

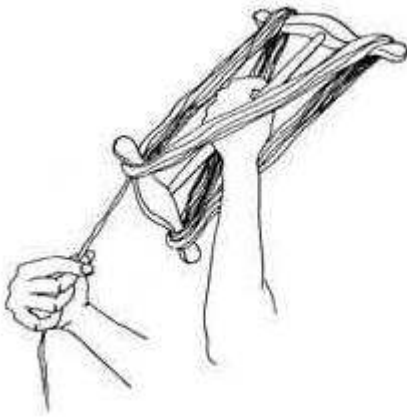
# Niddy-noddys

## What is a Niddy-noddy?

A niddy-noddy is a four-armed tool used to wind spun yarn into a skein for storage. There are three basic parts to a niddy-noddy. The spindle, or handle, that is attached to two heads – one on each end. Please note, the heads are not aligned

## How to use

Hold the niddy-noddy one-handed at the middle of the handle (center shaft,) while holding the "beginning end" of the yarn in the same hand. The other hand wraps the yarn around, over and around, etc. Follow a folded W scheme by tipping and twisting the niddy, or using a "nidding and nodding" motion



When all the yarn is wrapped onto the niddy, you can easily count how many total wraps or circuits you've made. This is how many times the yarn has crossed one arm. This will give you how much you have seined. Multiply the number of circuits. (a standard size niddy-noddy a complete wrap or circuit = 1.5 yards.)

## Removing the Skein

Before removing your yarn from the niddy, secure the skein in several places with un-dyed yarn wound between the strands: separate the skein into two halves at each securing point, and wind the un-dyed yarn between that split, making a little figure 8 as you do so. Tie securely in a knot.

When you have tied your yarn in at least three places, you are ready to remove it carefully from the niddy-noddy. Our "Tapered Armed" niddy-noddy which is flat ended will make this step easier for the novice than our "Classic" niddy-noddy which has its arms carved. Please note that by the end of winding, a skein will fit the niddy-noddy

pretty tightly. (Keep this in mind when winding, and try to keep your tension even, but not too tight if you have an upturned curve style ("Classic") niddy-noddy.

Remove the yarn from this niddy noddy by pulling the yarn off the end of any one of the niddy's arms. The yarn comes off the niddy as what is call a skein or hank

Hold the niddy with the top arm pointing sideways, and the bottom arm pointing at and away from your body. Hold the loose, starting end of the yarn against the center shaft. Lift the working yarn up over the right, top arm, then beneath the back, lower arm above the left, top arm and below the front, lower arm. Repeat until you reach the end of your yarn supply.

Then, tie the beginning loose end, and the final loose end, together in a secure bow. You may have to unwind the final end just a little so you can make the two ends meet comfortably.

### **How to store yarn after removal from the niddy-noddy**

To wind a skein for storage, hold each end of the skein, and twist in opposite directions until the skein is fairly firmly wound. Bring the two ends of the skein together, allowing the skein to twist on to itself. Tuck one of the ends through the loop of the other. Now you have a skein

Once the skein is secured and removed it can store it or safely be submerged in water to "set" the twist of the yarn. To "set" your twist, simply lay the skein in a bath of warm water. Do not agitate. You can use a little soap if the yarn needs to be washed, followed by several rinse baths. Lift the skein out gently, inserting your thumb in the center to help keep the strands separated. Gently squeeze it but don't wring it. Place it in a towel and roll the towel up around it to get out excess moisture. Then you're ready to dry it.

If you plan to weave with your yarn, or if it is an "unbalanced" yarn (one that doesn't hang straight but twists up on itself as a skein) you may wish to hang dry it with a slight weight for tension.