

Spinning Certificate Program Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore

Journeyman Level – Detailed Requirements

Fiber Studies, con't.:

This Level continues the fiber studies begun in the Apprentice Level.

Section 7: Other Animal Fibers (angora, llama, alpaca, camel, mohair, dog, etc.)

The fiber used may be of any form deemed appropriate by the participant to obtain the specified results. A different fiber should be used for each skein.

Skein Requirements: Prepare a 10-yard singles skein (unless otherwise noted), spun to each of the following specifications:

Skeins 7.1 – 7.3: Yarn from animal fibers, short, down-type: e.g. camel-down, angora, cashmere, qiviut, yak-down, etc.:

- Skein 7.1: Spun fine – 40 or more WPI
- Skein 7.2: Spun medium – 25-35 WPI
- Skein 7.3: A balanced 2-ply - fine or medium

Skeins 7.4 - 7.6 Yarn from animal fibers, longer, hair type: e.g. mohair, cashgora, dog, llama, alpaca:

- Skein 7.4: Spun fine – 40 or more WPI
- Skein 7.5: Spun medium - 25-35 WPI
- Skein 7.6: A balanced 2-ply - fine or medium

Swatch Requirements:

- Swatch 7: Make a swatch or small finished piece using one of the above yarns to illustrate a purpose for which it is suited. Singles yarn may be plied for the swatch.

Yarn Design:

The purpose of this section is to demonstrate knowledge and skill in producing a variety of yarns based on various elements of yarn design. The participant may use any fiber or combination of fibers. Commercial sliver or roving may be used. There are no size requirements for this section.

Section 8: Yarn structure

Skein Requirements: Prepare a 10-yard singles skein (unless otherwise stated) for each of the following specifications:

- Skein 8.1: Yarn of consistent, even quality in an S twist
- Skein 8.2: Yarn of consistent, even quality in a Z twist
- Skein 8.3: Yarn of consistent quality in a balanced 2-ply; different fibers in each of the singles
- Skein 8.4: Yarn of consistent quality in a more than 2-ply
- Skein 8.5: Yarn of consistent quality in more than one color and balanced plying operation (e.g. cable yarn).

Swatch Requirements:

- Swatch 8: Make a swatch or small finished piece using one of the above yarns to illustrate a purpose for which it is suited. Singles yarn may be plied for the swatch.

Use of Tools:

The purpose of this section is to demonstrate skill in producing quality yarns on the generally accepted categories of spinning devices. Yarns are to be balanced and consistent, and in any fiber and size compatible with the equipment. Enclose a photograph of the actual equipment used to produce the yarn. It is not necessary that the participant own the equipment. Persons in the photos should not be identifiable.

Section 9: Tools

Skein Requirements: Prepare a 10-yard singles skein (unless noted otherwise below), spun on the following spinning devices:

- Skein 9.1: Yarn produced on a bobbin and flyer wheel
- Skein 9.2: Yarn produced on a wheel-driven spindle (great wheel, charka)
- Skein 9.3: Yarn produced on a drop spindle

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- Skein 9.4: Yarn produced on a large supported spindle (Navajo type)
- Skein 9.5: Yarn produced on a small supported spindle (knots are permitted to produce the length required using this tool)

Written requirements

The purpose of this section is to demonstrate thorough understanding of spinning design elements. Write a definition and brief discussion on each topic.

Section 10: Written requirements

Define the terms below and write a brief discussion on the relevance of each to handspun yarn as a critical design element in a project. Include photographs, illustrations, or small samples to support discussion. List all reference sources in a bibliography at the end of the section.

10.1: Design Elements:

- Texture
- Rhythm
- Balance
- Proportion
- Emphasis
- Unity

10.2: Choose three fibers (e.g. wool, cotton, silk) and describe how the appearance and size of the yarn changes as the yarn progresses from the being-spun state to the finished skein.

10.3: Explain how to determine the amount of twist per inch and its relationship to the angle of twist.

10.4: Explain how a spinner can determine the amount of yarn to spin for a specific project.

Yarn duplication

The purpose of this section is to demonstrate skill in reproducing commercially available yarns.

Section 11: Reproduce commercial yarns

Select and reproduce four commercial yarns, as defined below. Include yarns with wool, silk, cotton, or other fibers. Explain your process to analyze, reproduce, and spin a 10-yard sample of each. Document types of fiber used and why, twist and wraps per inch, angle of twist, and finishing technique. Label each sample and include its corresponding commercial model with its wrapper.

Skein Requirements: Prepare a 10-yard skein of fiber of the participant's choice:

- Skein 11.1 Extra Fine - 50 or more wraps per inch
- Skein 11.2 Fine - 32-45 wraps per inch
- Skein 11.3 Medium - 15-30 wraps per inch
- Skein 11.4 Thick - 12 or fewer wraps per inch

Swatch Requirements:

- Swatch 11: Make a swatch or small finished piece using one of the above yarns to illustrate a purpose for which it is suited.

Novelty Yarns

The purpose of this section is to demonstrate the ability to spin more complex yarns. Color may be used as a design factor here. Core and binder yarns/threads may be commercial, but must be identified as such.

Section 12: Novelty yarns

Skein Requirements: Prepare a 10-yard skein of yarn for each of the following specifications:

- Skein 12.1: Spiral
- Skein 12.2: Snarl
- Skein 12.3: Slub
- Skein 12.4: Corespun
- Skein 12.5: Seed

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- Skein 12.6: Loop/boucle

Swatch Requirements:

- Swatch 12: Using yarn from any of the above skeins, make a swatch or small finished piece to illustrate a purpose for which it is suited.

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