Cover

Start Spinning on a Flyer Wheel

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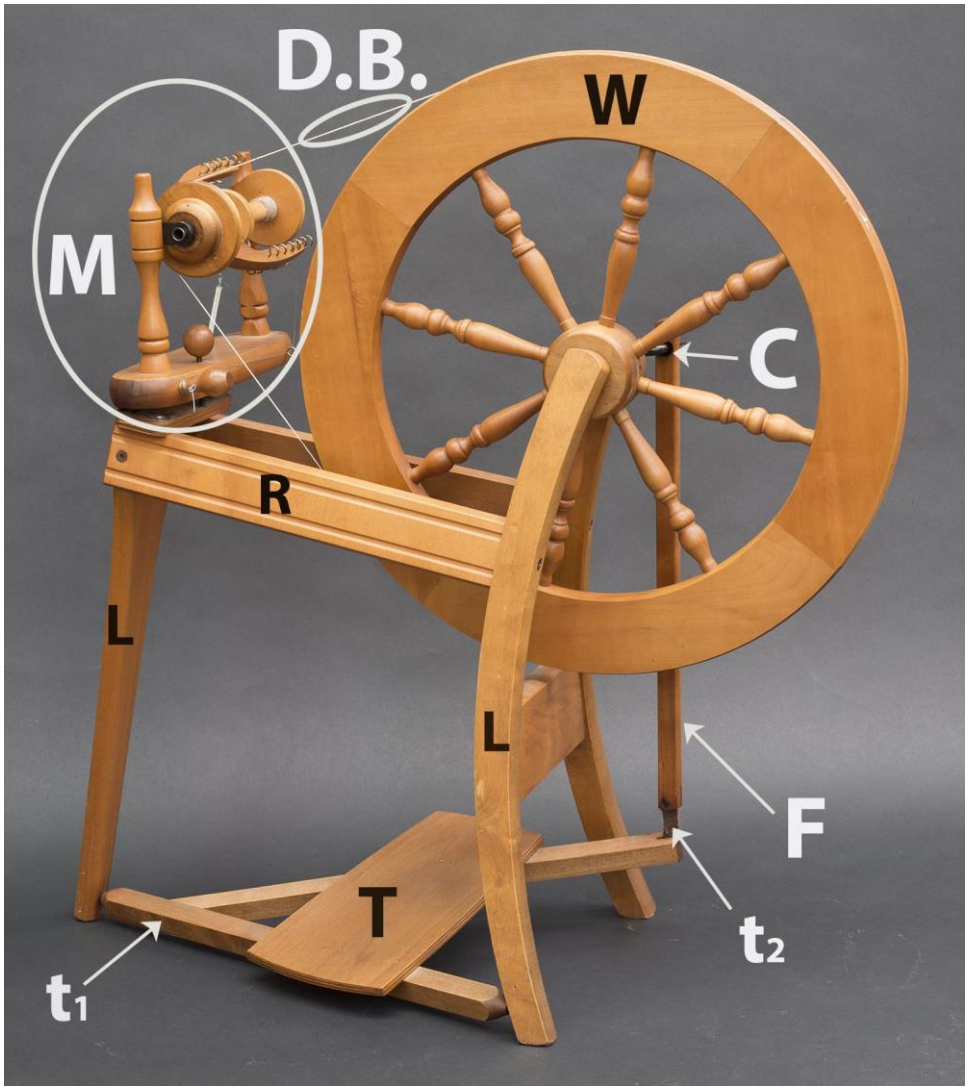
A Scotch Tension Spinning Wheel



Listed here are the parts of the Scotch tension spinning wheel and their functions; a front view is shown on the left and the back view on the next page; the mother-of-all is described separately with close up views in the following pages. In contrast to other spinning wheels, here the drive wheel rotates the flyer.

Wheel	The large drive wheel that turns the flyer
Drive **B**and	It connects the drive wheel to the whorl
Mother-of-all	See separate figure for the individual parts
Treadle	The pedal pushed by the spinner to move the drive wheel

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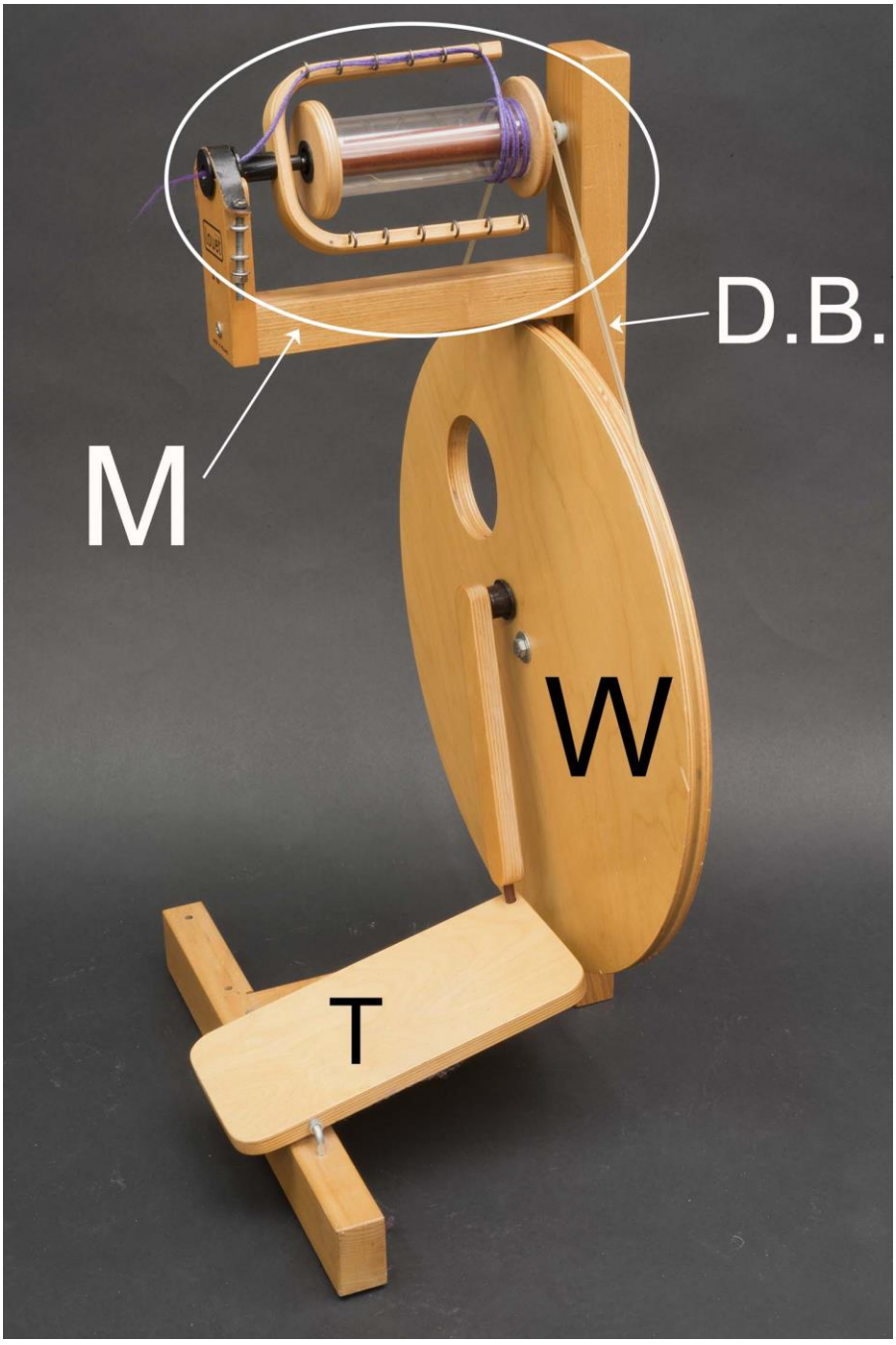
A Bobbin-Led Spinning Wheel



In the bobbin-led spinning wheel, the drive wheel rotates the bobbin, not the flyer as in the Scotch tension wheel. Note that the drive band (**D.B.**) goes from the drive wheel (**W**) to the bobbin (**B** in the next figure). The treadle (**T**) has the usual function of moving the drive wheel. The mother-of-all (M) houses the flyer as shown above and in details in the next page.

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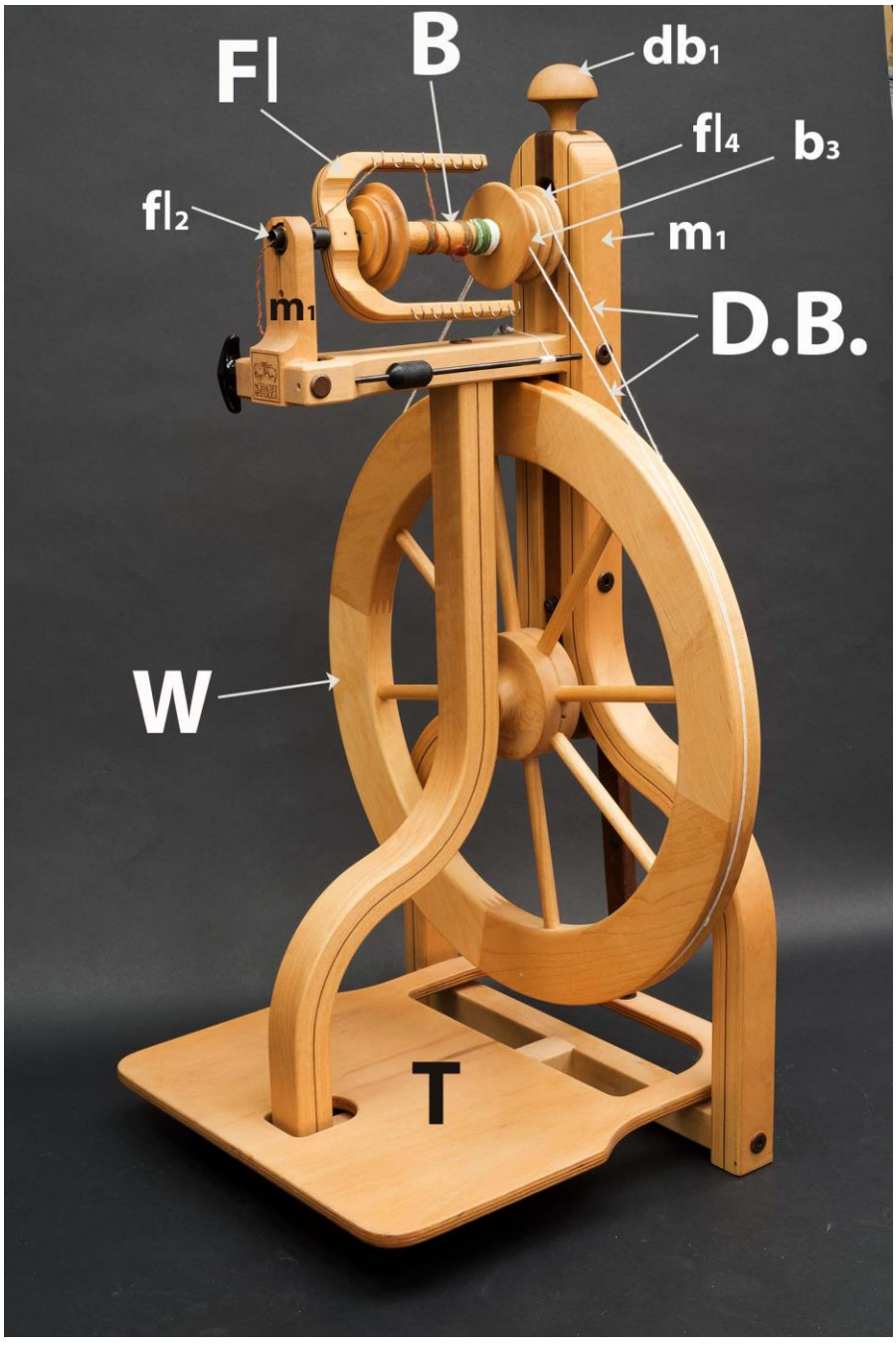
A Double-Band Spinning Wheel

Notice the double band (**D.B.**) that gives this spinning wheel its name. The drive wheel (**W**) and treadle (**T**) are similar to the two previous spinning wheels. Again, the mother-of-all (**M**), including the bobbin (**B**) and the flyer (**Fl**), is the biggest difference among the types of spinning wheels. Here the drive wheel turns both the flyer and the bobbin, albeit at different speeds. One side of the mother-of-all is shown here, the other side on the next page, followed by the back view; the flyer and the bobbin separated are also shown to better depict the parts.



db1	Knob to adjust tension on drive band
m1	Maiden

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Plant Fibers

Cotton

Cotton is part of the swamp mallow family, *Malvaceae Gossypium*, with more than 50 species, only four of which are used for fiber, two from the Old World, *G. arboreum* and *G. herbaceum*, and two from the New World, *G. barbadense* and *G. hirsutum*; *G. barbadense* has the longest staple and it has been used to produce various cultivars, for example Sea Island, Pima and Egyptian cottons.

Cotton grows in bolls (see figure above) with tubular fibers that are partially filled and convoluted at maturity. After picking, the fiber has to be ginned to remove the seeds after which it is called lint. Spinners can spin the lint right off the seed or as purchased lint, shown above. The fiber can be either combed or carded before spinning, and is available to spinners as sliver with no twist introduced or rovings, shown above, which have a slight twist.

Fiber diameter ranges from approximately 13μ to 22μ; the small fiber means that strong thin yarn can be spun. The fiber length ranges from ½" to 2"; the shorter fiber, the more twist is required.

Cotton comes in a variety of natural colors; with browns (see the rolag on the right) and greens the most readily available to spinners; colored cottons generally have

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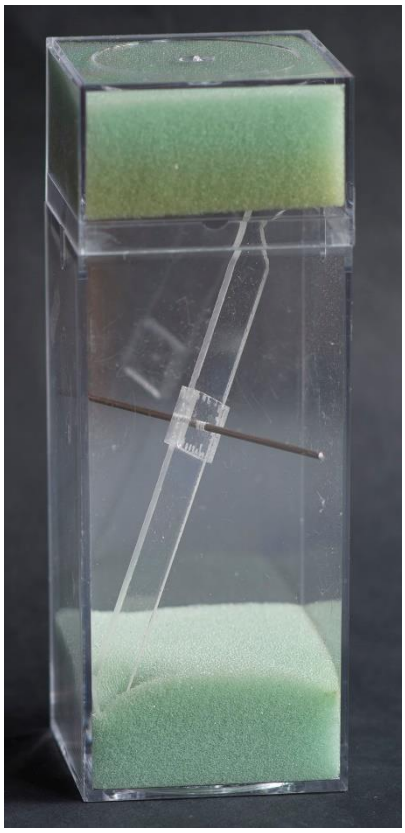
How to Use the McMorran Yarn Balance



A McMorran Yarn Balance, shown on the left, allows us to calculate the yards per lb. of any yarn. It is well worth the small cost. Follow directions provided with the balance carefully.

In short, place the balance arm in the grooves of the box and place the middle of a length of yarn in the "V" of the arm as shown below.

Trim the yarn until the side holding the yarn is even with the other side, as shown. Make sure that the yarn is centered.

Yarns with a large diameter, like the green one shown here, will need a short length. Thinner yarns may exceed the height of the balance and may have to hang from the side of a table.

Remove the yarn from the balance and measure its total length in inches and fraction of an inch as shown in the next figure. The length of this yarn is 7⅛ or 7.25".