

Revised  
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## Instructions for using your Journey Wheel Book-Size **CHARKHA**

### Introduction.

Your **Journey Wheel Book-Size Charkha** combines the elements of Gandhi's portable charkha wheel with a few technological improvements to make your spinning easier and more productive. It is designed so that you turn the main wheel with your right hand while drafting with your left.

However, by rotating the charkha body about 120° clockwise, you may spin turning the main wheel with your left hand while drafting with your right. (*Thanks to Audrey Dilbeck for this tip!*)

**Dimensions:** 9 3/4 x 6 3/4 x 2 inches closed  
19 1/2 x 6 3/4 x 1 inches open

**Weight:** about 1 pound 14 ounces

**Materials:** cherry with brass fittings

**Finish:** linseed oil, hand-rubbed wax finish

**Ratio:** about 70:1

**Belts:** *primary belt*, urethane;  
*secondary belt*, cotton carpet warp

Each spinning wheel, new or old, has its own personality. You will become familiar with the character of your **Charkha** as you use it. Take it with you to spinning guild meetings, spin-ins, classes, or wherever you may be traveling. Spin just a half-hour each day, and you and your **Charkha** will come to terms in a most companionable way.

Each **Journey Wheel Book-Size Charkha** is tested before shipping to be sure that everything works properly. Should you have any questions, problems, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

### Opening and closing the box...

Set your **Charkha** on a flat surface in front of you with the bottom face of the charkha case resting on its four padded feet, with the latch to the right. Release the latch on the right-hand end of the case and swing the top half open

to the left so that the **Charkha** now lies completely flat. Loop the secondary belt around the big pulley on the accelerator wheel and over the spindle-bearing pulley. [*Hint:* The “mousetrap” may be easily pivoted up by pulling on the cord that attaches to the locking wedge.] The direction of spindle rotation will be chosen by the way the belt runs between the two.

**Z twist (clockwise)**—Spindle & Main Wheel turn in **same** direction: Place the secondary belt on the spindle mount pulley so that the belt leads over the top of the pulley and then to the far side of the accelerator wheel.



**S twist (counterclockwise)**—Spindle & Main Wheel turn in **opposite** direction: Place the secondary belt on the spindle mount pulley so that the belt leads over the top of the pulley and then to the near side of the accelerator wheel.



The position of the mousetrap can be adjusted by sliding the wedge back to release the carriage; press into place gently to hold the carriage in its new position.

To close the **Charkha**, first remove the spindle from its bearing mount by pushing firmly at the back end to release it from the holding magnet. Spindles should be locked in place in the built-in lazy kate when not in use. This **Charkha** closes with the spindles in the lazy kate. Remove the belt connecting the accelerator pulley and the spindle bearing mount, and allow the spring-loaded spindle bearing mount to fold itself into the box. Turn the main wheel so that the brass screw head on the main wheel lines up with the brass screw head in the front edge of the box.

Swing the top portion of the case up over the bottom, and latch it closed.

### *Spindles...*

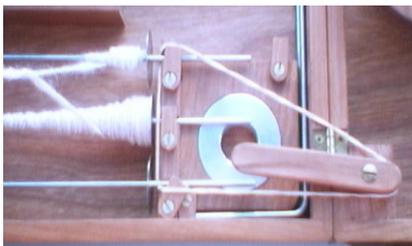
There is no need to remove the secondary belt to change spindles in your **Charkha**. The sealed spindle bearing is mounted in the unit and **requires no oiling**. The magnet will hold the spindle in place. To place the spindle in the mount, simply slide the back end of it into the opening nearest the belt and the magnet will pull it into position. To remove the spindle, just push firmly on the exposed far end. You need push only hard enough to break the magnetic bond. Do not pull the spindle from the working tip or your spindle may bend.

### *Changing the Spindle angle...*

The Journey Wheel **Charkha** spindle mount comes pre-set for angled spinning (*spindle pointed down*). To re-set the spindle for horizontal spinning (*spindle parallel to the box*), fold the spring-loaded spindle mount back toward the accelerator wheel. Note the two screws on the aluminum mounting arm which attach the bearing assembly to the wooden upright. Slightly loosen the upper screw and remove the lower one. Pivot the mounting arm and replace the lower screw in the second hole in the wooden upright so that the arm is horizontal. Tighten both screws.

### *Lazy Kate...*

The lazy kate in your Journey Wheel **Charkha** is permanently built in and holds up to three spindles. The lazy kate may also be used for plying. Guide your yarn with your left hand for tension control, and turn the wheel with your right. A #16 rubber band makes an easy tension device for plying from the built-in lazy kate. This diagram shows how to place it under and over the spindles in the lazy kate; the end of the rubber band goes over the lock-open latch. To tension three spindles, wrap under, over, under; for two, place spindles in outer slots and wrap under, under. (*Thanks to Phreadde Davis for this tip!*)



### *Skeinwinder...*

To use your **Charkha's** Skeinwinder, first remove the secondary belt. Lift out the four metal arms and the metal disc held in place by the spindle shafts. Slide the long arms (arms up) into the four holes in the metal disc (clean side up). Place this assembly on top of the accelerator wheel. Stand up the yarn guide (the little post with the brass hook). Place your filled spindles in the lazy kate; run the yarn from the spindle through the yarn guide and attach it to one arm of the skeinwinder with a few turns or a light knot. As above, use your left hand for tension control, and turn the winder with your right hand. One complete turn of the Skeinwinder equals 1 yard. When your skein is completed, tie it in 3 or 4 locations with a contrasting yarn.

### *Locking your case open...*

The Journey Wheel Book-Size **Charkha** has a built-in arm to lock the case open. Turn the locking arm (found near the front of the right side of the box) so that the long end lays over the front edge of the left side. This allows you to spin with your **Charkha** placed on a soft surface or on your lap without partially closing up (which can cause the secondary belt to pop off). Return the locking arm to its original position before closing the box.

### *Bearings...*

All bearings are teflon, nylon or sealed ball bearings and need no additional special care. **The accelerator wheel and spindle mount are sealed permanently lubricated ball bearings and should not be oiled.** You may oil the main wheel bearing and the knob bearing if you wish.

### *Wood...*

This **Charkha** is made of cherry, hand-finished with highly-refined linseed oil and paste furniture wax. You may use any fine furniture polish on your Journey Wheel **Charkha**. We recommend *Wood Beams* or *Clapham's Beeswax Polish*. Your **Charkha** and its case are sturdily constructed, but wood can be inadvertently nicked or dinged with use over time; please treat it carefully.

### *Ergonomics...*

**Charkhas** with a horizontal main wheel are most comfortably used when user and the charkha are at the same seat height.

# BOSWORTH BOOK CHARKHA

