

What Fiber To Use



While most fibers can be used with the drum carder, you should **only use specially washed and prepared fiber with the drum carder.**

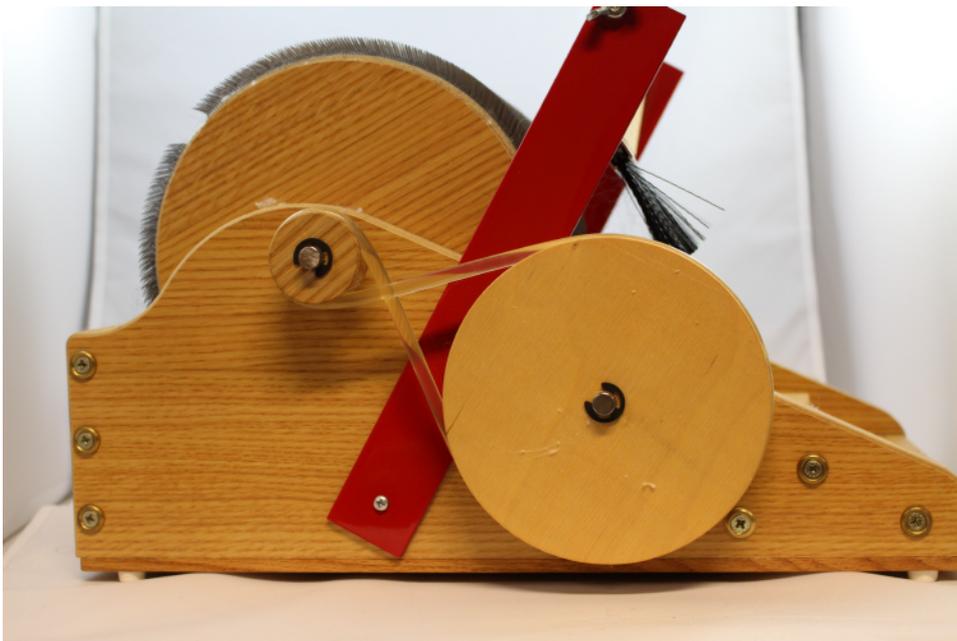
Unwashed fiber will still have lanolin, a type of oil, on it. Lanolin will feel greasy and oily to the touch, and unwashed fiber will also have debris trapped in the fibers.

It is important to only use washed fiber with the drum carder because lanolin or the other material trapped in the fiber can damage the carder.

You should never force fiber through the drum carder, this can cause damage to the machine.

The Drive Belt

You must put the drive belt onto the drum carder for the two drums to operate. Place the drive belt in a figure-8 shape around the two wheels on the left side of the carder. The drum carder is now ready to use. You can test the machine by turning the hand crank clockwise.

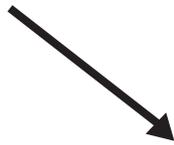


Remove the drive belt from the drum carder when you have finished carding.

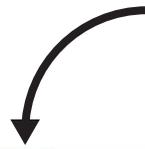
The drive belt should not be stored on the drum carder, since this will cause the drive belt to stretch over time.

Using the Drum Carder

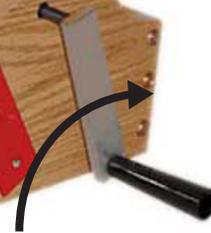
Place a small quantity of wool on the intake board.



To set up the drum carder: Turn the brush so that it rests firmly against the drum carder, tighten the wing nuts so that the brush stays in place.



Turn the handle clockwise, towards the back of the drum carder.



Turn the handle clockwise to move the wool through the drum carder.

Removing Wool from the Drum Carder



Begin by loosening the wing nuts and turn the brush away from the drum carder.

Hook the end of the Knuckle Saving Batt Picker under the wool, along the seam of the drum carder.

Continue removing wool by carefully peeling the wool off of the carder pulling in the same direction the needles are pointing. Turn the drum as you pull the fiber off.



You can now put the fiber through the carder again if you wish. It may be beneficial to card your fiber more than one time.

To clean the drum carder of any stray fibers, draw the cleaning brush across the carder so that the pins of the brush and the carder are pointed in the same direction. Use the cleaning brush gently to avoid damaging the drum carder cloth.

Tips for Using the Drum Carder

Prepare fiber for use by gently pulling it apart. Tightly curled or kinky fiber can be loosened with a Teasing Tool.

Don't put all of your fiber on the intake drum at once. Use small quantities that the carder can easily manage.

The carder is full when you can no longer see the tips of the pins on the main drum.

Turning the handle too quickly can cause some fiber to remain on the intake drum. If this happens, try turning the handle more slowly.

Preparing Fiber with the Teasing Tool



The Teasing Tool is best used to prepare fiber with a strong kink or twist, like Mohair, which the carder will have difficulty opening.

Clamp the Teasing Tool to the edge of a workbench or table. Pick up a small clump of fleece and pull it against the needles of the Teasing Tool. Once the fiber has been cleaned and opened, lift it up from the board. Use the Cleaning Brush to help remove any stubborn fibers.

Repeat until you have prepared all of your fiber.

Creating a Roving with the Diz

To create a roving, use the batt picker to lift up a small amount of wool.

Thread the end of the freed wool through the gauge hole of your choice. Grasp the wool firmly near the edge of the Diz and pull firmly away from the carder.

Continue pulling fiber through the Diz, turning the carder as you work through the fiber.

