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Start Spinning: Everything You Need to Know to Make Great Yarn By Maggie Casey

As knitting and crocheting have grown in popularity over the years, the craft of handspinning has also seen a resurgence. Needle artists seeking originality in their handwork are taking up spinning to create their own yarn for an even more personal touch. Maggie Casey, well-known spinning instructor and author of *Start Spinning: Everything You Need to Know to Make Great Yarn* (Interweave Press, April 2008, \$21.95), promises the reader that spinning is easy and enjoyable. All it takes is a batch of fluffy fiber, a spindle or a wheel, and a little practice, and novice spinners will be competent spinners in no time.

Based on Maggie's time-tested Spinning 101 workshops, which she has taught for twenty-two years, *Start Spinning* will walk readers through the spinning process beginning with an introduction to the various types of fiber available for spinning and how to choose and prepare it along with detailed instructions on how to spin on a spindle and on a wheel, complete with color photographs of the process. In addition, there are basic tips and tricks of spinning, wheel maintenance, and plenty of troubleshooting advice. Maggie explains the technical terms and techniques of plying, setting twist, using a niddy nody, and spinning woolen and worsted. In no time spinners will be off spinning the yarn of their dreams.

Start Spinning doesn't leave the new spinner hanging—Maggie concludes her instruction with a chapter on uses of handspun yarn, which covers wraps per inch, measuring yards for projects, and size of yarn. With dream yarn in hand, a needle artist's possibilities are endless.

Start Spinning is a delightful lesson in the craft of spinning and promises to have thick-fingered and clumsy crafters spinning beautiful yarn with Maggie's simple instruction, step-by-step photography, and a whirl of practice. In the fast-paced world, spinning is a well-sought craft to make original, 100% handmade.

**START SPINNING:
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO MAKE GREAT YARN
Maggie Casey**

Interweave Press • April 2008 • \$21.95
Paperbound • 8½ x 9 • 120 pages
125 photographs • 5 illustrations
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About the author: Maggie Casey is a co-owner of Shuttles, Spindles, and Skeins, in Boulder, Colorado, where she teaches Beginning Spinning on a Wheel, Drop Spindle Spinning, and Spinning 2, among other subjects. Besides teaching at her shop, Maggie has taught at guilds and wool festivals in the western United States. She has been a skein judge at the Taos Wool Festival and Estes Park Wool Market and was the juror for Roving the Range at Convergence 2004. Her articles have appeared in *Spin-Off* and been reprinted in *Knitters Review*. She has been addicted to spinning for thirty years. She holds Part I of the Handweavers Guild of America's Certificate of Excellence in Handspinning and has taught at the Spin-Off Autumn Retreat (SOAR) for the past six years. There have been rare but confirmed sightings of T-shirts reading, "Maggie taught me to spin." She lives and spins in Boulder, Colorado.

About Interweave Press LLC:

Interweave Press, a unit of Aspire Media, is one of the nation's leading craft media companies with businesses in magazine and book publishing, interactive media, broadcast programming, and events for craft enthusiasts. The Interweave Press Publishing Group features 14 subscription magazines and many more special interest publications. Interweave Press has more than 250 books in print and annually publishes about 40 best-selling, how-to craft books on the same subjects as the company's magazines. Additionally, Interweave Press operates eight annual craft enthusiast events and has an extensive Internet presence that includes nearly 30 websites.

Linda Ligon founded the company in the 1970s when she began publishing *Handwoven* and *Spin-Off* magazines. Since then, the company has grown to employ more than 100 people throughout the country, with corporate headquarters located in Loveland, Colo. For more information on Interweave Press, please visit interweave.com or call (970) 669-7672.

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