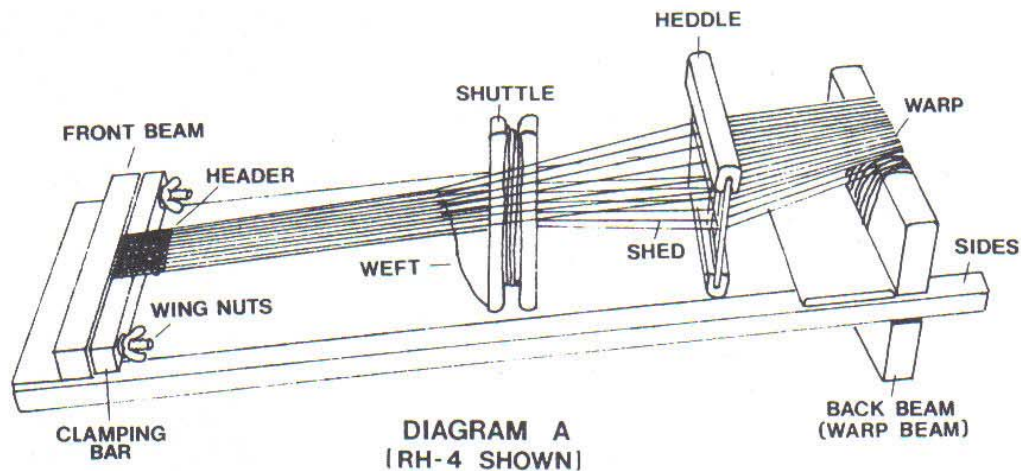


Beginner's Weaving Loom

MODELS: RH-4, RH-10



DEFINITIONS

- WARP -- the strings threaded vertically through the heddle (threads that run perpendicular to the front and back beams). Warp yarn must be strong.
- WARPING -- the process of attaching warp yarn to the heddle and loom.
- WEFT -- the yarn passed through the shed (threads that run parallel to the front and back beams) and wound on a shuttle.
- WEAVING -- the process of passing "weft" threads through alternating "warp" threads.
- SHED -- the space between the two layers of warp threads (holes and slots).
- SHUTTLE -- the stick around which "weft" yarn is wound. The shuttle carries yarn through the shed.
- HEDDLE -- the instrument which separates the "warp" threads into two layers: slot threads and hole threads.
- BEATING -- pressing the weft yarn into the fabric web.
- HEADER -- beginning woven edge of a project made of "waste" weft material.
- SHOT -- the process of passing weft yarn through a shed in the warp.

BEKA

BEGINNING YOUR FIRST PROJECT

WEAVING

1. Sit with the loom in your lap and the back beam braced against a table as shown in fig. A.
2. With one hand, raise the heddle. This produces the "shed" with hole threads on top and slot threads on the bottom. (See fig. B.)
3. Pass the shuttle with your weaving yarn wound on it through the shed. Lay the yarn at an angle (about 40°) to the front beam. (See fig. C.)
4. Set the shuttle aside and grasp the heddle with both hands. Bring the heddle towards you and PRESS the weaving yarn into place, parallel with the front beam.
5. Lower the heddle creating the opposite shed. (See fig. D.) Hole threads are now below the level of the slot threads. Pass the shuttle through this shed, leaving the yarn at an angle as before. Set the shuttle aside and PRESS the yarn into place.
6. Continue to weave by alternating between upper and lower sheds, passing the shuttle yarn back and forth through the sheds and pressing each row into place. (See HINTS under "draw-in".)

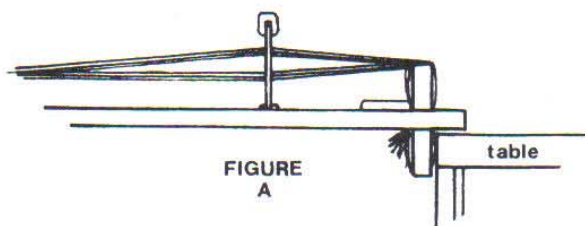


FIGURE A

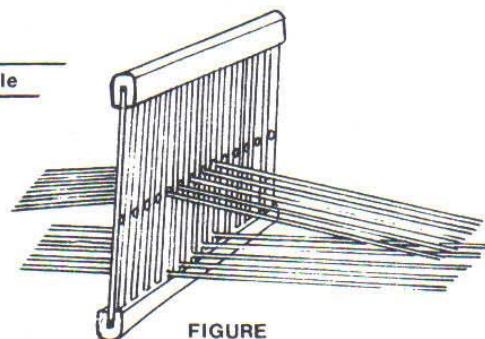


FIGURE B

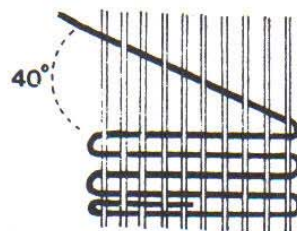


FIGURE C

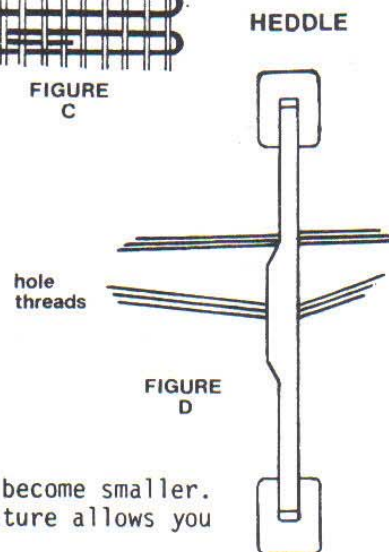


FIGURE D

ADVANCING THE WARP

As the fabric you are weaving nears the heddle, the sheds will become smaller. It will be easier to weave if you "advance the warp". This feature allows you to weave a long strip of fabric with your loom.

1. Set the loom on top of a table.
2. Relax the tension on your woven fabric by loosening the two wing nuts on the clamping bar.
3. Carefully pull some of the woven fabric up from between the clamping bar and the front beam. Slide the back warp beam (which your warp is wound around) off the sides of the loom.
4. Unwind some warp yarn from the back warp beam, and replace the warp beam on the loom sides.
5. From below the front beam, gently pull the fabric down between the clamping bar and the warp beam, until the warp is again tight. Now tighten the clamping bar by tightening the two wing nuts.

HINTS

To add more weaving yarn to your shuttle or to change colors or types of weaving yarn, simply wrap the desired yarn onto the shuttle. Place the new yarn through a shed and leave the end of it hanging out. On the next shed, weave it along side of your full weft strand (shot). When you press the yarn into place and weave the next row, you will lock the yarn ends into your woven fabric. (See fig. E.) Changing or alternating colors or textures will give your fabric an interesting look.

"draw-in" -- When you weave, if the weft yarns are pulled too tightly at the edges, the warp yarns will draw-in. This narrowing of the fabric will eventually cause the warp threads to break. (See fig. G.) a uniform selvedge forms a straight and parallel line to all warp threads.

When you are done with your weaving, cut the extra warp yarn. Be sure to leave enough length so you can easily tie knots. Cut a few ends at a time. Tie 2 to 4 ends together in an overhand knot against the edge of your fabric. (See fig. F.) Remove the fabric from the loom and tie off the warp threads at the other end of your project.

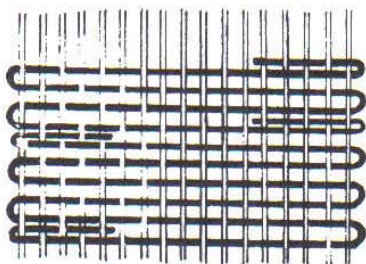


FIGURE
E

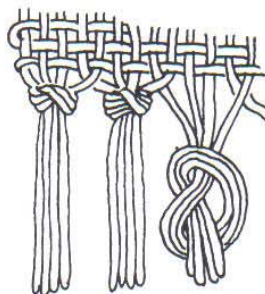


FIGURE
F

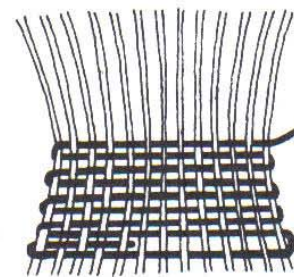


FIGURE
G

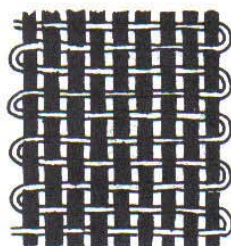
PLANNING YOUR NEXT PROJECT

When you decide what your next project will be, consider the following:

1. How long you want your fabric to be.
2. How wide you want your fabric to be.
3. What kinds of yarn you want to use.

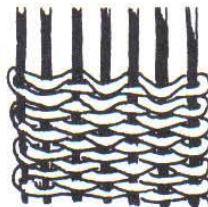
On the Child's Weaving Loom, you can weave long pieces of cloth up to 4" wide on the RH-4 and 10" wide on the RH-10. Depending on the yarns you select, the number of warp threads, and how tightly you weave; your finished project will either be warp faced, weft faced or balanced weave.

WARP FACED



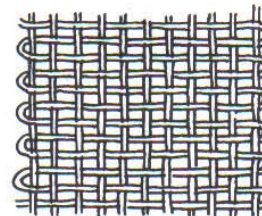
the warp predominates

WEFT FACED



the weft predominates

BALANCED
WEAVE



warp & weft equal

PLANNING, cont'd Sample Warp for a 4 inch Project

1. Choose a strong warp yarn. You will need enough to have a thread through each hole and slot for the width of your fabric. (Later you can experiment with skipping holes or slots, and with using more than one thread in each hole or slot.)

Your loom has eight spaces per inch,★ or $8 \times 4" = 32$ (holes and slots).

If you want a 3" wide fabric strip, you will use $8 \times 3" = 24$ (holes + slots)

Decide the length of your fabric _____

Add 10% for take-up (see fig. H) _____

Add 12" for waste (unusable warp) _____

For example:

your 3" wide project will require
 $8 \times 3" = 24$ threads. If your finished
 project is 30" long, plan on:

$30" \times 10\% + 12"$ (waste)

or

$33" + 12" = 45$ per thread

$\times 24$ threads

equals: $\frac{1080"}{24} = 45$ (or 30 yards of warp yarn)

Note: A strong plied yarn for warp will resist breakage.

2. Next, measure the warp threads. An easy way to do this would be winding the yarn around clamps spaced appropriately or around nails in a board, or you might want to purchase a BEKA warping board. (See fig. I.)

Measure and cut the threads you need for your warp.

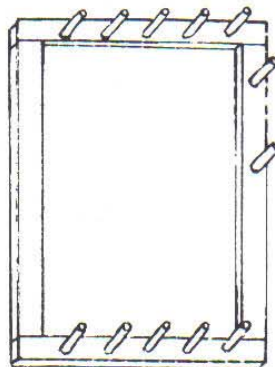
3. Thread one warp thread through each hole and slot in the heddle (the same as threading a needle). A small crochet hook will help. Use two books to hold the heddle upright. (See fig. J.)

It is important to center your warp in the heddle. Allow for equal empty holes and slots on each end of the heddle if your project is less than 4" wide.

Tie an overhand knot in the bundle of warp thread ends on both sides of the heddle for RH-4. (see fig. K.) For the RH-10, tie an overhand knot in front bundle of thread ends. Then split the warp into 2 bundles in back of the heddle, and knot each bundle.

- ★ The 10 dent heddle included with the RH-10 loom has ten spaces per inch for lighter weight yarn. Adjust your calculations when planning a 10 dent project.

FIGURE
I



(4)

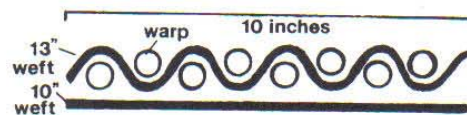


FIGURE
H

"Take-up" -- yarn lost to interlacement of fabric web

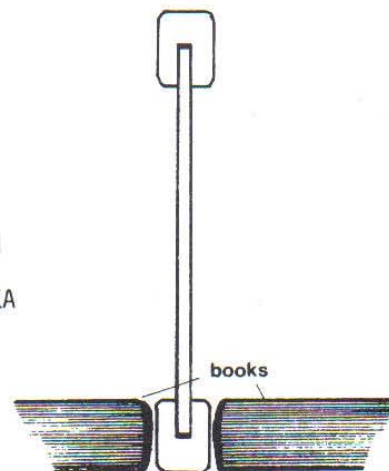


FIGURE
J

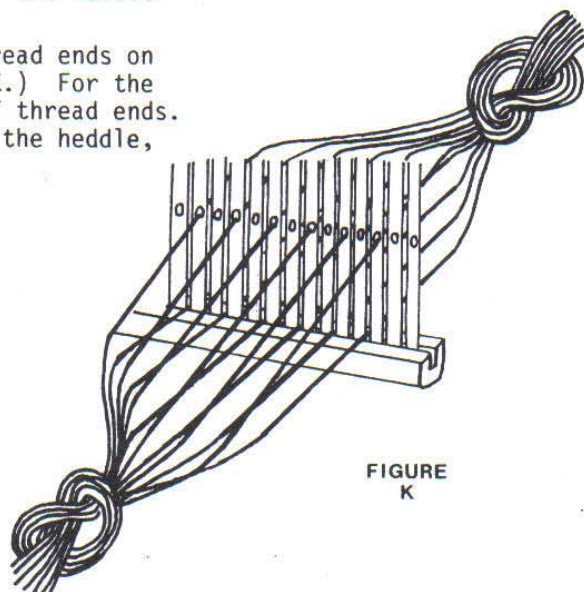


FIGURE
K

ATTACHING WARP AND HEDDLE TO YOUR LOOM

Slide the knot(s) into the space(s) provided on your back beam. Make sure you position the knot(s) so it is below the surface of the beam, if possible. Wind the warp yarn around the back beam until about 24" of warp is left unwound. Slide the back beam onto the loom sides. Be sure to orient the beam so the warp comes over the top of the beam when you pull it toward the front of the loom (the way it was oriented when your first project was on the loom.)

ATTACHING THE WARP TO THE FRONT BEAM

Pull the warp's knotted end through the opening between the front beam and the clamping bar. Position the warp so it is centered on the front beam, and pull it tight all the way across the warp. This will help even the warp thread tension. Secure it by tightening the wing nuts, clamping the warp in place.

CHECK THE WARP TENSION

Your finished fabric will be more uniform if all the warp threads are of equal tension. If a warp thread appears to be uneven (i.e: some threads may be sagging while others are tight), untie the knot and gently pull the sagging threads until all threads appear even.

Re-tie the knot. Secure the warp as stated above.

WEAVING

Alternately raise and lower the heddle, weaving back and forth with a heavy "waste" material. You can use a heavy "fat" yarn for this or even toilet paper. This material will be removed when you complete your project, so use anything convenient.

Weave a couple of inches or until the fabric is uniform and has straight edges. Now, loosen the clamping bar, remove the back beam and unwind the warp (the same as when you advanced the warp on your first project). Replace the back beam, then pull the warp and started fabric down through the front beam's clamping space. Position the warp so the clamp engages the woven area of your warp--the "header". This will make the clamping more reliable and will enable you to maintain good tension in your weaving.

Continue weaving your new project following the same techniques used in your first project. Alternately raise and lower the heddle for each pass of weft yarn. Change your weft yarn to obtain different looks (see fig. E on page 3). Try using different types of yarn in addition to using different colors.

Enjoy your weaving. The process is a lot of fun, and the projects you make will give you and your friends years of pleasure.

Weaving Equipment Available from **Beka**

LOOMS

Perfect for Children or Anyone wanting very Portable Looms

- WF-14** Our 14" Weaving Frame package includes: frame, shuttle, pickup stick, weaving needle, heddle bar and instructions.
- RH-4** Our Child's Weaving Loom is pre-warped and ready to weave. Includes: 4" - 8 dent heddle, shuttle and complete instructions.
- RH-10** Same features as our RH-4, but wider. Includes: 4" - 8 dent heddle, 10" - 10 dent heddle, shuttle and instructions.

Versatile Looms for Intermediate and Advanced Weavers

- SG-20 & SG-24** Beka's Original Rigid Heddle Looms come in 20" and 24" weaving widths. Made from Cherry Wood with a Danish oil finish, they use a ratchet and pawl tension system. Package includes: 10 dent heddle, two shuttles, a pickup stick, two heddle blocks, threading tool and instructions.
- BI-2** A specialty loom for weaving bands or belts. Our Inkle Loom is made from Hard Maple and produces warp faced material up to 4" wide and 2 to 3 yards long.

Accessories

- WB-4 & WB-9** Warping Boards make measuring warp a breeze. Each is made from Hard Maple. Portable, easy to use and available in two sizes: 4-1/2 yard or 9 yard capacities.
- Shuttles** Beka Shuttles are made from cherry or hard maple and come in a variety of sizes ranging from 8-1/2" to 25".
- Pickup Sticks** Beka Pickup Sticks are made from Cherry or Hard Maple and come in a variety of sizes ranging from 12" to 27".
- Weaving Needle** Made from Hard Maple, our Weaving Needles are 12" long.

BEKA

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