

QUILL SPINDLE

This most useful accessory replaces the flyer for quill or point spinning on the Ashford Traditional, Traveller single and double drive spinning wheels and the Ashford Elizabeth spinning wheel.

The quill spindle has 3 step pulleys to allow different spindle speeds depending on the fibres being spun. The finer the fibre the faster the spindle speed and smaller pulley required. Pulleys are at both ends of the spindle to cater for single and double band wheels.

Spinning Technique:

Tie a leader thread onto the spindle and commence treadling. Note: the leader will run off the point by holding the thread at about 45° to the spindle. Hold the yarn at this angle and commence drafting the yarn in the long draw technique, treadling at sufficient speed to achieve the necessary twist for your yarn. When you have 900 mm (3 to 4 feet) of yarn spun, stop the wheel and turn it backwards ½ to 1 turn to take the yarn away from the point. Then turn the wheel forwards winding the yarn onto the centre portion of the spindle. Commence treadling again and spin another length of yarn.

With practice it will become possible to continue treadling and wrap the yarn onto the spindle without having to stop and rewind the wheel.

This spinning technique allows a wide variety of yarn types and diameters to be spun without having to change bobbins or flyers.

WARNING:

As the spindle point is quite sharp, to prevent injury either remove the spindle from the wheel after use or ensure a cork is firmly pushed onto the point.

