

TO SPIN GIVEN NUMBER OF TWISTS / INCH

- 1) **To determine the wheel ratio of wheel** - count number of revolutions of the flyer per one revolution of the drive wheel (equals 1 treading).
- 2) **Draft in inches/treading** - 1" draft/ 1 treading will give twists/inch equaling to the wheel ratio.

Wheel Ratio	Treadle	Draft	Twists per Inch
7:1	1	1"	7 tpi
7:1	2	1"	14 tpi
10:1	1	1"	10 tpi
10:1	1	2"	5 tpi

- 3) **Draft deliberately**, measuring until you get the rhythm.

Crimp - measured in crimps/inch (CPI). It distinguishes wool from hair. It gives elasticity, loft, and insulating qualities to finished fabric.

Fineness - measured to count the number of 560 yd. skeins/lb. of fleece, or by microns. It is usually related to crimp; fine fiber - high crimp, coarse fiber - low crimp.

Length - measured in inches. It is related to the crimp and fineness. Fine crimp wool is usually shorter than coarse open wool.

Sheen (luster) - comes from the type of crimp and from the microscopic structure of the individual fiber. High sheen is more common in coarse fiber than in fine fiber.

Hand - the softness and drape-ability of a finished fabric. It relates mostly to fineness and is heavily influenced by the method of spinning.

BUYING A FLEECE

Consider Its Purpose

A Merino scarf is lovely, a Merino rug pills and wears out. A Lincoln scarf is scratchy, but Lincoln makes a lovely sweater or rug.

Consider breed when buying a fleece, but remember there can be wide variations within a breed. Cross breeds also produce wonderful wool.

Check These Points

. . . Check for strength - snap a lock with your hands. It should not break.

. . . Is it clean of weeds, seeds, hay, etc.? These are a nuisance to remove.

. . . Has it been skirted - belly wool and manure tags removed?

. . . Is the fiber length, crimp, and fineness what you enjoy spinning, and is it consistent throughout the fleece?

**Yarn is most like its fleece if
twist matches crimp.**