

DISTAFF

For the Ashford Traditional, Traveller, Elizabeth & Kiwi Spinning wheels.

NOTE: There are 3 different attachment blocks Type A For the Traditional single & double drive wheels Type B For the Traveller single & double drive and Kiwi spinning wheels Type C For the Elizabeth spinning wheel.

Assembly Type A

Clamp the base to the single leg of the spinning wheel and locate the distaff to the base.

Assembly Type B

Position the base under the top rail of the Traveller so the distaff clears the flyer, or out to the side of the Kiwi. Drill lead holes with a 2mm (3/32") drill bit halfway through the thickness of the timber. Then secure the base in position with the screws supplied.

Assembly Type C

Position the distaff base under the Elizabeth base and ensure the threading hook can be easily removed. Drill lead holes with a 2mm (3/32") drill bit about 15mm (5/8") into the Elizabeth base. Secure the distaff base in position with the screws supplied. NOTE that the hole should be vertical and there should be clearance for the small retaining block secured to the maiden bar to move.

How to use Your Distaff

The distaff enables the spinner to conveniently spin a wide variety of fibres. Although it is more common to spin linen flax from a distaff, wool may also be spun. It is important the fibres are first combed parallel and then formed into stricks or rolags by arranging them around the straight shaft and securing them with a ribbon. The fibres are then drawn down and spun.

For more information see the **Ashford Book of Spinning**

