



A NEW SPIN ON COLOR by Alanna Wilcox
Self-published, Rochester, New York
2017. 142 pages. E-book \$18.00, Print edition \$38.00.

I found this to be a charming little book, with useful information for beginning to intermediate spinners. There is a basic introduction to color theory, descriptions of how to manipulate hand-painted top to meet the spinner's expectations, and both illustrations and photographs of finished projects to demonstrate the techniques.

Topics include assessing the color pattern in your dyed top (solid color sections versus splotchy colors), staple length of fiber versus color length, thickness of yarn spun (and the length of the resulting color sections), the end use of yarn (for weaving, knitting, crochet, etc.), and determining how to adjust your colors to match the size of a project. The author provides guidelines on preparing fiber before starting to spin so that the spinner can achieve the desired results rather than completing a garment with mismatched components.

I liked the combination of hand-drawn illustrations and photographs. The drawings show how to divide the dyed top before spinning and the photographs show yarn and knitted samples as the final results of each color combination. Photographs of finished garments were also helpful in seeing what can be done by directly controlling color choices.

This self-published book is offered in a variety of formats: a print edition, which includes access to a digital copy, or as an e-book, which is provided in an e-publication or pdf format.

I might not agree with the author's assertion that "hand-painted tops give you the most amount of choices when approaching spinning for color in your yarns," but I would agree that she has provided useful guidelines in spinning those tops to achieve beautiful results.

Reviewed by Lynn Ruggles
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