

SIDEKICK SPINNING WHEEL

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS



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SIDEKICK SPINNING WHEEL

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

ACCESSORIES

- 3 – travel bobbins
- 1 – flyer
- 1 – medium whorl
- 1 – fast whorl
- 1 – threading hook
- 1 – carrying strap

TOOLS

- Scissors

Thank you for choosing the Sidekick folding spinning wheel. We trust that it will give you many productive and pleasurable hours of spinning. We have taken great care in the design of the Sidekick to make it efficient and sturdy, as well as aesthetically pleasing. Each part has been specially designed with function in mind. During manufacturing, every part is inspected for quality, and the final assembly has been done by a skilled craftsman. Your Sidekick is a precision tool, with moving parts that require regular care and maintenance. The better you understand your wheel, the more able you will be to take advantage of its many features.

To learn more about the Sidekick, visit our website, schachtspindle.com.



UNPACK THE WHEEL

Remove the spinning wheel and accessories from the box. We suggest that you save your box for future travel or shipping.

UNFOLD THE WHEEL

1. Remove flyer from bottom of treadle by sliding the orifice out of the hole in the treadle support bar (figure 1) and then sliding the flyer shaft out of the leather storage strap (figure 2).



FIGURE 1

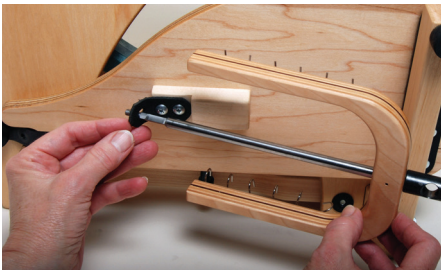


FIGURE 2

2. Unscrew the footman knobs that secure the treadles to the sides of the wheel (figure 3).



FIGURE 3

There are two holes in the metal tab at the ends of the treadles—you'll use the end holes for securing the treadles to the wheel sides when the wheel is folded. The footmen attach to the holes nearest the wood when the wheel is unfolded.

3. Fold down the treadles, and slide them together until they meet in front of the drive wheel. Secure the treadles in place with the quick release lever (figures 4 and 5). The lever is adjusted at the factory so that you only need to press it into place. Should you ever need to make an adjustment, hold onto the knob (in the center brace about 3" toward the back of the wheel) and turn the lever as needed.

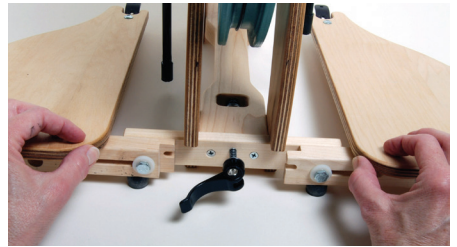


FIGURE 4



FIGURE 5

4. Insert the footman knobs from underneath the treadles into the holes closest to the wood. Screw the knobs into the ends of the footmen (figure 6).



FIGURE 6

5. Open the quick release lever for the front maiden and move the front maiden all the way forward (figure 7).



FIGURE 7

6. Open the quick release lever for the rear maiden, move the rear maiden back until it touches the stop, and close the quick release lever (figure 8).



FIGURE 8

7. Install the bobbin and whorl. Remove the bobbin that was stored under the maidens and place it onto the flyer shaft, with the large end pointing towards the end of the shaft (figure 9). Remove a whorl (figure 10) from the side of the wheel and slide this onto the flyer shaft with the smaller end next to the bobbin.



FIGURE 9



FIGURE 10

8. Install the flyer assembly onto the wheel. Slip the Scotch tension cord and drive band off the Scotch tension peg (figure 11). Put the Scotch tension cord over



FIGURE 11

the bobbin and the drive band over the whorl. Be sure that the drive band is lined

up in the drive band pulleys as shown in figure 12. Insert the flyer shaft into the



FIGURE 12

rear bearing (figure 13) then lift the front maiden and insert the flyer orifice into the

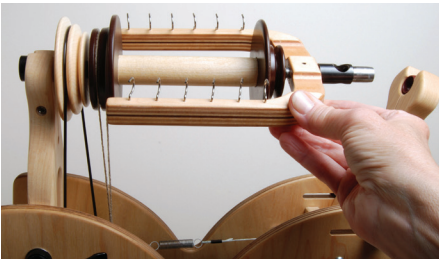


FIGURE 13

orifice bearing (figure 14). Push the front maiden forward against the stops and secure with the quick release lever.

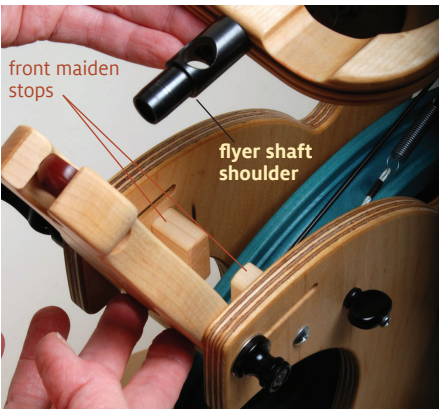


FIGURE 14

9. The front and rear maidens must be *vertical and pushed tightly against their stops*. There should be a small gap (about 1/16") between the front bearing and the shoulder on the flyer shaft (figure 15). If there is no gap, see the section on adjusting the rear bearing.

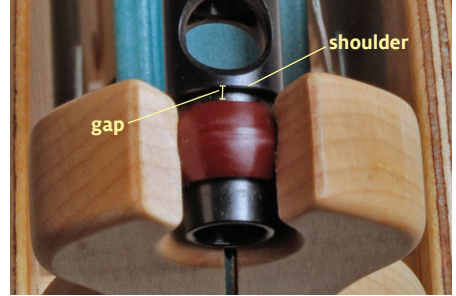


FIGURE 15

10. The threading hook can be stored in the slot in the front maiden and easily removed when needed (figure 16).



FIGURE 16

11. The carrying strap attaches to the metal rods located at the top and bottom on the back of the wheel (figure 17).

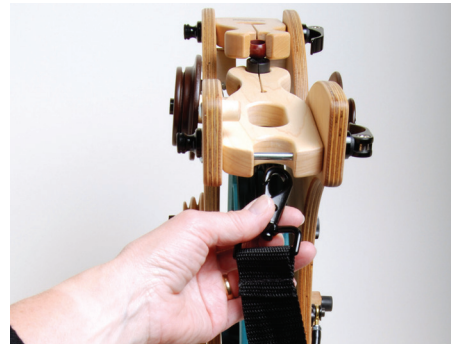


FIGURE 17

ADJUSTING THE REAR BEARING

With the flyer assembly installed, make sure the front and rear maidens are vertical and pushed tightly against their stops. Secure the maidens with the quick release levers.

To check the placement of the rear bearing, slide the flyer assembly to the rear. Check to see that there is small gap between the shoulder on the flyer shaft and the front (orifice) bearing (figure 15).

If the flyer does not move and there is no gap, you will need to reposition the rear bearing. Loosen the screw in the side of the rear maiden. Slide the flyer to the rear about 1/16" to create a space between the flyer shaft shoulder and the orifice bearing. Tighten the screw to secure the rear bearing.

DRIVE BAND PATH

When facing the front of the wheel, the correct path of the drive band is: Up the front of the drive wheel, then under and up the back of the left drive band pulley. The drive band forms a loop that goes over the whorl then goes down the front of the right pulley and straight down to the rear of the drive wheel (figure 12).

There should be no twist in the drive band. The drive band (along with the Scotch tension cord) can be hooked on the Scotch tension knob when the wheel is folded for travel (figure 11).

DRIVE BAND TENSIONER

Your Sidekick is equipped with a drive band tensioner (figure 18) to adjust your drive band when needed. If you use a slow speed whorl your drive band may not relax completely back to its original size; try letting the drive band rest for an hour. If you need more tension on your drive band, place the band over the tensioner pulley located on the lower part of the back of the wheel. Make fine adjustments with your Scotch tension knob.

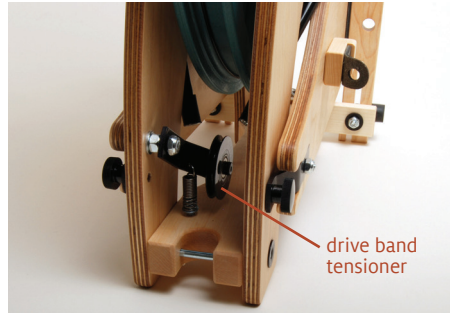


FIGURE 18

When you are not using the Sidekick, release the tension on the drive band to extend its life.

USING DIFFERENT FLYER WHORLS

The type of fiber you are spinning and the kind of yarn you want to produce will determine which flyer whorl to use. Your spinning wheel comes with two flyer whorls: a medium speed whorl and a fast speed whorl. The other whorls we recommend for the Sidekick are the slow, high, and super high speed whorls.

SIDEKICK WHORL RATIOS	
Slow	4:1 / 4.8:1
Medium	5.7:1 / 6.8:1
Fast	8:1 / 9:1
High	10:1 / 12:1
Super High	11:1 / 13:1

We do not recommend the extra slow whorl for the Sidekick.

The general rule of thumb is: the larger (slower) the whorl, the less twist and the greater the take up. With the larger whorl it is easier to make thicker yarns with less twist. Conversely, with the smaller whorls, it is easier to make fine yarn with lots of twist.

When spinning with Scotch tension, the amount of take-up is controlled by the whorl and the tension you put on the Scotch tension cord—the greater the tension, the greater the take-up.

FOLDING THE SIDEKICK

To fold the Sidekick, reverse the unfolding procedure. Here are some folding tips:

- After you remove the flyer, position the drive wheel so that the cranks are parallel to the ground, then loop the Scotch tension cord and the drive band on the Scotch tension peg on the right side of the wheel.
- Secure the footmen by placing them behind the treadles and in between the legs of the wheel sides.
- When you store the flyer on the left treadle, be sure to turn the flyer so that the flyer hooks are toward the treadle. Insert the whorl end of the flyer shaft into the leather storage strap, then insert the orifice end into the hole on the treadle support bar (figures 2 and 1).

THE WOOD IN YOUR SIDEKICK

We use hard maple and maple apple ply in the finest grades available. All our wood is kiln dried to assure its stability under a variety of conditions. Maple is a strong and beautiful hardwood that varies in color from pale cream to biscuit brown. It has a very fine grain that takes a high polish and is extremely resistant to abrasion.

Wood is a natural breathing material, and like any natural material, it is affected by its environment. Avoid placing your wheel near direct heat sources such as heat vents, wood stoves, space heaters, and direct sunlight. Likewise, place your wheel where it will be free of damp, moisture-laden air, as this can make wood swell and cause the moving parts to stiffen and function inefficiently.

THE FINISH ON YOUR SIDEKICK

The flyer has been lacquered to protect it from oil and moisture. The other parts of

our wheel have been finished with Danish oil which penetrates into the wood, protecting the wood as well as the surface area. If you need to touch up parts of your wheel that have chipped or dinged, you can lightly sand the worn area and apply a small amount of finish using a soft, lint-free rag. Use either Deft or Watco natural color Danish oil. Both are available at most hardware stores. Follow the directions on the container. Because of the danger of spontaneous combustion, be sure to clean and dispose of the applicators and oily rags according to the manufacturer's instructions.

LUBRICATING MOVING PARTS

Before leaving the factory, your wheel was lubricated and tested. It may have been awhile since then, so it is a good idea to oil your wheel before starting to spin. Use a drop of a medium weight oil such as 20 or 30 weight motor oil on the following parts every couple of hours while spinning:

- footman cranks (figure 19)
- flyer shaft where it touches the bobbin ends (figure 20)

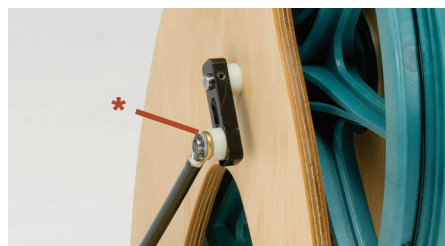


FIGURE 19



FIGURE 20

The front and rear maiden bearings are self-lubricating and do not require oiling, although oiling will not damage them.

MAINTENANCE NOTES

Your wheel is both a carefully engineered piece of equipment and a fine piece of furniture. A regular schedule of care and maintenance will ensure that your Sidekick will give you many productive years together.

- Periodically clean excess fibers from all parts of your wheel.
- Periodically lubricate the moving parts.
- Touch up worn or chipped areas with fine sandpaper and Danish oil.
- Check screws for tightness. Changes in the environment and the action of spinning can cause screws and nuts to loosen over time.

SIDEKICK BULKY PLYER FLYER

Add plying and bulky yarn capabilities to your Schacht Sidekick Spinning Wheel. Features include a generously-sized 7/8" orifice, large capacity bobbin (about 8 oz), sliding flyer hooks with incremental stops, and large round guide hooks. The Bulky Plyer Flyer comes with its own special front maiden, bulky flyer, and bulky bobbin. The Sidekick front maiden is available separately.



TWO YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

Your new Sidekick spinning wheel is warranted to the original consumer purchaser by Schacht Spindle Co., Inc. to be free of defects in material and workmanship. Schacht Spindle Company's obligation under this Warranty shall be limited to the repair or replacement of any part or parts which may prove defective within two (2) years following the date of original purchase by the consumer, and which Schacht Spindle Company's examination shall disclose to our satisfaction to be thus defective. If a problem with this Schacht Spindle Company product develops during the warranty period, first contact your dealer from whom you made the purchase. If the problem cannot be handled through your dealer, then contact our customer service department. At our option, it may be required that the product be returned to our factory freight prepaid for inspection and repair and/or replacement. This Warranty covers normal consumer use and does not cover damage which occurs in shipment or damage which results from alteration, accident, misuse, abuse, or neglect.

This Warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

Your Sidekick serial number: _____

The serial number is stamped on the bottom of the right treadle.