



Easy Weaver

Instruction Booklet

The Easy Weaver

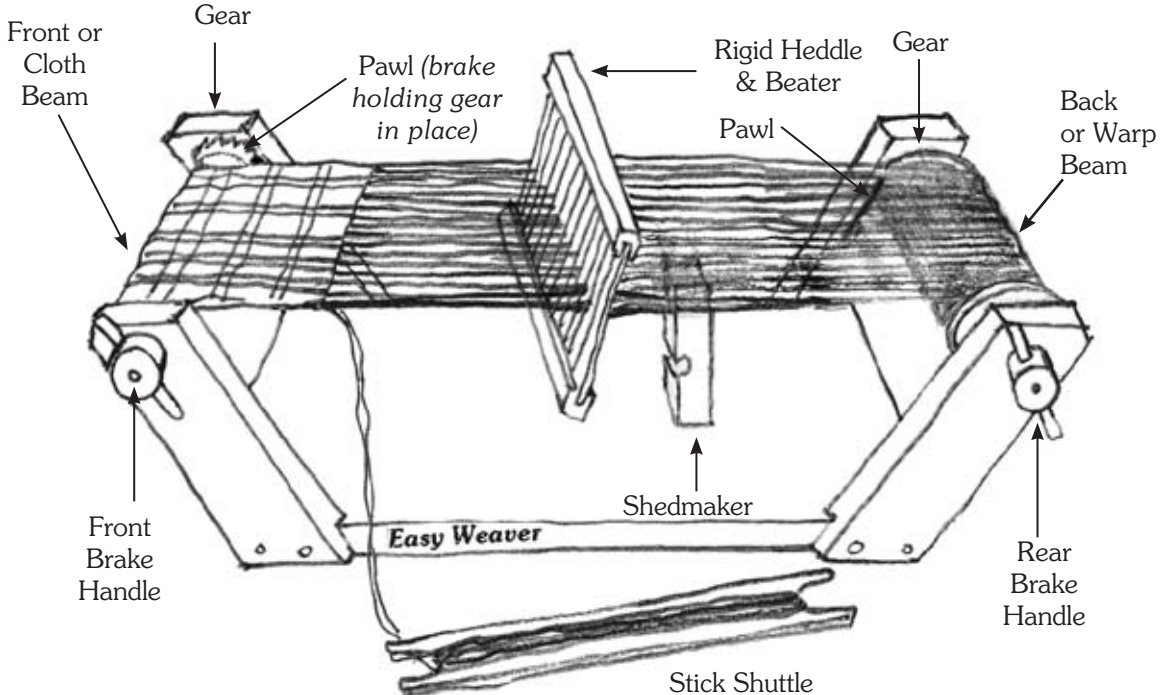
A Friendly Loom® Product from Harrisville Designs



Congratulations! You are the owner of one of our award-winning **Easy Weavers** that we make in New Hampshire. We spun the 100% pure wool yarn you will be weaving with too!

The Easy Weaver is what is called a rigid heddle table loom. This simply means it is a small loom that sits on a table and the yarn on the loom is threaded through a heddle that the weaver (you!) moves up and down in order to weave cloth. This will be explained in detail on the following pages. It's fun, it's easy, and you can make so many things from scarves to doll blankets to placemats (and much more!).

The Easy Weaver

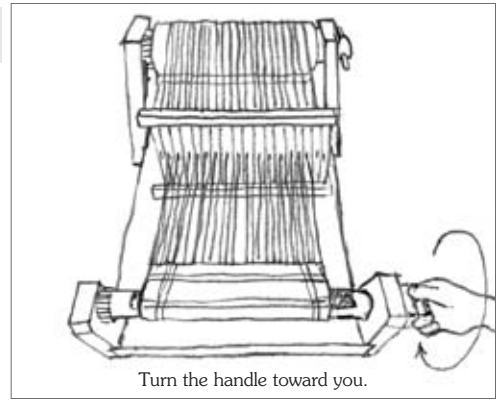


Practicing on the *Easy Weaver* - warming up!



1. Place the **Easy Weaver** so the **Cloth Beam** is closest to you.

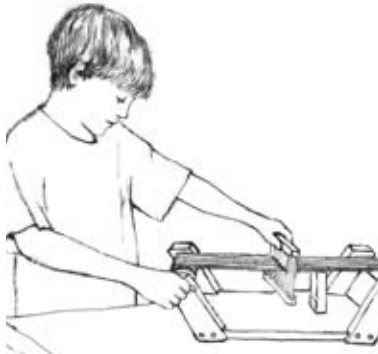
2. Tighten the warp: remove the ties holding the gears and pawls.



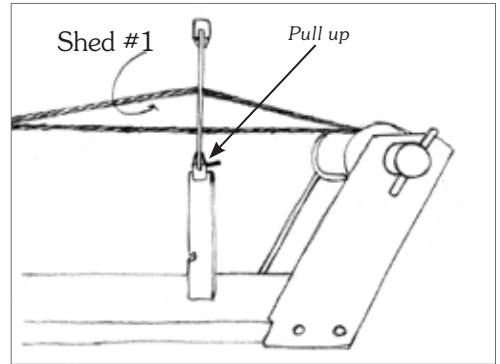
Turn the handle toward you.

3. Turn the brake handle (on the right) towards you to tighten the warp.

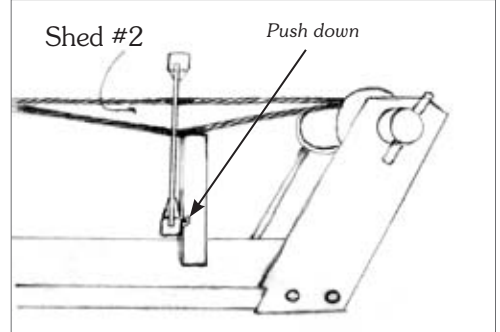
4. Pull the **Heddle UP** and rest it on top of the **Shedmaker**.



As you can see, half of the threads are up and half are down. The space in between is the **Shed**. This is Shed #1.



5. Now push the **Heddle DOWN** and hook the pin on the heddle into the slot in the **Shedmaker**. This switches the yarn (the yarns that were up are now down and the yarns that were down are now up). This **Shed** is Shed #2.

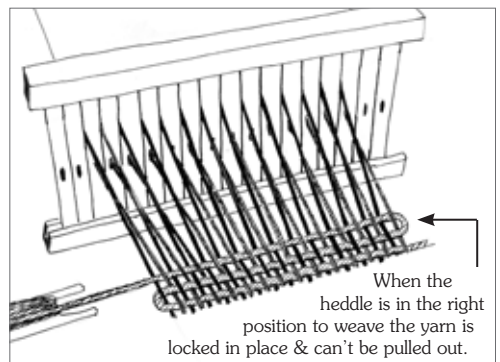


To begin weaving...

Do you start with the heddle up or down? Right now the heddle is down. Is the yarn that has already been woven locked into place? If it is, then you are ready to weave starting with the heddle down.

If it is not, then put your heddle in the *up* position.

Now you are ready to weave!



Learning to Weave on the *Easy Weaver*

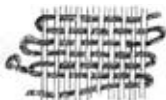
Row 1:

Put the heddle in the correct position.

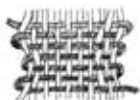
Slide the **Shuttle** all the way through the shed.

Pull the yarn so it is snug but not tight. Try to keep the edges pretty straight.

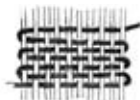
Take the heddle off the shedmaker and tap the yarn into place.



Too loose



Too tight



Just right!

Row 2:

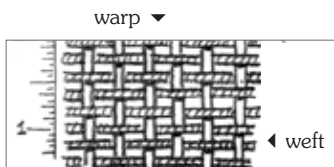
Change the position of the heddle on the Shedmaker.

Now Row 1 is “locked” into place.

Slide the shuttle back through the shed. Pull the yarn snugly and tap it in place. This is called **Beating**.

Note about beating:

Tap the yarn *gently* into place so that you have about 6 - 7 rows to the inch.



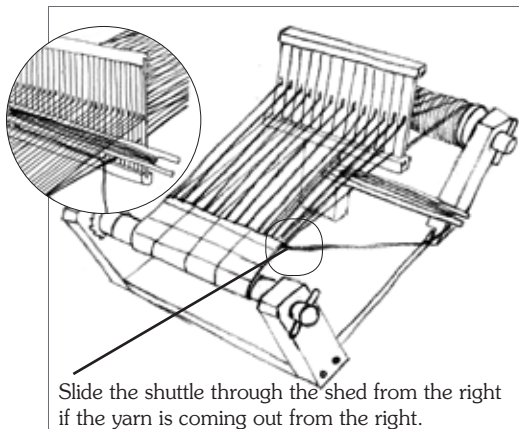
Row 3:

Change the position of the heddle.

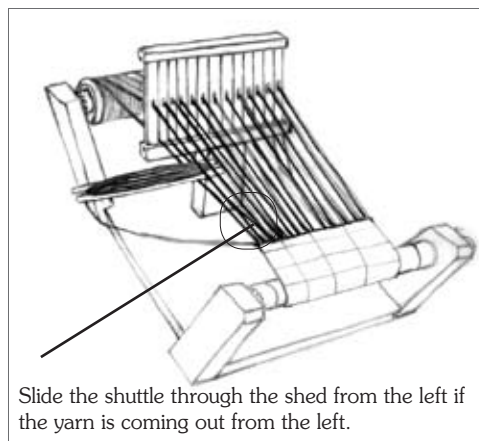
Now Row 2 is locked into place and you are ready to weave Row 3. You know what to do - slide the shuttle back through the shed. Pull the yarn snugly and tap it in place.

That's weaving! The heddle goes up and down - the shuttle goes in and out of the shed and each strand of yarn is tapped into place. The yarn that you are weaving with is called the **Weft**. The yarn that is threaded onto the loom is called the **Warp**.

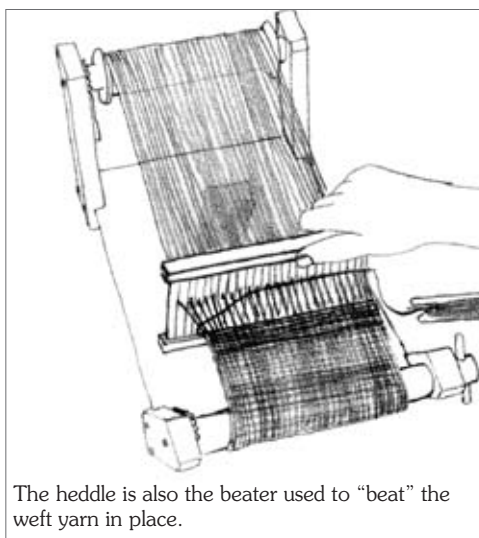
Now weave several rows to practice and when you finish, refer to Planning your first Project.



Slide the shuttle through the shed from the right if the yarn is coming out from the right.



Slide the shuttle through the shed from the left if the yarn is coming out from the left.



The heddle is also the beater used to “beat” the weft yarn in place.

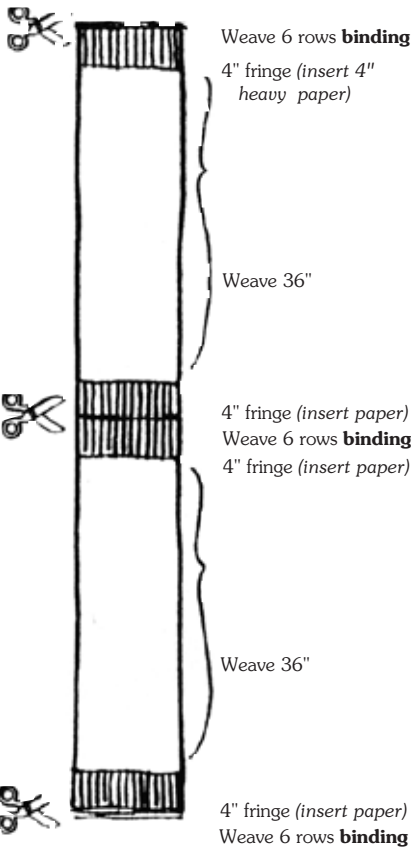
Planning your first Project

Easy Weaver A comes with 2½ yards of warp. You can weave 2 scarves that are each 1¼ yards long.

Easy Weaver B comes with 3½ yards of warp. You can weave 2 scarves that are each 1¾ yards long.

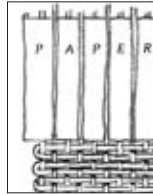
Here's how to make 2 scarves:

Making 2 scarves with the Easy Weaver A (based on 2" of practice weaving and 88" left on the loom)



1. Weave 6 rows with any color. This is the **binding** and will be pulled out after your scarves are finished and washed.

2. Insert a 4" piece of **heavy** paper. This will be for the fringe.



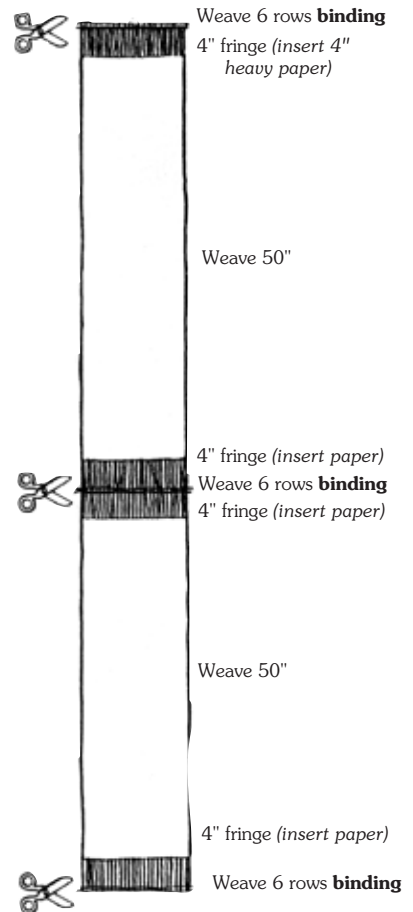
3. Weave your scarf:
36" long on the **Easy Weaver A**
50" long on the **Easy Weaver B**

Tip: To measure the length of a project that you are weaving, cut a piece of yarn that length and using T-pins, pin the yarn along the side of your project as you weave. When the yarn runs out, you're finished!

4. Insert a 4" piece of heavy paper.

5. Begin your second scarf by weaving 6 rows of binding. Continue as shown in the diagram.

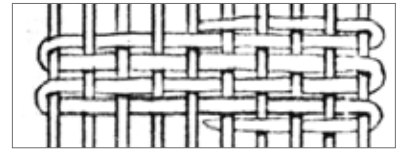
Making 2 scarves with the Easy Weaver B (based on 2" of practice weaving and 116" left on the loom)



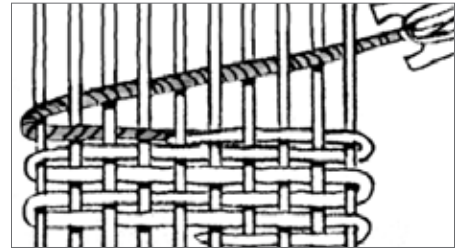
You can make **placemats, pillows, blankets, a poncho, mug rugs** and lots more. The directions are in your **Easy Weaver Book of Project Ideas**.

When your shuttle runs out of yarn or you want to change colors:

1. Wind some yarn (in the color you want to use next) onto the shuttle.
2. Make the next shed.
3. Tuck the end of yarn (hanging from your weaving) into the shed about 1" - 1½" in from the edge.
4. Start weaving on the opposite side of the loom leaving a 1" - 1½" end hanging.
5. Now bring your shuttle back through again. Tuck the hanging end in before you beat the yarn.



Tuck in the tail (end of yarn) of the color you are finished with.



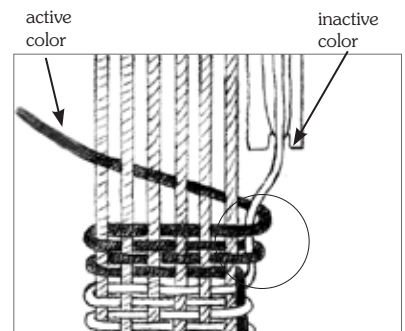
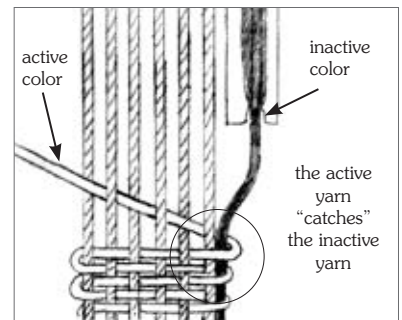
Start the new color in the same shed

Weaving with more than one color:

If you want to weave a few rows of one color and then a few rows of another color and you want to keep repeating this pattern, it's often easier to *carry* the inactive color up the side of the warp instead of cutting the weft each time you change colors. The diagrams show how to do this.

All you have to remember is that...

When both shuttles are on the same side of the loom, make sure the shuttle you are weaving with (the **active** color) goes around and “catches” the yarn of the shuttle that you are not weaving with (the **inactive** color) . This way, the yarn on the shuttle you are not using is carried along the edge of your weaving (called the **selvage**), and will be right where you want it when you are ready to change colors again.



Releasing more warp yarn:

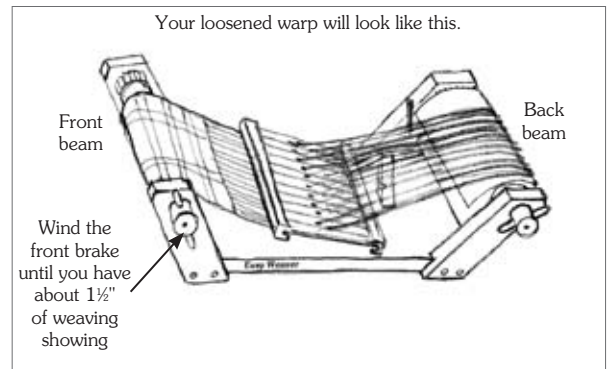
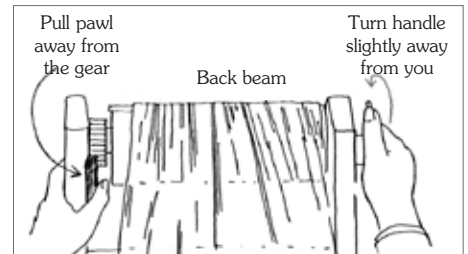
Once you have started your project and after you have about 5" of weaving done, you will have to wind your warp forward.

First, loosen the warp by releasing the brake and the pawl on the back beam as shown.

Then, wind the warp forward until you have about 1½" of weaving showing.

Last, adjust the tension by re-tightening the warp on the back beam.

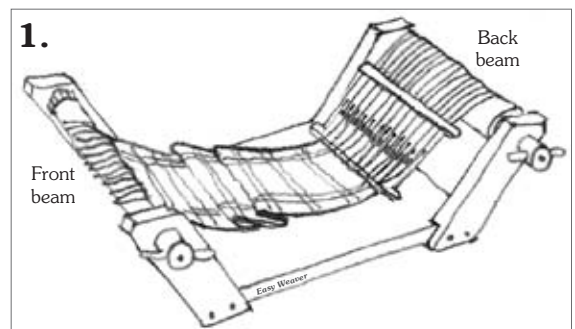
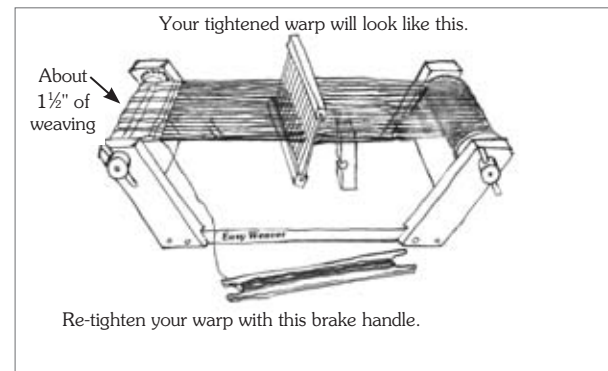
Now you are ready to continue weaving!



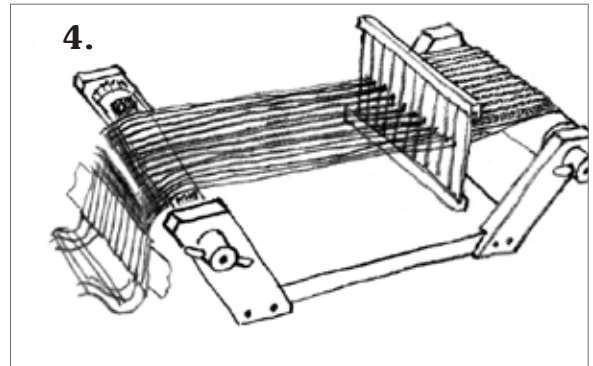
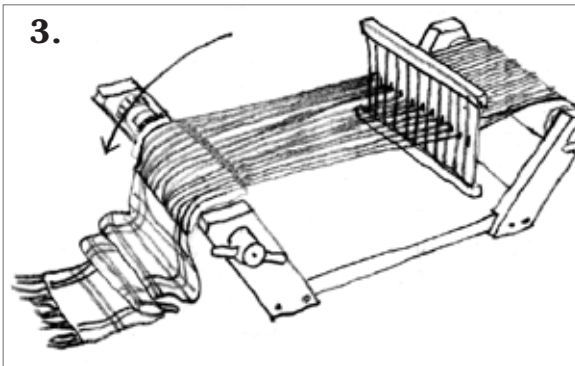
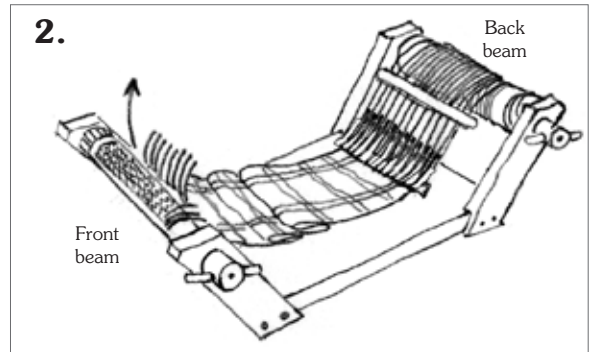
Taking your finished weaving off the loom:

If there is still warp left that you want to weave later...

1. Unwind all of the woven cloth off the front beam.
2. Remove the the warp threads stuck on the velcro.
3. Pull the whole woven piece forward until you get to the end of your woven piece.
4. Press the new part of the warp against the velcro right after the 6 rows of binding that you wove last. Then cut your project off.



If there is no warp left pull the whole woven piece out of the heddle and off the loom.



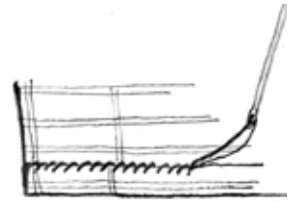
Washing your Weaving

Your weaving will look and feel much nicer if you wash it.

- 1.** Carefully remove any of the heavy paper you inserted that was holding space for fringe.
- 2.** Put a little bit of liquid dishwashing detergent into a pan of lukewarm water. There should be plenty of room for your fabric to move around, and the water should NOT be so hot that it is uncomfortable to your hands.
- 3.** Put your weaving into the water and GENTLY squeeze it until it is thoroughly wet.
- 4.** Let it soak for about 10 - 15 minutes.
- 5.** Then rinse it, using the same procedure.
- 6.** Wrap it in a towel to squeeze the excess water out of it and lay it on a towel to dry.
- 7.** Press it very lightly with a warm iron.

After you have washed and dried your weaving you need to “finish” the ends.

A. If you do not want fringe but want to hem the ends of your weaving, cut the unwoven warp ends off, turn under the hem and sew it by hand.



Hemming the edge

B. To make fringe, first divide the warp into equal-sized groups of about six warp yarns each. Now you can tie an overhand knot in each group and, while the knot is still loose, push it up against the edge of the weaving and tighten it. Or you can braid each group of warp yarns and tie the slip knot at the end of the braid. To make the braid, divide your group of 6 yarns into 3 sections by using 2 yarns as one. After you have made your fringe, trim all the ends in the knots with a pair of scissors so that they are even.



Overhand knot

Congratulations! You did it.

Your next Project

The easiest way to begin your next project is to buy an **Easy Weaver Refill Kit**. Check with the store where you purchased your loom.

If you'd rather make your own warp follow these instructions. It's not hard - just take it step by step.

First, decide what you want to make. You can choose a project from the **Easy Weaver Book of Project Ideas**.

Second, decide how long and how wide your project will be.

Easy Weaver A - your project can be 6½" wide or less.

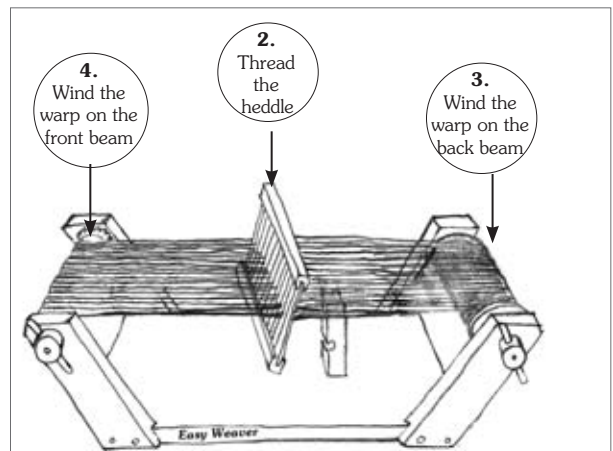
Easy Weaver B - your project can be 13½" wide or less.

The next step is to thread your loom. This is called **warping**.

The Basics of Warping

(we'll go into the details on the next few pages)

- 1. Measure and cut the yarn.** The length of each piece of yarn is the length of your project *plus* a little extra for practice.
- 2. Thread the heddle** strand by strand, through the eyes and slots.
- 3. Put the warp on the loom.** Wind the yarn onto the back or warp beam.
- 4. Then wind** onto the front beam and **tighten**.



Selecting Yarn...

We recommend using a strong 2 ply, 100% Wool Yarn that has about 112 yards per 2 oz. ball. Check with the shop where you purchased your loom or contact Harrisville Designs and ask for the **Highland Weight Yarn**.

1. Measuring the Yarn

To get the basic idea of making a warp, start with a short, narrow project. You can measure each thread and lay it out on the floor to thread the heddle. When you decide to make a wider and longer project, see “Warping Tips and Tricks” and “Making a Cross”.

Let's take a look at the heddle.

The **Easy Weaver A** heddle is 7" wide and has 59 eyes and slots.

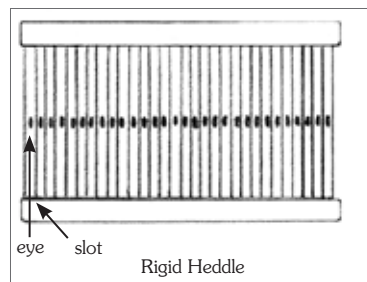
Note: Because of the design of the beams the maximum usable width is a little over 6½" or 54 eyes and slots.

The **Easy Weaver B** heddle is 14½" wide and has 119 eyes and slots.

Note: Because of the design of the beams the maximum usable width is a little over 13½" or 110 eyes and slots.

Is your project one color or more?

One color is easy: cut 40 warp ends in your favorite color that are each 5 feet long and lay them out on the floor. **Two colors or more:** cut and lay the strands out on the floor in the color order that you want.



Examples of Easy Weaver Projects

Always add a little extra for fringe and shrinkage!
(About 10% shrinkage occurs when you wash your project in warm water.)

40 strands of yarn, each 5' long

16 strands of yarn, each 5' long

Example 1:
A scarf 5" wide and 5' long

Example 2:
A guitar strap 2" wide and 5' long

The diagram shows two examples of weaving projects. On the left, a scarf is shown with 40 strands of yarn, each 5 feet long. On the right, a guitar strap is shown with 16 strands of yarn, each 5 feet long. The diagrams include arrows pointing to the strands and text explaining the number of strands and length. A note at the top left says 'Always add a little extra for fringe and shrinkage! (About 10% shrinkage occurs when you wash your project in warm water.)' Below the diagrams are two examples: 'Example 1: A scarf 5" wide and 5' long' and 'Example 2: A guitar strap 2" wide and 5' long'.

Example 1: A Scarf

Let's make a scarf about 5" wide and 5 feet long. 5" wide = about 40 **warp ends** (strands of yarn).

Example 2: A Guitar Strap

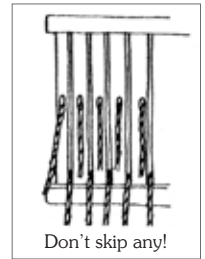
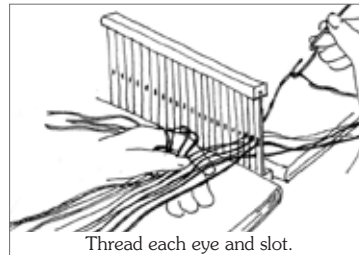
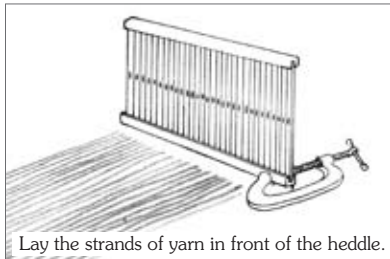
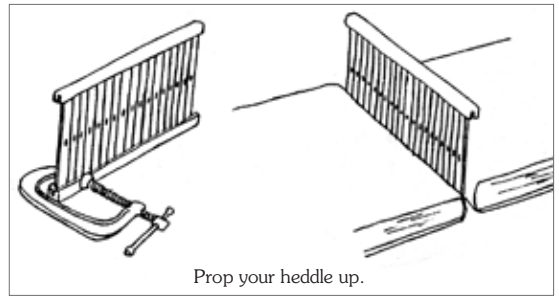
Let's make a guitar strap about 2" wide and 5 feet long. 2" wide = about 16 **warp ends** (strands of yarn).

2. Threading the heddle:

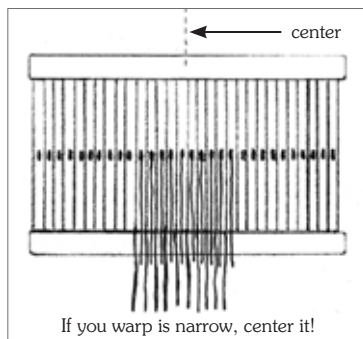
Prop your heddle up. A clamp or 2 books (or 2 bricks) will do it. (You can put your **Easy Weaver** loom aside for now.)

Center your warp in the heddle.

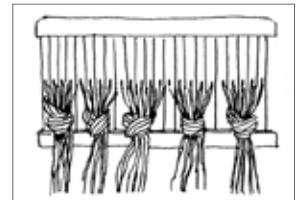
Thread one strand of yarn through each of the eyes and the slots in the color order you want. **Don't skip any slots or eyes.**



If your project is narrower than the width of the heddle **center your warp** in the heddle.



You can tie your warp threads loosely in an overhand knot to keep them from falling out.

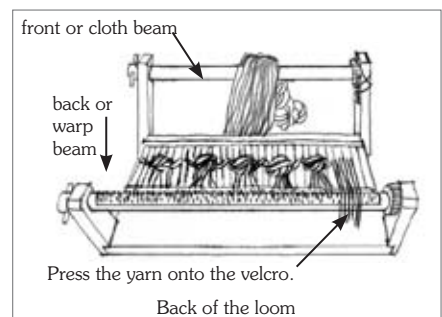


3. Putting the warp onto the loom:

1. Untie one knot at a time and press each group of yarn onto the velcro on the back beam keeping the yarns in the same order as they come through the heddle.

2. When all the yarn is stuck to the velcro, trim the ends so they are fairly even.

3. Carefully wind the yarn around the beam. As you wind the yarn, the heddle will move with it. **Stop often**, gently pushing the heddle toward the front beam **combing** and **smoothing** out the warp threads.



4. Continue winding until you have about **10"** left on the other side of the heddle.

Hold onto your heddle or tie an overhand knot in the end of your warp so your heddle doesn't fall out.

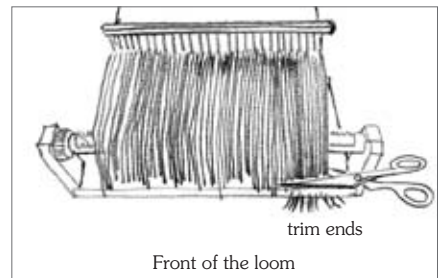
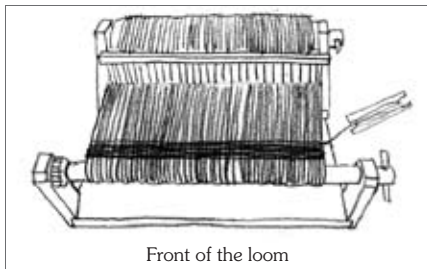
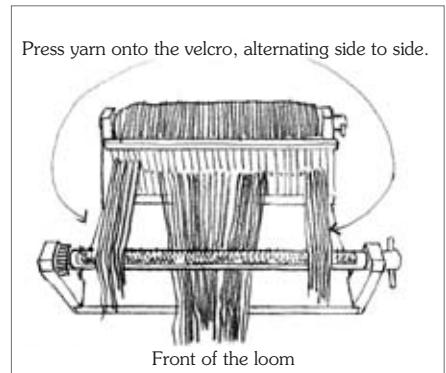
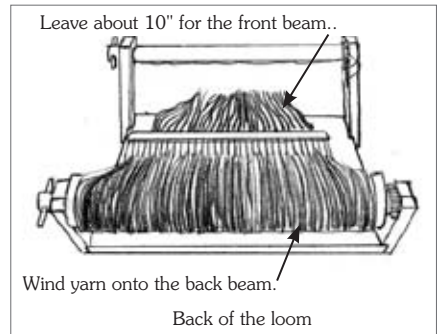
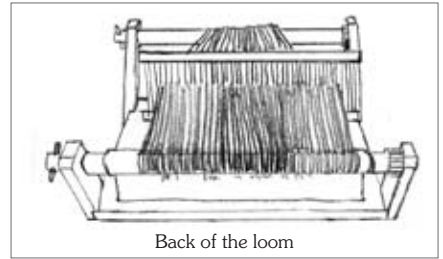
5. **Now turn your loom around so you are facing the front.** Rotate the beam (using the handle on your right) so that the velcro is up. Make sure the the brake pawl is holding the gear (on your left) in place.

6. Starting on one side of the warp, take a small section, comb your fingers through it to untangle it, pull it **firmly** and press it down on the velcro. Then do the same thing on the opposite side. Continue doing this until all warp threads are attached. Run your hand across the warp and tighten any areas that are loose.

7. Carefully trim the ends so they are all about the same length and turn the beam completely around one time.

8. Lift the heddle to check the tension of your warp. You should not have any warp threads sagging down from the others. If they are all right, insert a short piece of heavy paper that will wrap around the front beam and help to keep the warp flat and even.

Now you are ready to weave!



Warping Tips and Tricks

Decide how wide you want your warp to be and how long.
(Maximum weaving width on **Easy Weaver A** is a little over $6\frac{1}{2}" = 54$ warp ends and the **Easy Weaver B** is a little over $13\frac{1}{2}" = 110$ warp ends.)

To figure how much yarn you need for a project...

Multiply the total length of the project (number of yards) by the number of threads in the warp - 54 for **Easy Weaver A** or 110 for **Easy Weaver B** and that's how much yarn you need for the warp.

Double it and you'll have enough for the weft too.

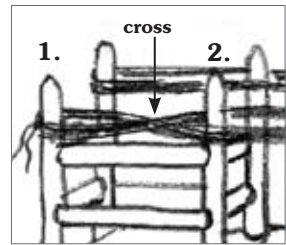
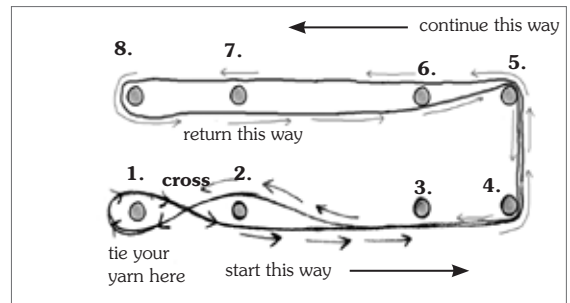
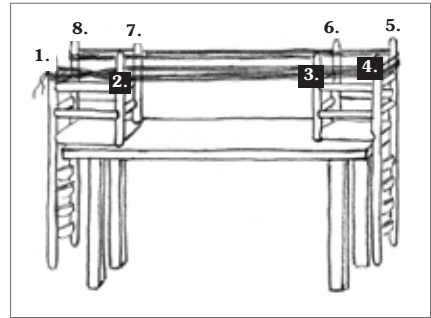
How to Wind a Warp:

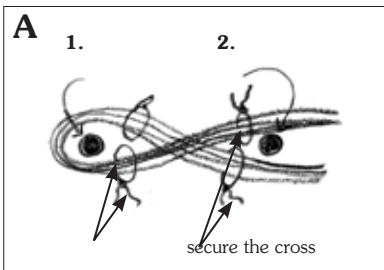
You can put a warp on your **Easy Weaver A** as long as $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards and $3\frac{1}{2}$ yards on the **Easy Weaver B**. A fast and easy way to wind a long warp is to use a measuring device like a **warping board** (this is what weavers usually use) or 2 chairs with straight legs. Looking at the drawing, start by **tying your yarn on leg #1**. If you wind your yarn from leg #1 to leg #4, the length of your warp will be the distance between the 2 chairs. If the chairs are 3' (1 yard) apart then your warp will be one yard. If you wind your yarn from leg #1 to #8, the length of your warp will be more than 2 times the distance between the chairs. If the chairs are 3' (1 yard) apart then your warp will be more than 2 yards.

Winding a Warp & Making a Cross:

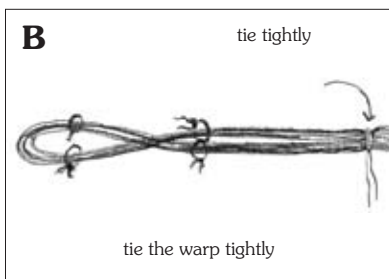
As you can see in the drawing the yarn is crossed between points #1 and #2. The cross keeps the yarn in precisely the right order - the ends cannot overlap or become tangled. To make the cross, each time you start at point #1 go from #1 to #2 in one direction and when you return, go from point #2 to point #1 in the other direction. Start by tying your yarn to leg #1 and just follow the arrows in the diagram.

Remember to **stop** and **count** your warp ends as you wind your warp.





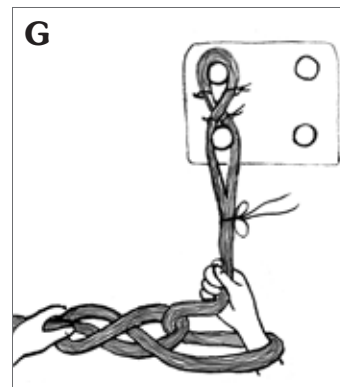
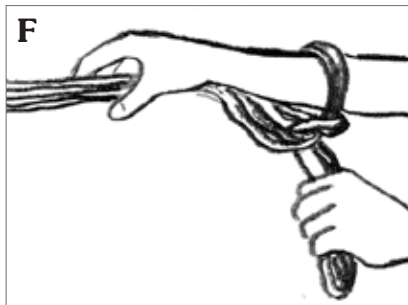
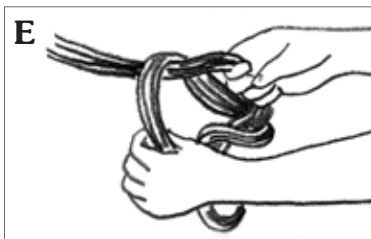
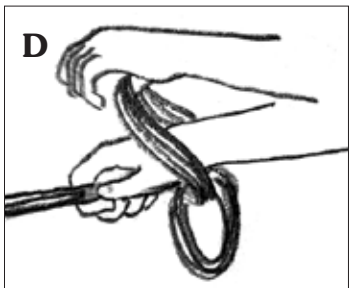
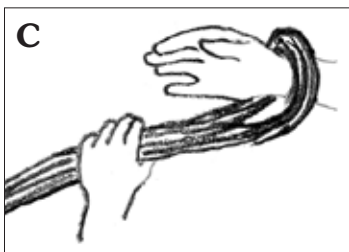
Before you take your warp off the chairs/warping board you will have to **secure the cross** and the warp before you remove it from the chairs. To secure the cross, tie the bundles of yarn that make the “x” of the cross together **loosely** with some string. Then tie the entire warp together fairly tightly with string in 3 or 4 places to keep the yarn from slipping or tangling. If your warp is long you might also want to put it in a chain so it’s easier to work with. **(A & B)**



Making a chain

The best way to work with a long warp is to chain it as you take it off the chairs or warping board.

1. Carefully pull the end of your warp (the end **without the cross**) off the chair leg or peg.
2. Hold it in your left hand and put your right hand up through the hole, grabbing onto both sides of the warp at once. **(C)**
3. Then, with your left hand pull the end loop of warp over your right hand. **(D)**
4. Now, with your left hand, take the warp that was held in your right hand and put your right hand through the hole your hand just made, grabbing onto the warp again and pulling it through that hole. Do this again and again until you’re about 8” from the cross. **(E - G)**
5. Carefully remove the cross end of your warp from the chair leg/peg.

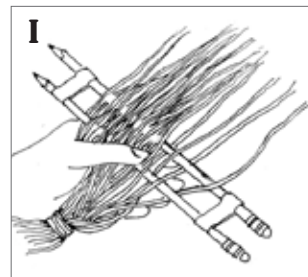
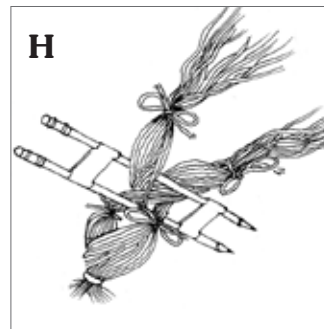


6. Pull the bottom pair of ties apart and place a pencil (or dowel) between them. Place a pencil (or dowel) in the space between the other two ties.

2 pencils or wooden dowels taped together will hold the cross and make threading the heddle much easier.

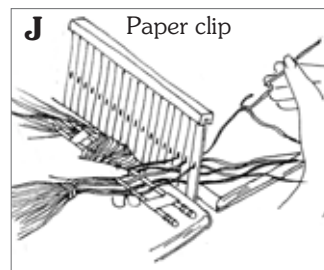
7. Now tape the ends of the two pencils together on both sides of the warp. This will hold your cross. **(H)**

8. Now carefully cut through the loop at this end of the warp and remove the 4 ties. Now you are ready to thread the heddle. *Refer back to page 11 to continue.* **(H - J)**



Rainbow Design for the Easy Weaver A or B

To weave the Rainbow Design, weave 9 or 10 rows of each color in this order: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Purple, repeating this sequence for the length you want your fabric to be.



Tartan Plaid Design for the Easy Weaver B

Weaving Instructions for your Easy Weaver B Project

You will be weaving a piece of fabric approximately 13½" wide by 3½ yards long. To plan your project and weave different designs, refer to the Easy Weaver Instruction Booklet that came with your Easy Weaver. Once you have planned your project, you can fill your shuttle and refer to Steps 1 - 5 to review the weaving process, if necessary.

To weave the Green & Red Tartan Plaid Refill Kit:

1. Weave 3 rows of green and then 3 rows of red.
 2. Weave 10 rows of green.
 3. Now alternate the 2 colors again, starting with 3 red this time and ending with 3 green.
 4. Weave 10 rows of red.
 5. Alternate the 2 colors again, starting with green.
 6. Weave 10 rows of green.
- Continue with this pattern or you can make up your own!

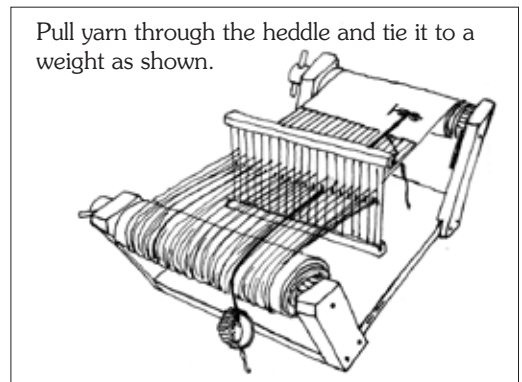
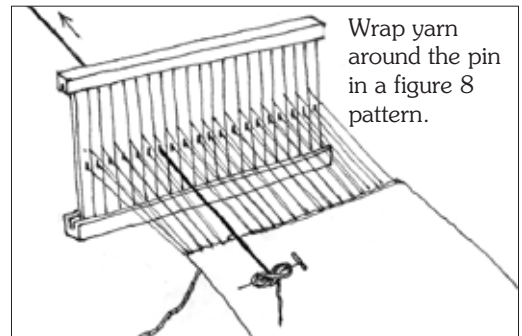
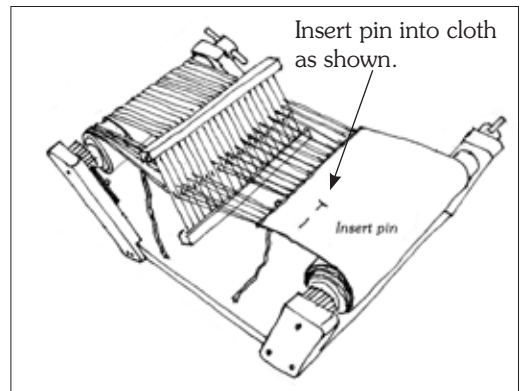
Fixing a Broken Warp Thread

Although it shouldn't happen, you may find that a warp thread will break. Broken warps are easy to fix! You will need a "T" pin or a straight pin, more warp yarn, and a small object like a roll of cellophane tape or a couple of washers to use as a weight.

1. Put a pin in your woven cloth about 1½" behind the edge of your weaving (where your last weft thread went through), as shown. The pin should be lined up with the broken warp thread.
2. Cut a length of warp yarn that is a little longer than the rest of your unwoven warp. (Just estimate and don't worry if it's short, you can add another piece later.) This is the replacement for the broken thread.
3. Wrap one end of that warp yarn around the two ends of the pin in a figure eight pattern 6 or 8 times to secure the yarn. Leave the pin in your weaving until done.
4. Now thread the other end of the warp yarn through the heddle space that the broken one came out of. Tie your weight (tape roll or washers) onto the end of this yarn. Wrap the rest of it around your weight so that just enough length is left for it to hang freely.

Note: When you advance the warp, release some of the replacement yarn from the weight and retie the rest of it so it will hang freely.

Now your replacement warp should work just like the old one did. You can cut the strand and remove the pin after you remove your woven piece from the loom.



Refill Kits available at www.harrisville.com

We hope you've had fun weaving your project!