

Finger Spinning Cotton



Before cotton is made into clothing, it must first be spun. Machines usually do this process, but it is possible to use your fingers to form a rough thread. Ask your local extension agent for a cotton boll or you can try with a cotton ball. (The actual cotton boll works better). Gently spread apart the cotton into a fluffy cloud, removing the seeds. Keep your cloud in one piece and hold it in your left hand.

To spin into the thread, take the index and thumb of your right hand pinch a very small amount of the cotton and while pinching give it a twist (in either direction). Continue twisting in the same direction away from the cotton cloud. You will see the thread start to form. Don't let of the twist, keeping it pinched so that it will not unwind. If you end up with a nice thread, wind it onto a skewer or chopstick.

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