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Creative Spinning



Synopsis

Needleworkers no longer have to settle for what's available at the local yarn shop! Alison Daykin and Jane Deane, who have decades of experience spinning, weaving, and dyeing, show how easy it can be to create personalized and gorgeous skeins of one-of-a-kind fibers. Designed for complete beginners, this attractive guide offers 30 beautiful projects that teach a repertoire of skills on both the hand spindle and spinning wheel. It starts with simple, basic combing, twisting, plying, and finishing, then goes on to offer a primer on working with fibers. All the chapters are organized by yarn type, including short wool and down, medium fine wool, long wool and lustre, hill and mountain, rare wool, animal hair, silk, and vegetable fiber.

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Customer Reviews

First of all, this is a BEAUTIFUL book. If you love yarn, and love to look at great photos and dream of what you too could do with a little fiber and a big idea, you will like this book. It is not a book for beginning spinners. The spinning how-to section is very basic, with drawings, not photos. More useful is the plying section - how to combine strands to get different effects, but then again, this section is also drawings, not photos. The photos of the author's yarns are gorgeous, and she tells a bit about the kind of sheep/plant the fiber comes from, and a few properties of that particular fiber. I wouldn't call this a serious How-To, rather it is a very good idea book, and a great pleasure to leaf through over and over again.

A beautiful gift book for spinners, filled with gorgeous close-up photos of amazing handspun yarns,

accompanied by instructions for duplicating the yarns using specific fibers (for example, merino, lincoln). The opening section includes good instructional material, although the book chiefly provides inspiration for spinners who aspire to create lovely designer yarns. The book amply demonstrates the results that can be achieved by accomplished handspinners, and it is a typical high-quality softcover book from Lark Books.

This is a stunningly beautiful book, if you want to see close ups of gorgeously spun yarns. However, that's about all it is. The sparse information in the front on spinning can be obtained from most spinning websites or in pamphlets given away with the purchase of a spindle. I found very little useful information or even inspiration to copy the yarns created. My recommendation, peruse this one at a bookstore with a cup of coffee, then put it back on the shelf and instead spend your money on some yummy fiber to spin.

Of the 'Creative . . .' series of books this is on the plus side. The beginning is full of standard info re: wheel & hand spindle spinning, plying and even washing fleece. Not a book to actually learn how to spin, althou there is enought info there if you are really adept, just no trouble-shooting info. Arranged by color (?) There are examples of many, many different sheep breeds in the yarn section. A very pretty book to look at, there are better technical books on the subject. I think I will keep my copy, but I probably would not have bought if I had had a chance to browse it 1st.

Obviously a tremendous amount of effort went into the photography in this book. The photos are quite lovely but for me what the nature inspired just does not quite make the grade for a book that I am going to want to come back to over and over. I wish these publishers would not feel that every book on spinning or knitting or any art has to have basic instruction in it. In this case it gives the book a bit of an identity crisis. It should be a book focused on natures inspirations for wool colors and designs only. I'm glad I had a look but feel that this was a waste of money - not a book to own. I am also rather annoyed that there was no preview of the book so I could determine that on line that this was not for me. I will not be buying books again that do not have a preview feature.

After reading the reviews here, I decided not to get this book. Then I came across a used copy cheap and bought it. I am glad I did. It is great to see a spinning concept/recipe book on the market. You see this type of book discussing design ideas and inspiration in other arts a lot and it is about time that there is one for spinners. It is stunning. The recipes or patterns for the yarns described and

shown are a bit of fresh air. It is nice to focus on yarns by giving a swatch for a sample instead of having (for example) average looking garments and small project patterns to show off handspun yarns. I like that it focuses on the theme of the book. It gives the reader insight on how to acquire and apply their inspirations creatively into desirable yarns with meaning. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did!

I've been spinning for years and have slowly worked on building my library, I purchased this book and when I received it I was pretty disappointed. It's nice enough, and has beautiful pictures but that's about all the book has going. Perhaps for some it would be a good book to own but it just was not what I was searching for.

This book is not especially useful for learning to spin but there are nice photos. The printing is well enough done which is important because the photographs of the fiber and yarn and inspiration from nature are the most important part of this book. The how-to-spin techniques are there in line drawings. It is not a book for basic learning to spin so not a must-have book for the autodidact.

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