



You can make your own spindle with a piece of dowel, garden cane or a strong twig, about 30 - 35cms long.

Make a point at one end. Get an adult to help if you use sharp tools. At the top end of your shaft (stick) you need a slit or hook, as in the picture on the left.

Now you need to fix a weight about 5cms from the point. A lump of clay or a small potato left to dry out will do, or a small wheel from a broken toy (about 7cm diameter).

What ideas do you have for decorating your drop spindle?



How to make a thread using a drop spindle.

1. Pull your wool or comb it to get rid of knots and dirt,
2. Tie a piece of yarn above the weight.
3. Take the yarn under the weight and round the shaft.
4. Take the yarn to the top of the shaft and loop it round the slit or hook.
5. Spin your spindle, most people go in a clockwise direction.

6. Lay your yarn over your raw wool. Spin the spindle and draw out the fibres, letting the twist run up and make your own thread.

GOOD LUCK

Have patience and remember that practice makes perfect.

What do you think will happen if you spin anti clockwise?

