

Charkha 101: Spinning Cotton on the Charkha

- Duration: half day or full day
Cost: \$300.00 per half day plus travel expenses
Materials fee: \$10.00 Includes handouts, fiber samples
Optional charkha rental: \$15.00 for the use of charkha
Level: Beginner
Class size limit: 8 half day, 12 full day

Space Requirements: The charkha is best used while seated on a bare floor, but tables and chairs will suffice for a teaching environment. If participants have small folding tables (e.g. TV trays), they are encouraged to bring them if there is space in the facility. Otherwise, 6 large tables for 12 students will work. I will need two extra tables for display and class materials.

Synopsis

Learn to spin cotton the easy way! (Anything is easy with the right tools; the charkha was designed specifically for spinning cotton.) Learn how to tune and maintain the charkha. We will also cover cotton types, preparations, and properties.

****With notice, I can rent charkhas for \$15 to students who do not have them.****

Learning Objectives

1. Learn spinning terminology
2. Learn cotton fiber terminology
3. Understand the charkha
4. Understand the ergonomics of usage
5. Understand yarn terminology
6. Learn the long draw
7. Spin cotton effortlessly
8. Learn that all cotton is not created equal by spinning several types of cotton
9. Learn to ply for a center pull ball

Students should bring

Charkha or great wheel if they have one
Enthusiasm

Guild/Group should supply

The number of rental charkhas to bring two weeks prior to the workshop
Facility with tables and chairs for the students
Two extra tables for instructor display and workspace