

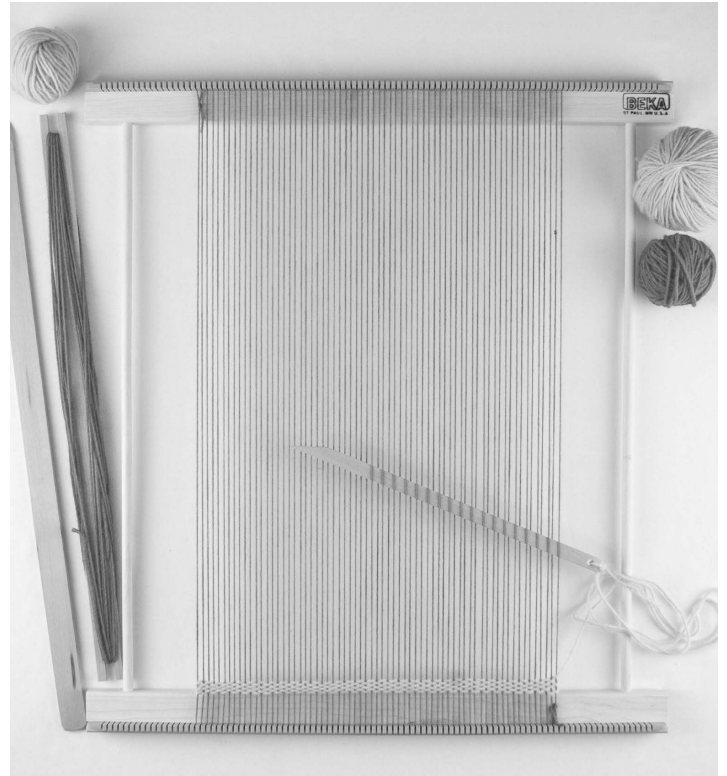
IMAGINATION STARTS HERE

WEAVING FRAME LOOM INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION

Weaving is the creation of fabric from two sets of threads or yarns. Vertical threads are called the **warp**; horizontal threads are called the **weft**. Warp threads create the foundation of your weaving and are attached to the teeth of your loom to begin a project. Weft threads travel back and forth across the warp as you weave.

Fabric woven on this weaving frame loom are typically Weft Faced, which means warp threads are mostly hidden by densely packed weft threads, leaving mainly weft yarn visible. Select your warp thread for its strength; your weft can be any size, thickness, or color. Use your imagination and create the overall look you desire, keeping in mind you can create a more “balanced” weave (where warp and weft yarns both show) by choosing similar yarns for your warp and your weft.



ASSEMBLY

To assemble your Weaving Frame Loom, simply slide the dowels into the holes drilled in the edges of the two beams, creating a loose frame. The frame will be held firmly together by the warp yarn you use to prepare your loom for weaving.

STARTING A PROJECT

- 1) Decide the width of your project. Choose the teeth on each beam that will center your project. For example: To make a 10” wide wall hanging, you want to use teeth in the middle 10” of each beam. Determine the four outside corners of your project, leaving a balanced number of unused teeth on the ends of each beam.

Mark the four beam teeth that will be those outside corners with some string.



STARTING A PROJECT (cont'd)

- 2) Put your WARP yarn on the weaving frame: start by tying one end of your warp yarn to one of the teeth you marked on the beams. Wind the yarn around the corresponding tooth on the other beam, and then back around the next tooth on the first beam (see diagram B). Continue until you have reached the other marked beam teeth, keeping the warp fairly tight and even. Tie the yarn to the last tooth.
- 3) Make the tension of the threads as even as possible across the width of your project. Do this by sliding the yarn backward or forward around the beam teeth until the threads seem to be of uniform tightness. You are now ready to begin weaving.

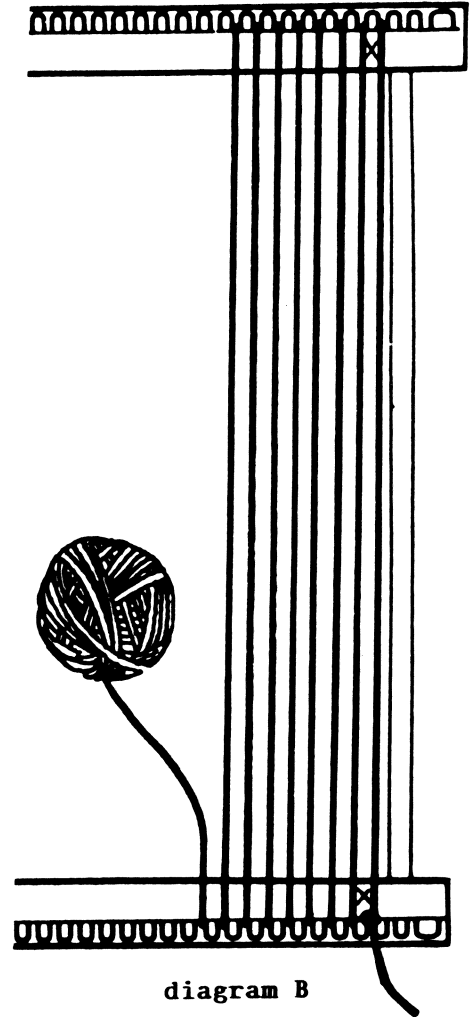


diagram B

WEAVING

You have two basic choices in how you actually "weave" your WEFT yarn through your fabric:

THE WEAVING NEEDLE

Thread some yarn through the hole in the needle, then pass the needle alternately above and below adjacent warp threads (see diagram C). Reverse the needle's path every row. For example: if the first row is 1 up, 1 down, 1 up..., the next row should be 1 down, 1 up, 1 down...) You can position the yarn where you want it with this technique. You can weave pictures in your fabric using this style of weaving.

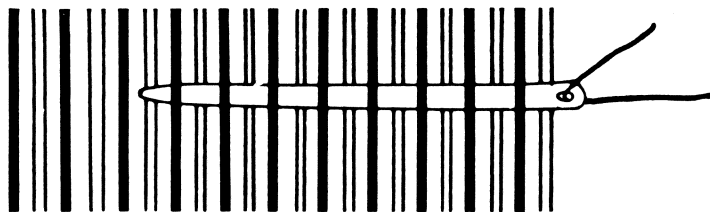
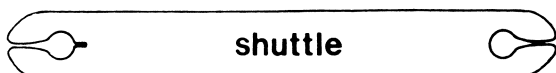


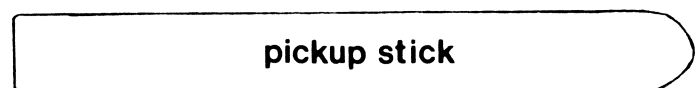
diagram C

THE PICKUP STICK AND SHUTTLE

The pickup stick is the wood strip with no holes in it and one pointed end. The shuttle is the stick with notches at each end.



shuttle



pickup stick

THE PICKUP STICK AND SHUTTLE (cont'd)

- 1) Wind some of your weft yarn onto the shuttle (see diagram D). Set the shuttle aside.
- 2) Use the pickup stick to "pick your pattern". This means that you pass the pointed end of the stick over and under warp threads in an alternating pattern so every other thread is above the stick (or "picked").
- 3) Turn the stick on edge, lifting the threads on top of it.
- 4) Pass your shuttle through the opening created in your warp threads (see diagram E).

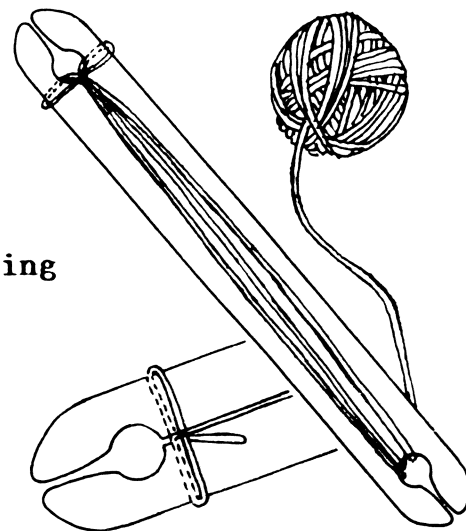


diagram D

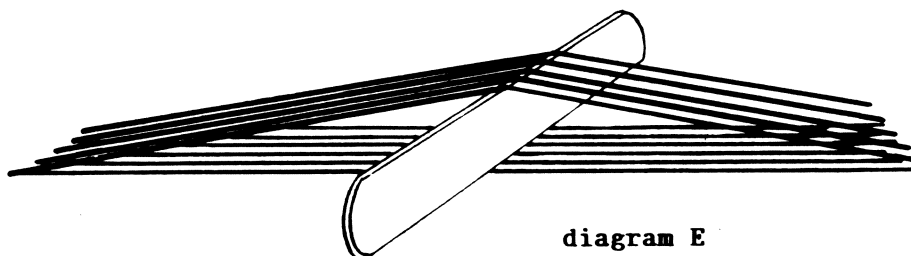


diagram E

- 5) Remove the stick and "pick" the opposite pattern (reversing which warp threads are on top of the stick).
- 6) Use the edge of the pickup stick to press the previously woven weft yarn into place before turning the stick on edge to weave the next row of weft yarn (see diagram F).
- 7) Repeat the process, alternating "picked" warp threads as you weave your fabric.

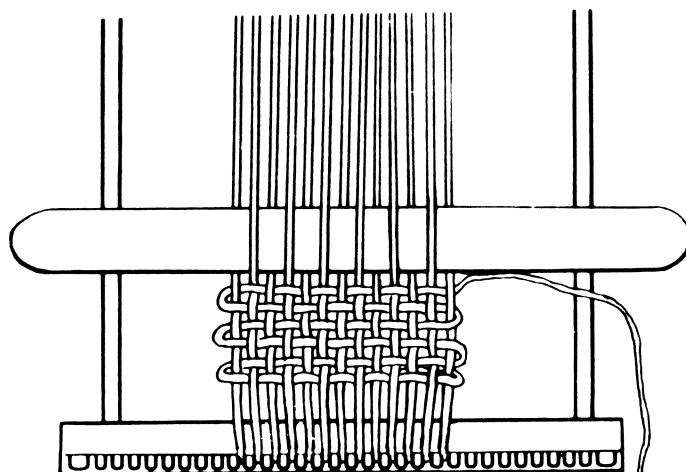


diagram F

Note: If you use two pickup sticks (one pickup stick and one ruler will work fine), you can leave one stick in place for the entire project. The first one used may be left in. The other one will need to be removed and re-picked as needed. This will allow you to weave faster.

FINISHING

When you have woven all you want, remove the project from the weaving frame by carefully cutting the unwoven warp thread ends from the beam teeth. You can tie knots with the ends of the warp if they are long enough (see diagram G), or you can sew a hem in each end of the fabric to hold the yarn in place (see diagram H). You might want to hang your finished project on a decorative hanger, or use the fabric to make something for your room. Once woven, you can use your fabric much like commercial fabric; e.g. sew pieces together for a larger project.

There are many books available to give you ideas for techniques to try on your weaving frame. We hope you explore the wide variety of projects you can weave using different yarns. Ask for other BEKA weaving tools at your favorite yarn or toy store.

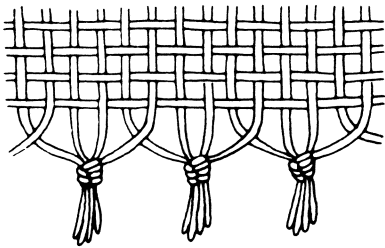


diagram G

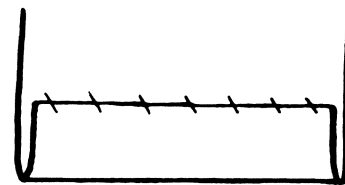


diagram H

CRAFT IDEAS

Potholder

Weave a piece of fabric 7" by 7". Cut warp threads and weave them back into the fabric with a needle or crochet hook.

Bag or Purse

Weave two pieces of fabric (whatever size you'd like best). Cut warp threads and weave them back into the fabric with a needle or crochet hook. Line fabric with purchased cloth. Sew three sides together, leaving the top open. Add a strap you've woven or purchased.

Pillow

Weave two pieces of fabric (or more if you want a larger pillow). Sew three sides together. Stuff with pillow stuffing of your choice. Finish sewing the fourth side together. You can add tassels at each corner for a more "finished" look.

