

weaving

instruction for beginners



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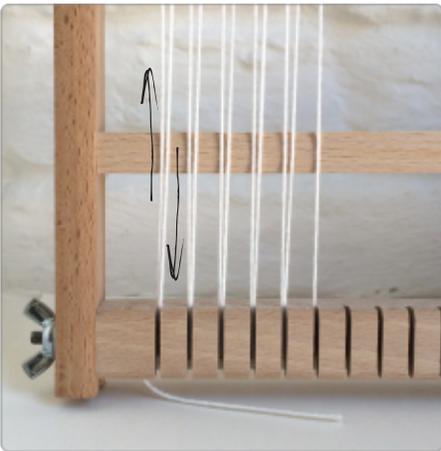
Weaving is the process of producing a textile fabric by interlacing threads or strands of material. Essentially, a loom consists of a frame over which one system of threads, the threads that run vertically through the fabric or the 'warp', may be held at a stretch. The threads that are carried by the shuttle in weaving, are called the weft. This weft can be woven across the warp in many different ways. In this guide we will introduce you to the basics of frame loom weaving.

What do you need?



1 / warp your frame loom

Take the end of your warp thread and knot it around the first tooth of your loom, starting bottom left. Carry the thread up to the top warp bar and wrap it around the first tooth of the warp bar. While maintaining tension, carry the thread back to the bottom and wrap it around the first tooth again. Repeat this to the top warp bar. Wind the thread two times around each tooth. Make sure you finish warping at the bottom, to have an even number of warp threads on your loom. Knot the end of your tread around the last tooth.



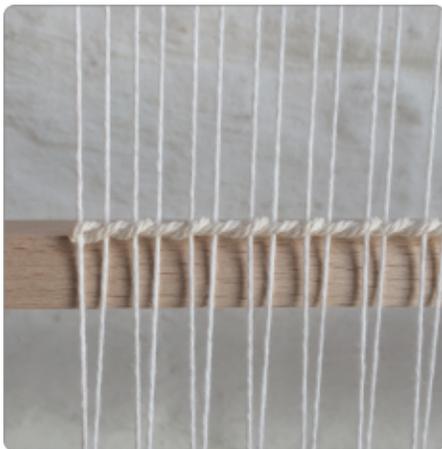
When you finish warping your thread, you can increase the tension by loosening the wing nuts and flip the warp bar slightly backwards. You can repeat this at the bottom warp bar to increase the tension even more. Tighten the wing nuts again when you are done.

If you want to make your weaving less wide, warp your thread around less teeth.



2 / fasten and equally spread your warp

Take a piece of 1mm warping thread as long as three times the width of your warping area. Fold it around the first warp thread and twist it around the weaving threads from one side to the other, as shown below. Weave the end of your thread back into your weaving and cut it off. If you want to make your weaving area taller, slightly pull the twisted thread down with your comb towards the teeth of your loom.



3 / prepare your weft

You choose your weft yarns based on your design. In general, we recommend you to take a strong cotton yarn without any stretch to start your weaving with. This panel should be around half an inch in height. This small panel fastens your warp thread even more and makes it more unlikely for your weft to slip off when you take your weaving off your loom. Below you will find two different methods of winding your shuttles. For weaving smaller areas or shapes, it is recommended to use your weaving needle.



4 / how to start flat weaving

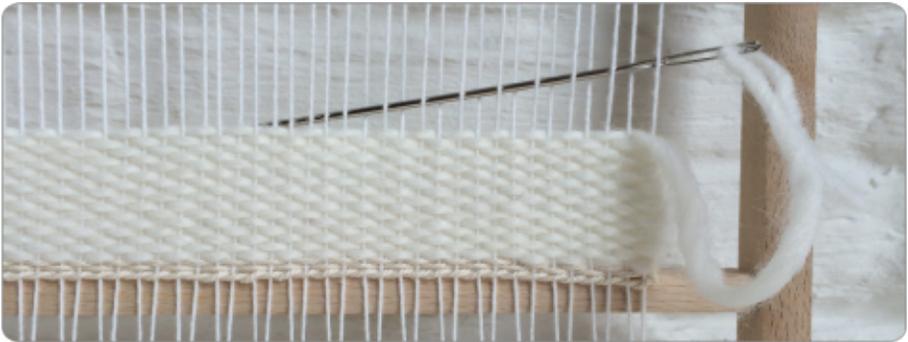
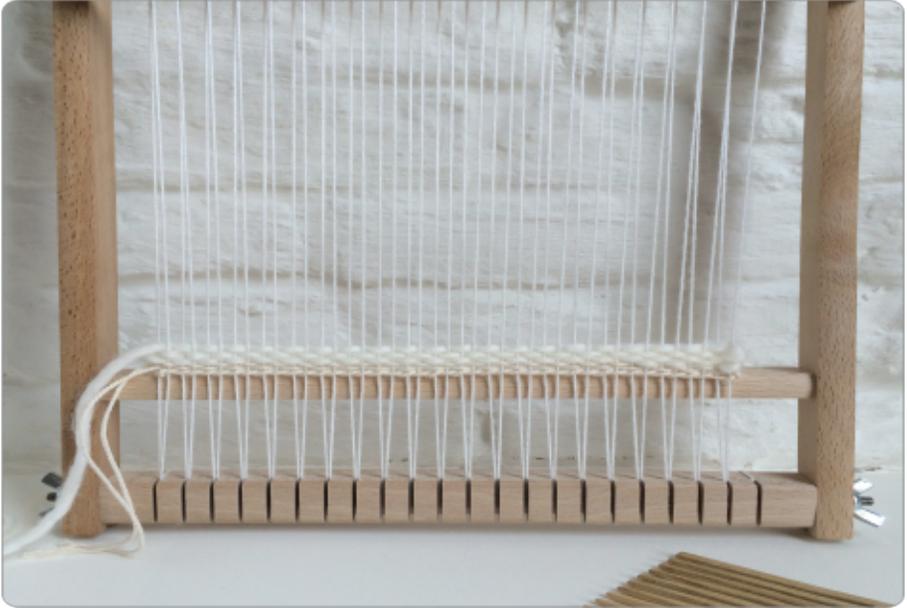
Flip your shed to the front or back to create an opening between your warp. Take the shuttle with your yarn and carefully put it in the opening between the threads. Finish the end of the thread by weaving it a few inches into your weave. Now you can pull the shuttle completely through the opening to the other side.



Make sure your weft yarn is arch shaped. This ensures that there is no tension on your weft yarn and therefore your selvedge will be nice and straight. Subdivide the arch in smaller arches with your comb. Now you can pull the whole weft down with your comb. Repeat these steps for every weft, by alternately flipping your shed to the front and back.

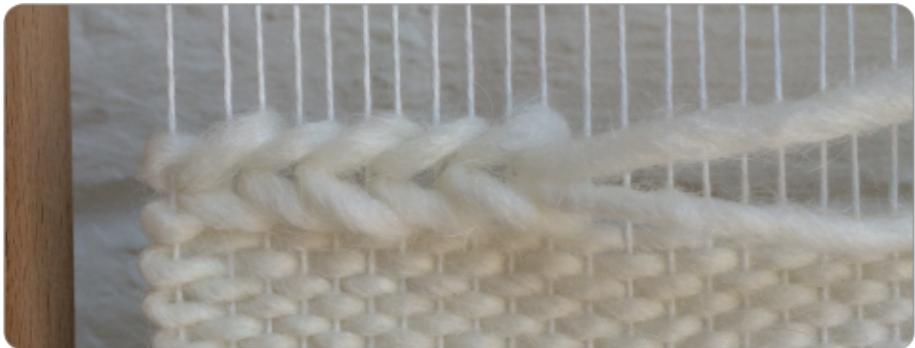
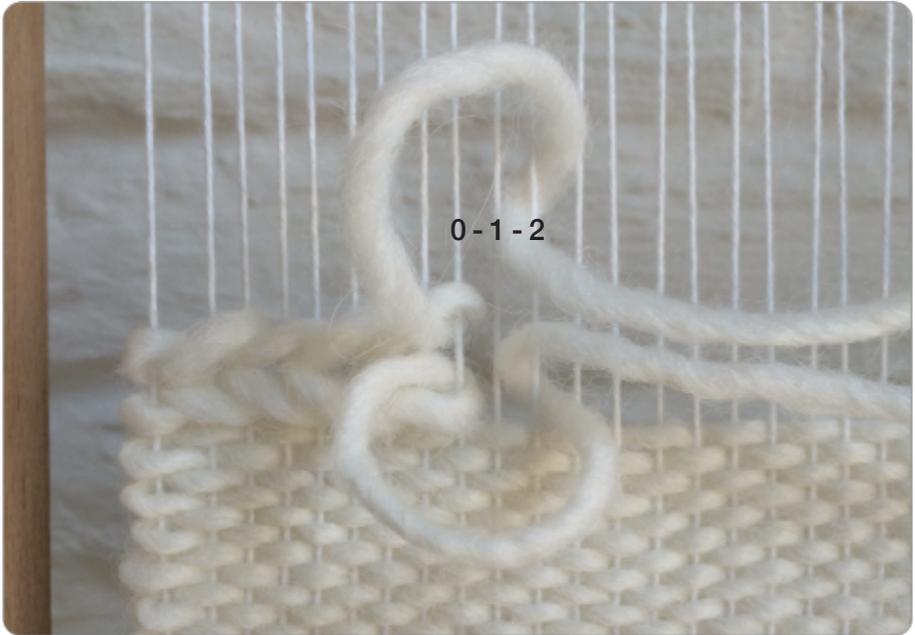


When you are out of yarns or you just want to change your weft, weave your weft yarn a few inches back into your weave. You can use your shuttle or when the end of your yarn is short, a weaving needle. Leave the yarn hanging loosely on the back of your weaving. Afterwards you can cut it off or fasten it.



5 / braiding stitch

Take a long piece of yarn and attach it to your first warp thread by making a loop and pulling it through this loop. Skip one warp thread and flip your yarn around the second warp thread. Pull it back up between the first and second warp thread, as shown below. Carefully pull at your yarn to finish the stitch.



6 / tassels

Tassels are a great way to add some texture and volume to your weaving. Choose the length and thickness that you want to create and cut a bundle of yarn. You have to take twice the desirable length as the yarn will be folded. Take your bundle and spread it over two warp threads. Pull the ends up between these two warp threads and carefully pull your bundle downwards.

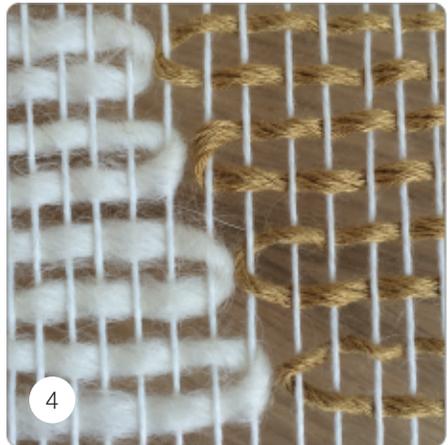
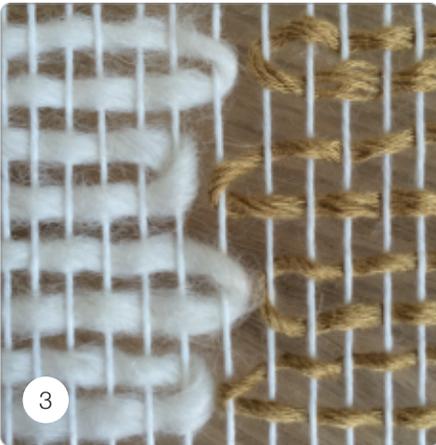
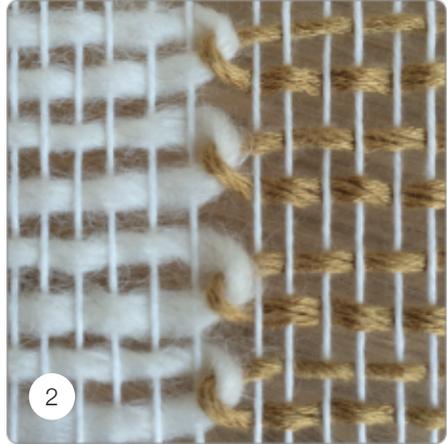
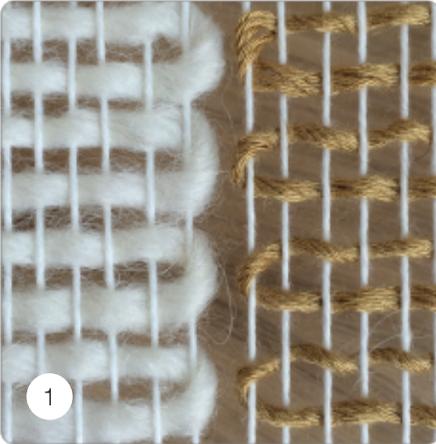




7 / shapes

There are a few techniques available to create geometric or organic shapes. Below you will find examples of the most common ones.

1. A vertical line and opening in your weave.
2. A vertical line without a slit by clasping the yarns into each other.
3. A slightly irregular vertical line without slit.
4. A diagonal lines and arches.

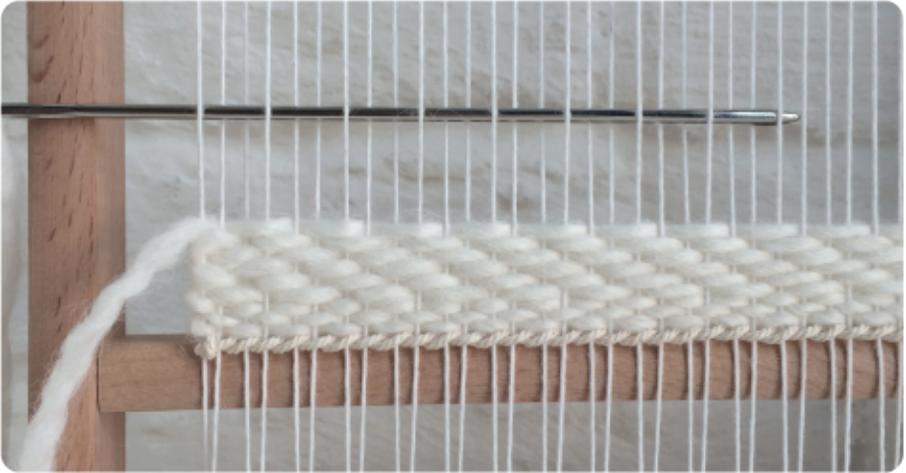




8 / twill weave & block weave

There are endless weaving techniques available, which can be combined as you wish. When creating a twill (or other) weave, you can't use the shed of your loom, it is easier when you take it off. Below you can see how you create a twill weave by taking 1 warp thread up and putting two warp threads down..

Twill weave:



When you take two threads up and two threads down, you can create a block pattern. Of course you can also take a larger number of threads, to expand your block weave.

Block weave:



9 / finishing your weave

When you finished your weaving piece and want to take it off your loom, carefully loosen the wing nuts of your top warp bar. Flip the warp bar slightly forwards to release tension and take your warp loops off, one by one. Put your weaving on a flat surface and cut all loops open. When you have tassels on the bottom part, you can leave those warp loops the way they are. Take the end of the first and second warp and make a small knot without putting tension on your threads. Repeat this for all threads.



Turn your weaving around so the backside is facing upwards. Take a small blunt needle and stitch one bundle of knotted thread ends back into your weaving, as shown on the previous page.

Do the same with all weft thread ends that are sticking out at the back of your weave.



10 / how to attach a rod

If you want to make a wall hanging from your weave, you can attach a rod to it. Take a piece of thread or yarn of your choice. Twist it around the rod and stitch it underneath every knot of your warping threads. Finish the thread ends on the backside of your weave.

