

Clemes & Clemes, Inc.

Maker of Spinning Wheels and Spinning Supplies

info@clemes.com
www.clemes.com
650 San Pablo Ave, Suite A
Pinole, CA 94564

local: 510.724.2036
toll free: 800.900.4118
fax: 510.724.4246

Blending/Garneting Board Instructions

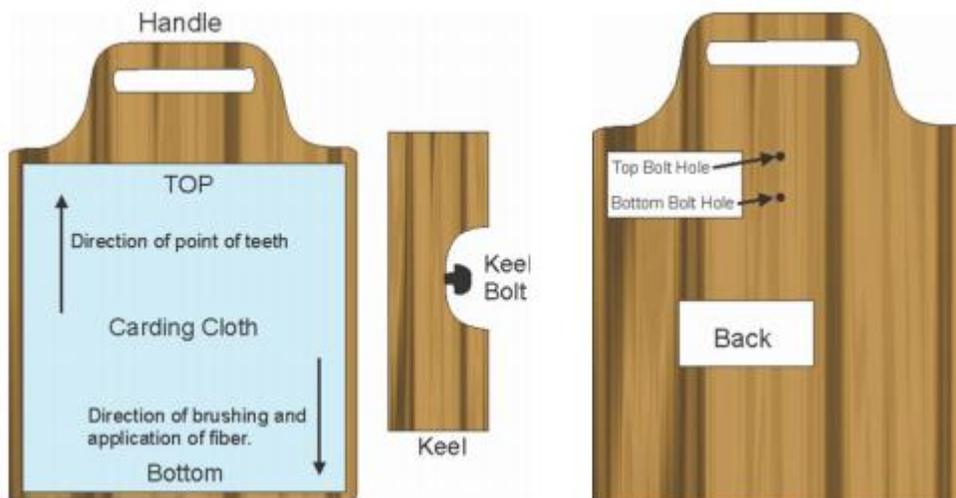
These are basic instructions on how to use your new blending board. Beyond these instructions there is a world of possibilities for blending fibers, spinning unique yarns and creating felt from whatever you may choose to blend.

Accessories you will need:

- Flicker - Useful for flicking open locks, cleaning the board, and applying fiber
- Handcarder - A single hand card is very helpful in applying fiber as well as carding onto the board
- Brushes - If you did not purchase a brush with your board, you might want to get an inexpensive 3-4 inch paint brush, preferably with stiff bristles. You can also use a wallpaper brush. An assortment of brushes will give you more options.
- Dowels - You will want a dowel 3/8 to 1/2 inch diameter and 4 inches wider than the diagonal of the carding cloth (19 inches total length for the dowel). If you are not going to roll off in the diagonal a 15 inch dowel will do. An assortment of dowels will give you more options.

Parts of the Board

- Handle
- Carding Cloth
- Keel
- Keel Bolt
- Bolt Holes



Positioning the Board

Lap setup:

- The board was designed to be used on the lap by screwing the keel in either bolt hole depending on your technique and comfort. It is not necessary to tighten the bolt too tight as you might want to pivot the keel at different angles as you work. Place the board in your lap with the top away from you and the keel between your legs.

Table setup:

- To set the board up on top of a table, screw the keel into either bolt hole. The top hole will give you a low angle, the bottom hole will give you a high angle. You may want to place a rubberized cloth on the table under the board to help keep the board from sliding.
- Using the top bolt hole, you can place the blending board flat on a table or workbench with the keel against the lip of the table.

Applying Fiber to the Board

No carding method:

- Take some top or roving and wipe it onto the board where you want it. Wipe from the top to the bottom of the board. Or you can wipe across the board in any direction. Wiping from the bottom to the top is not effective.
- Take a brush and brush from top to bottom across the board after applying a layer of fiber.
- Apply another layer of fiber and repeat until you are satisfied with the amount of fiber on the board.

Carding methods:

- Apply any type of fiber to the areas of the board where you would like it. This may be in small blotches or over the entire board.
- Using a handcarder or flicker, depending on whether you want the fiber to remain where it is or to blend across the whole area, card the fiber right where you want it. Generally a few brushes across will do the trick.
- Apply another layer if desired and repeat until the desired amount of fiber is on the board.

Removing the Fiber from the Board

Rolags:

- Rolags can be made in numerous ways. The basic method is to roll the fiber off from the bottom of the board to the top using a dowel to wrap the fiber around. If you roll off all of the fiber on to the dowel you will have a very large rolag that you can elongate.
- Rolags can also be made by using a fine dowel and rolling the fiber off in smaller amount making about five rolags for each application of fiber.
- Advanced methods would be to roll the rolags off at an angle. It is not effective to roll the fiber off from top to bottom.

Batts:

- You can remove all the fiber off the board into a batt. Starting at the bottom, gently lift the trailing fiber up slowly. Use a brush if necessary to catch any fiber in the teeth

as you lift. You can then do anything with the batt that you would if you had purchased a batt or created one on a drumcarder.

Roving:

- You can pull out roving from a batt that you removed from the teeth. Or you can use a diz and pull the fiber through by starting at one of the bottom corners and pull through the diz as you work the fiber off the board working back and forth across the teeth.

Cleaning and caring for your board

- Use a flicker or brush to remove all fiber from the teeth of the cloth.
- Use a brush to remove all of the dust, dirt and vegetable matter from the bottom of the teeth.
- Use a clean, damp cloth to wipe the wood down. It will not hurt to use a little lemon oil on the wood portions or a mild dishwashing soap to keep the wood clean.
- Store your blending board flat by unscrewing the keel. A canvas bag with pockets just larger than the board makes an excellent tote to hold everything you need.

Synopsis

Pick wonderful fibers and place them on the board in different patterns. Use two or more colors, lengths or textures. Feathers, Angelina, dog hair, shredded silk fabric, cut yarn, odds and ends from other projects - your imagination is the only limiting factor when working with your new Blending/Garneting Board. Remove rolags or batts from the board in different ways to create different effects. The possibilities are endless.

Our many thanks go out to Gwen Powell for her integral work in helping design the Blending/Garneting Board and its accompanying instructions. You may contact Gwen (gwen@mresource.com) for workshops on using blending boards. Keep an eye out for her article on Blending Boards in an upcoming issue of Spin-Off.