

**Spinning Certificate Program  
Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore**

**Apprentice Level - Detailed Requirements**

**Written Requirements:**

**Section 1: Definitions**

The purpose of this section is to document a thorough understanding of spinning concepts and components, and of basic color theory and schemes.

**1.1:** Define the terms below and briefly discuss the relevance of each to spinning. Support your discussion with photographs or illustrations as deemed necessary for clarity. List all reference sources in a bibliography at the end of the section.

<u>Color Definitions:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Hue</li><li>- Value</li><li>- Chroma</li><li>- Primary color</li><li>- Secondary color</li><li>- Tertiary color</li></ul>	<u>Color Schemes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Monochromatic</li><li>- Analogous</li><li>- Complementary</li><li>- Split complementary</li><li>- Triad</li></ul>
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**1.2:** Define/explain the following yarn measurements:

- Grist
- Wraps per inch (WPI)
- Micron count
- Bradford count (wool quality numbers)

**1.3:** Explain how to determine the number of yards per pound of yarn and why this is important to know.

**Fiber Studies:**

The purpose of this section is to demonstrate skill in producing yarns of consistent quality in specific sizes with the amount of twist suitable for the intended use of the yarn. Starting with raw or a basic form of the fiber, prepare the fiber, spin it to specification, and create a sample to demonstrate an appropriate use for the fiber. The choice of fiber within each fiber category, fiber preparation, spinning technique, consistency, and choice of spinning equipment are all reflected in the final yarn and will be considered during evaluation.

**Section 2: Wool**

Only fleece prepared for spinning by the participant can be used. A different wool breed should be used for each skein. Include fine, longwool and crossbred (luster), down-type, and other wools. Jane Fournier's book, "In Sheep's Clothing," which lists sheep breeds by type, is a good resource. Include a lock of the raw fleece, enclosed in a plastic bag, in the skein folder.

Worsted: Longwools, crossbreds, fine wools (typically with a staple greater than 3" in length).

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

- Skein 2.1: Fine worsted yarn - 35 or more wraps per inch
- Skein 2.2: Medium worsted yarn - 15-30 wraps per inch
- Skein 2.3: Bulky worsted yarn - 12 or fewer wraps per inch
- Skein 2.4: A balanced 2-ply yarn from handspun worsted singles, to result in one of the size categories above (fine, medium, or bulky).

Swatch Requirements:

- Swatch 2.1: 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.

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Woolen: Fine, down-type, other wools (typically with a staple length of less than 3" in length).

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

- Skein 2.5: Fine woolen yarn - 35 or more wraps per inch
- Skein 2.6: Medium woolen yarn - 15-30 wraps per inch
- Skein 2.7: Bulky woolen yarn - 12 or fewer wraps per inch
- Skein 2.8: A balanced 2-ply yarn from handspun woolen singles to result in one of the size categories above (fine, medium, or bulky).

Swatch Requirements:

- Swatch 2.2: 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.

Worsted and Woolen Summary:

- Summary 2.1: Write a brief summary to compare and contrast worsted and woolen yarns in terms of fleece selection, preparation, spinning techniques, resulting yarns (characteristics and appearance) and appropriate uses of each.

### **Section 3: Cotton**

Fiber should be from a variety of colors, types, and preparations, such as carded, combed sliver, cotton lint, or punis. Use a different type for each skein.

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

- Skein 3.1: Fine yarn - 50 or more wraps per inch
- Skein 3.2: Medium yarn - 30-45 wraps per inch
- Skein 3.3: Thick yarn - 25 or fewer wraps per inch, may be multiple ply
- Skein 3.4: A balanced 2-ply yarn from finely handspun singles. The resulting yarn must be in fine or medium size.

Swatch Requirements:

- Swatch 3: 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.

### **Section 4: Flax**

The fiber used may be in any form that the participant deems suitable for the purpose. Use both line and tow forms.

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

- Skein 4.1: Fine yarn - wet spun - 40 or more wraps per inch
- Skein 4.2: Medium yarn - dry spun - 25-35 wraps per inch
- Skein 4.3: Thick yarn - dry or wet spun - 20 or fewer wraps per inch
- Skein 4.4: A balanced 2-ply yarn wet spun from a strick. May be fine, medium, or thick
- Skein 4.5: A balanced 3-ply yarn from linen singles, wet or dry spun. May be fine, medium, or thick.

Swatch Requirements:

- Swatch 4: 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.

### **Section 5: Other bast (cellulose) fibers, synthetic and man-made fibers**

The fiber used may be in any form that the participant deems suitable for the purpose.

Skein Requirements: Prepare a 10-yard singles skein (unless otherwise directed), spun from the participant's choice of fiber.

- Skein 5.1: Yarn from cellulose fibers: ramie, jute, or hemp
- Skein 5.2: Yarn from synthetic fibers: nylon, acrylic, polyester, or ecospun
- Skein 5.3: Yarn from man-made fibers: rayon, acetate, lyocell, ingeo, soy silk, silk latte, tencel, or bamboo

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- Skein 5.4: A balanced 2-ply yarn from handspun singles of a cellulose fiber
- Skein 5.5: A balanced 2-ply yarn from handspun singles of a synthetic or man-made fiber

Swatch Requirements:

- Swatch 5: 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.

### **Section 6: Silk**

The fiber used may be of any form deemed appropriate by the participant to obtain the specified results. Include both cultivated and tussah in combed, carded, and other preparations (caps, hankies, waste, etc.).

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

- Skein 6.1: Fine smooth yarn - 50 or more wraps per inch
- Skein 6.2: Medium smooth yarn - 30-45 wraps per inch
- Skein 6.3: Fine textured yarn - 50 or more wraps per inch
- Skein 6.4: Medium textured yarn - 30-45 wraps per inch
- Skein 6.5: Thick yarn - 25 or fewer wraps per inch, may be a balanced multiple ply

Swatch Requirements:

- Swatch 6: 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.

File: Apprentice details