



Mood: SPRING 2023 – THE SCIENCE ISSUE

Proposals due by: **March 1, 2022**

Handspun yarn is equal parts art and science, and in this issue we're focusing on the science. So what excites you about science and spinning?

Do lab-made or lab-perfected fibers, such as Tencel, rayon, bamboo, faux cashmere, or Angelina get your brain and fingers excited? Can you tell us how they are made and exactly what they are? How to spin them to best effect? Do they work as blends? What about dyeing? How do these fibers affect the environment?

What about 3-D printed tools? Love or hate? Can you tell us how they are made, the pros and cons of using them? What's coming on the horizon of this new and exciting field? Who are some of your favorite makers?

How has science and technology changed spinning? Can you walk us through the evolution of spinning tools, from a twisty stick to a turbo fast e-spinner? What's superwash? How is it made and what is its impact on the environment? Is there any impact on the spinner and the yarn? Any special considerations for how to spin this fiber?

What about our wonderful fiber animals? How has science helped us to develop better fleeces to spin? Is wool testing the way to get better fleeces? How are shepherds protecting the environment while bringing us exquisite wool? What's up with shearing? Why is it good for a sheep's health, and what's the best process?

Can you tell us the science behind dyeing the perfect color (acid and/or natural) or creating the best fiber blend? How do mordants work in natural dyeing? Dyeing fiber is often overwhelming for some folks, so what is the minimum amount of science and math you need to dye fiber?

What is the science behind making a balanced and long-spinning spindle? Wheel? Bobbin? What tools have the best balance, and who are the most precise makers?

We know that to make yarn all you need is fiber and twist, but there's science there. Can you enlighten us on the science of twist? Of balance? Of finishing? Of plying?

Calling all science and math lovers, please teach us the science behind a handspun yarn. How do you measure it, what do the measurements mean, what is the science behind the math, and how can a spinner use it all to make their perfect yarn?

Are there any big spinning personalities that focused on science? Who are they and what did they teach us?

How do you use science in your spinning? We want a big science-y issue for Spring 2023 and we want you in it! Go Science!

Submit your ideas here: <https://plymagazine.com/contribute/write-for-ply/>

Proposals of articles and projects are due by **March 1, 2022**.
We'll get back to you in April, and final pieces are due **Sept 1, 2022**.

Thanks, Jacey