

Beginning Drop Spindle Spinning (beginner) 3-6 hours: Take that wool fluff and turn it into fun! Learn how wool becomes yarn in this hands-on beginning spinning class. Find out what whorls, cops, butterflies, leaders and drafting have to do with it. Learn about different fibers to spin, the different preparation of fibers and the history of this ancient craft. By the end of the class you'll have a skein of your first handspun yarn and a new skill to enjoy.

Min/max students: 4/12

Provided by instructor: Wool, leader yarn, handouts. A limited amount of spindles will be available to try out and to purchase.

Students bring to class: A medium weight drop spindle if you have one (about 1 oz).

Pre-class homework: none

Class fee: \$20 per student plus a \$15 material fee

Instructor Julie LeeSong Norman: Julie is a recent transplant to Montana. Adopted from Korea, she was raised in Minnesota by Swedes and Norwegians - you betcha. She's been knitting since pre-teens, has also learned to weave, spin, needle felt and dye. She has taught classes at yarn shops, women's shelters and village groups all over Minnesota and India. In Montana, she's found a supportive group of fiber artists and is the co-chair of the Prairie Handspinners Guild in Billings and on the planning committee of two fiber events. When not playing with fiber, she's most likely avoiding housework by hiking the hills, driving around to see mountains, reading or writing her next book or knitting pattern.