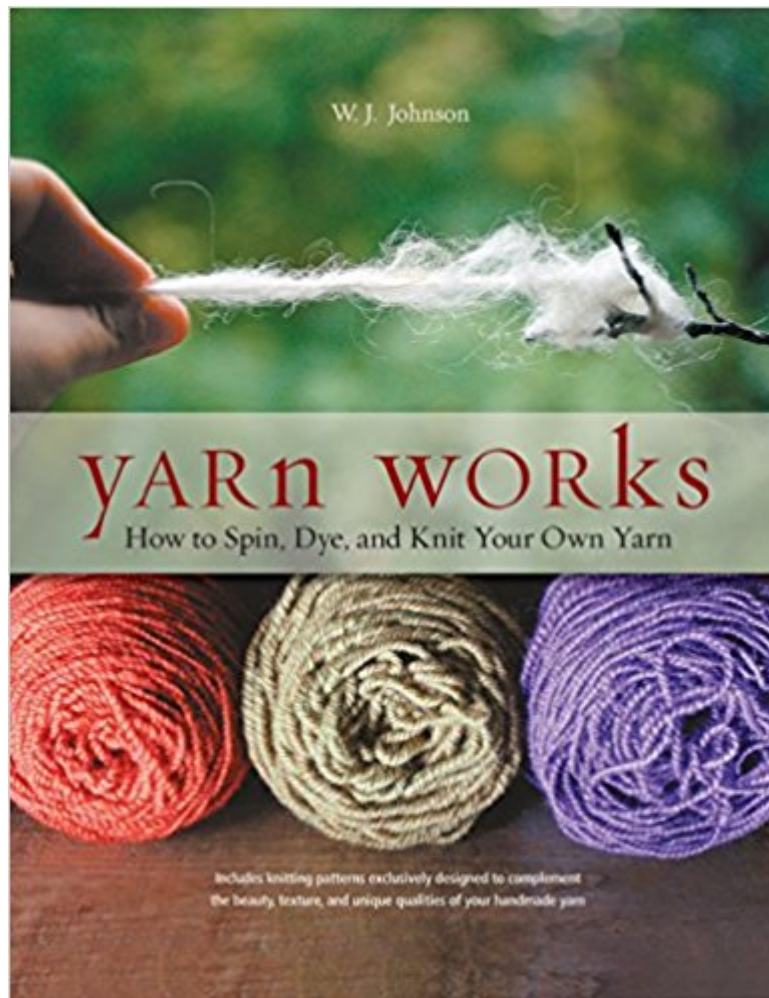




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Yarn Works: How To Spin, Dye, And Knit Your Own Yarn



Synopsis

Yarn Works is the ultimate sheep to sweater reference book for fiber enthusiasts everywhere. Have you ever wondered what the best spin method is for a chunky yarn? Or how to dye fiber to the color you want? Or perhaps your yarn isn't holding its shape when you knit... This how-to book answers all of those questions and more in a detailed, behind-the-science manner. The better you understand the science behind the subject, the better you'll be at applying your creative inspiration to spinning, dyeing, and knitting your own yarn. This book is divided into four main sections - Fiber Workshop, Spin Workshop, Dye Workshop, and Knit Workshop - and includes a brief history on each subject. Each short, informational workshop takes you through the essential learning activities for spinning, dyeing, and knitting, giving you the hands-on experience you'll need to master the subject. Follow yarn from its fiber beginnings, through the process of spinning, to dyeing the spun yarn with natural and synthetic dyes, and finally finish off by using your new yarn in fun projects. Whether you're a knitter interested in learning to spin and dye your own yarn; or a current spinner or dyer looking for inspiration, you'll find everything you need to know about the subject of yarn in this book, along with some great exercises to get your creative juices flowing.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Yarn Works" is the ultimate sheep to sweater reference book for fiber enthusiasts everywhere." - Mother Earth News" 'There is no yajna (sacrifice) greater than spinning calculated to bring peace to the troubled spirit...' - Gandhi. He spun every evening for its 'rhythm, music, poetry, romance...and

spiritual solace.' If you spin, you understand. If your goal is to learn to spin, with this book you are on your way. Then take it to the next step." - Examiner.com "This is a unique and incredibly useful book. It is textbook-like in it's scholarship, it's appendices and illustrations. But, unlike the average textbook, Yarn Works is a delight to read." - Annie Modesitt, a knitter, designer, yarn dyer, writer, teacher and author of Confessions of a Knitting Heretic "The layout of the book allows for a concentration of information and details while keeping the reader engaged... Her focus is Swedish textile arts and this book is an amazing compendium of fiber details told with humor and attention to detail, rarely seen in craft books." - Handweaver's Guild of America "Knitters and crocheters are often drawn to handspinning as a way to further connect with the materials that they use. In this beginner's guide, fiber arts instructor Johnson introduces the basics of fiber selection, spinning, dyeing, and knitting with hand-spun yarn. Each part of the process has its own dedicated chapter that addresses historical context, basic supplies or techniques, and "workshops" that delve more deeply into the hows and whys of the technique. The information in the fiber selection and preparation chapter is fairly standard, but specific chapters include a lot of useful information, particularly on using spinning wheels and employing natural or acid dyes. Johnson places a good deal of focus on the meditative nature of handspinning, which is ideal for knitters who use their craft as a way to relax. VERDICT This guide provides an excellent jumping-off point for those who are curious about handspinning and hand dyeing." - Library Journal

The ultimate sheep to sweater reference for the fiber enthusiast; this is the first book to include instructions for spinning, dying, and knitting with handspun yarns.

I give this book my highest rating because it uniquely combines the arts of spinning, dying and knitting in one place. For example, you can follow a fiber for example from the sheep, through the spinning process, into the dye vat, and then knit into very interesting pattern. The writing is very accessible and even humorous at times, the photography is beautiful and educationally illustrative, there is a great historical context provided, and the Appendix is full of valuable resources for anyone interested in the fiber arts. W.J. Johnson is to be commended for this effort and I am sure this book will become a "Fiber Classic!"

Wonderful book with a lot of great tips and techniques on how to dye, spin, and knit your own fibres. Very detailed analysis of both the dyeing and spinning components; especially how hue and tonal changes can affect the final product look and what adjustments to make to ensure you get the result

you're looking for. Great resource!

From the author: "**Yarn Works** is...a guide for knitters who wish to try spinning and dyeing...but will also appeal to current spinners and dyers who want to gain further background and increase creative inspiration in their work." I bought the book as a knitter who who had already started spinning and dabbled in dyeing. Good choice! Johnson devotes a fourth of the book on a brief history of fiber and fiber prep and tools then gives spinning basics. The wheel, spindle, orifice hook, lazy Kate, kiddy-noddy and swift are covered then onto spinning concepts. Dyeing basics and then knitting patterns for your yarn are nicely presented followed by a well organized appendix for setting up one's home space. The color photographs are clear and useful. The writing is clear. One wishes such a book were in spiral, but it isn't. I recommend the book as a useful and worthwhile compendium of what it wants to be: yarn works. A book about spinning, dyeing, and knitting one's own yarn.

Like Wendy J. Johnson, I come from Swedish roots and enjoy pursuing the fiber arts that my ancestors practiced. This book does a marvelous job of covering the gamut from sheep to finished knit project! I practice all of these aspects of working with fiber and also weave with my handspun. Here the more experienced fiber artist can zero in on the aspect (spinning vs. dyeing, for example) that is currently in question OR the beginning fiber artist will likely want to start at page one and move systematically through the entire book. The Appendices are full of valuable material as well. All in all, a very easy to read and useful resource.

Excellent chapter on dyeing, that's what I bought it for. I had previewed a copy from the library, and decided I wanted to own it. It helped that the sheep's fleece the author uses for demonstration is a fleece I have had from the SAME sheep. Kind of fun!

This book was everything I hoped for. History and learning. Can't wait to start working and trying out techniques.

Dyeing and working with wool is a vocation for me since I raise a nice large flock of sheep. Each wool reference book in my library is precious to me. Thanks for this one.

satisfied

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