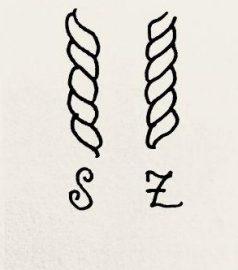




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Caldwell, ID 83607
We service the Treasure Valley

Spinning Arts



S and Z Twist



Hanks

Beginning Spinning Glossary

Yarn

Fibers bound together into a continuous strand.

Twist

The transfer of directional energy into fibers binding them together.

S Twist

Twist to the left or counter-clock (anti-clock)

Z Twist

Twist to the right or clockwise

Single

Yarn that is twisted in one direction.

Ply

Yarn consisting of two or more singles twisted together in the opposite direction.

Hank/Skein

A loop of yarn tied in several areas and lightly twisted back onto itself. One end is tucked inside the loop of the opposite end. A hank keeps yarn tidy and visually appealing for storage.

Pigtail

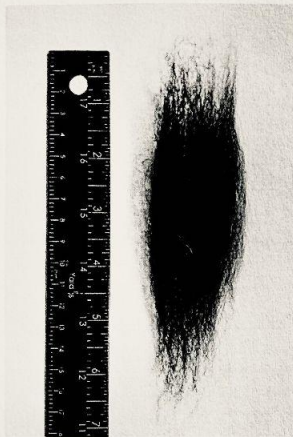
Excessive twist causing yarn to coil onto itself.

Overtwist

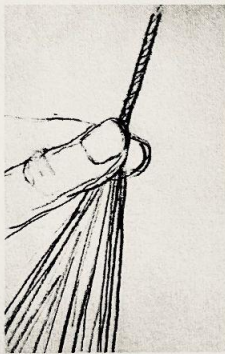
More twist than desired.

Undertwist

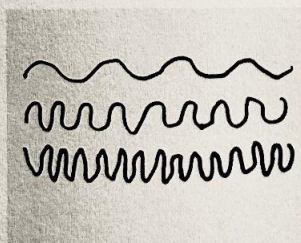
Less twist than desired.



Staple Length



Drafting Triangle



Crimp

Balanced Yarn

Yarn that drapes and does not ply/coil back onto itself, or twist in either direction while being held without tension.

Staple Length

The average length of grouped fibers when pulled from the end of the fiber supply. During spinning the term is usually used in order to determine drafting length and style in which we will spin that fiber. It may help to think of staple in terms of a lock of fiber or hair. The staple length on an animal would be from the point of growth on the skin to the tip.

Draft/Drafting

The action of pinching back into the fiber supply to select a desired amount/thickness of fibers to be pulled or drafted forward and away from the fiber supply (roughly $\frac{3}{4}$ of the distance of the staple length). This action creates the desired length/thickness of the drafting triangle. Please note that this is a description of the short forward drafting style.

Splitting

The process of splitting fiber into thinner (more manageable) sections in preparation to spin it.

Pre-draft

The process of drafting a length of fiber to make it more manageable in preparation to spin it.

Drafting Triangle

The triangular shape of fibers that develop between your forward hand and your fiber supply while drafting.

Micron

Unit of measurement to determine the diameter of the individual fibers. One way to think of this is measuring how fine/soft or thick/coarse the fiber you are working with (or considering for a project) is.

Crimp

The natural waves, bends, curls and kinks in any given fiber.

Combed top

Fiber preparation by combining fibers, which removes any shorter fiber and arranges all of the same length fibers in one direction (This is an organized arrangement of fibers.).



Top

Roving

Roving

Fiber preparation of carded fibers (more chaotic arrangement of fibers) processed into a thin continuous length.

Batt

Fiber preparation of carded fibers (more chaotic arrangement of fibers) pulled directly off of the drum of a drum carder.

Rolag

Fiber preparation of carded fibers (more chaotic arrangement of fibers) formed into a cylindrical shape.

VM

Vegetable matter or various debris stuck in fiber at any stage of preparation or finished product.

Ratio

The number of times the flyer spins/rotates compared to 1 revolution of the drive wheel (large wheel) of a spinning wheel.

Novelty Yarn

Often called art yarn, this yarn is intentionally made with various methods (sometimes unconventional) and often using slubs, bumps, or locks, to create yarns with unique design features.



Batt

Ply-back Test

While spinning a single, a ply-back test can be done by either pulling yarn sideways off of the bobbin, or out from the orifice and letting the single ply onto itself. We do this to help determine if we are spinning with the desired amount of twist, and if we are staying consistent during that spin.



Ply-back Test

Finishing

After our yarn is spun we finish it, there are many methods to do this from soaking, steaming, thwacking, and snapping (and others) that all produce different results.

Thwacking

A finishing process in which a damp skein of yarn is smacked (thwacked) against a hard surface to induce yarn bloom, reduce elasticity, and improve/test durability.

Snapping

A finishing process where the spinner puts their hands through the center of a damp skein of yarn and snaps hands away from one another to even out the twist of the skein.