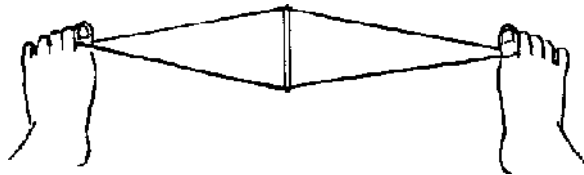
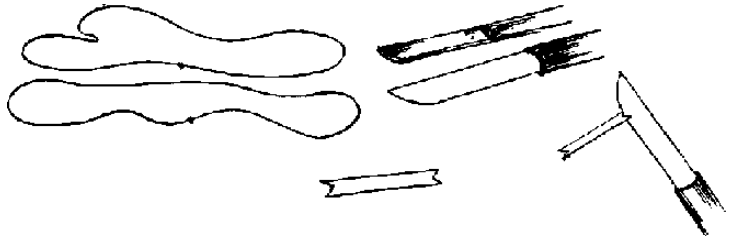


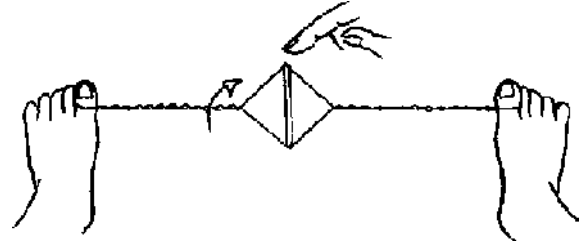
SIMPLE SPINDLE

This is one of the most creative Indian toys.
All it requires is a bit of string and an old ice-cream stick.

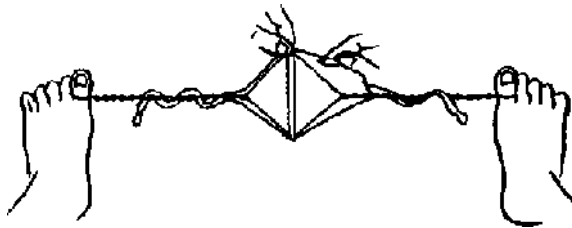
1. Take two strings each 80-cm long. Tie knots in their ends to make them into loops. Take a piece of ice-cream stick about 6-cm long. With a knife or a blade cut 'V' notches on both its ends. The notches are to hold the threads in place.



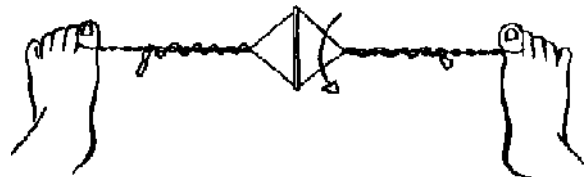
2. Take one loop of thread. Hold the two ends of the loop between the thumbs of your feet. Insert the stick. The thread will be in tension while the stick will be in compression.



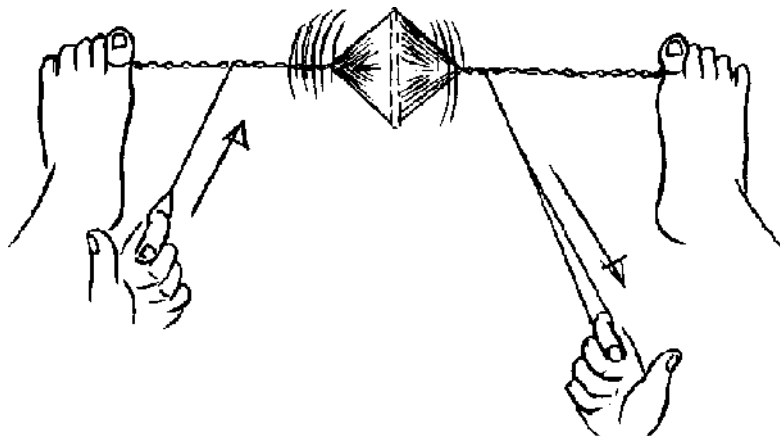
3. As in a spring toy wind the stick. The thread will wind too, and there will be twists in the thread. Hold the stick otherwise the thread will unwind in the reverse direction.



4. Now, hold on to the stick and place the other loop. Each thread of this loop will go into one 'V' notch.



5. Make the stick unwind a little. Do this slowly, in such a way that some of the twists of the first loop get transferred to the second loop. The ends of the second loop must remain free.



6. Now hold the two free ends of the second loop and pull them gently. Watch the stick rotate. It will remind of the old lathe machine in operation. The pulling of the second loop and then its gentle release results in a rhythmic motion. The Simple Spindle is like a solid of revolution. When the two thread triangles rotate they make cones. You can make pretty patterns in the thread triangles. When in motion they look amazing. You can also change these patterns at will.