



## *The Presto Scarf*

**Congratulations on your new Presto loom!**

Are you ready to weave a scarf?? You will find that it's not difficult to do if you follow these instructions. Just take your time and follow along carefully. In no time at all, you will have a beautiful hand woven scarf that you will be proud to wear. For this project all of the math has been done for you. Later, once you have gained confidence with this project, you may want to learn how to do your own calculations. Go to [kromskina.com](http://kromskina.com) and take a look at our blog post, "Weaving with One Skein". At the end of the post is a link to a warp work sheet that will help you with future weaving plans.

Your Presto came with a 231\* yard ball of 100% super wash merino wool yarn (assorted colors). The completed scarf will measure 6"x60" (15cm x 150cm) with 4" (10cm) fringe. In order to achieve this, the back of the loom must be placed 80" (200cm) away from the warping peg.

\* 230m in Europe

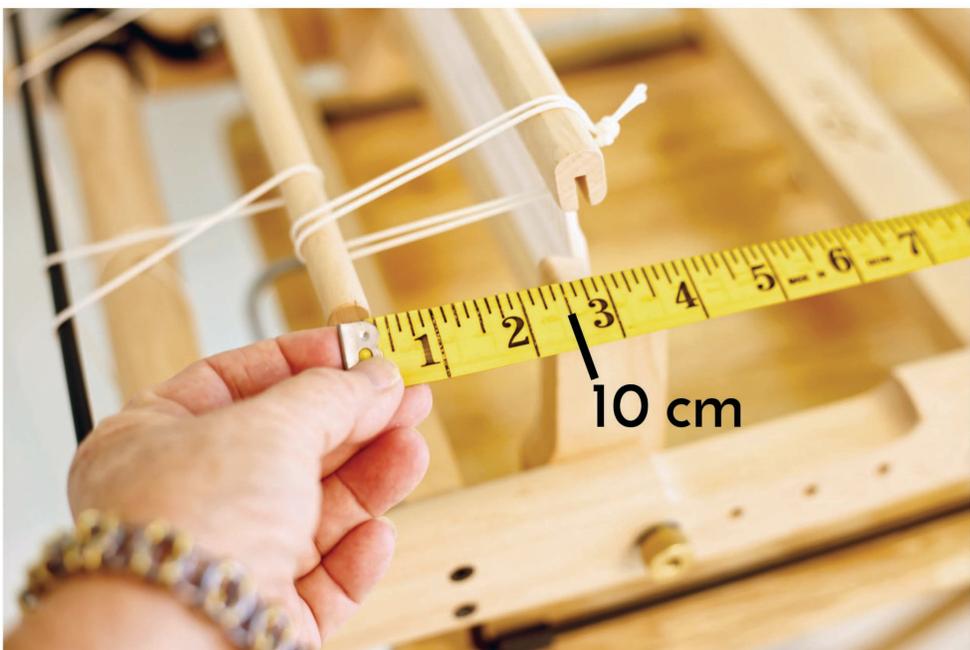
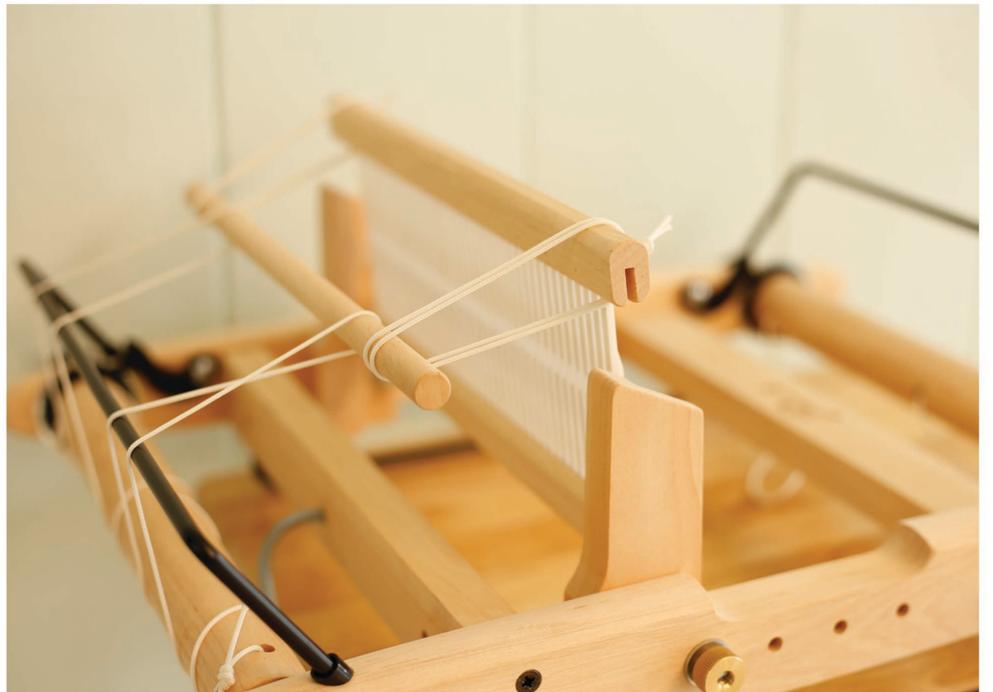


**1.** For this tutorial, I am using 2 small folding tables. The warping peg will need to be clamped to the far end of a table or similar sturdy object. Look around your house and find a place where you can attach the peg. Then place the loom on something that can be positioned so that the back dowel rod is 80" (200cm) away from the peg.



**2.** Secure the loom to the table using one of the clamps. The clamp may be used on the side of the loom or the back, whichever works better in your setup.

**3.** With the heddle in the neutral position, attach the Warp Helper Loop (doubled) on either side of the heddle and rear dowel rod as shown. Be certain that the apron strings go over the metal beam. Wind the black knob to create a snug (not overly tight) fit.

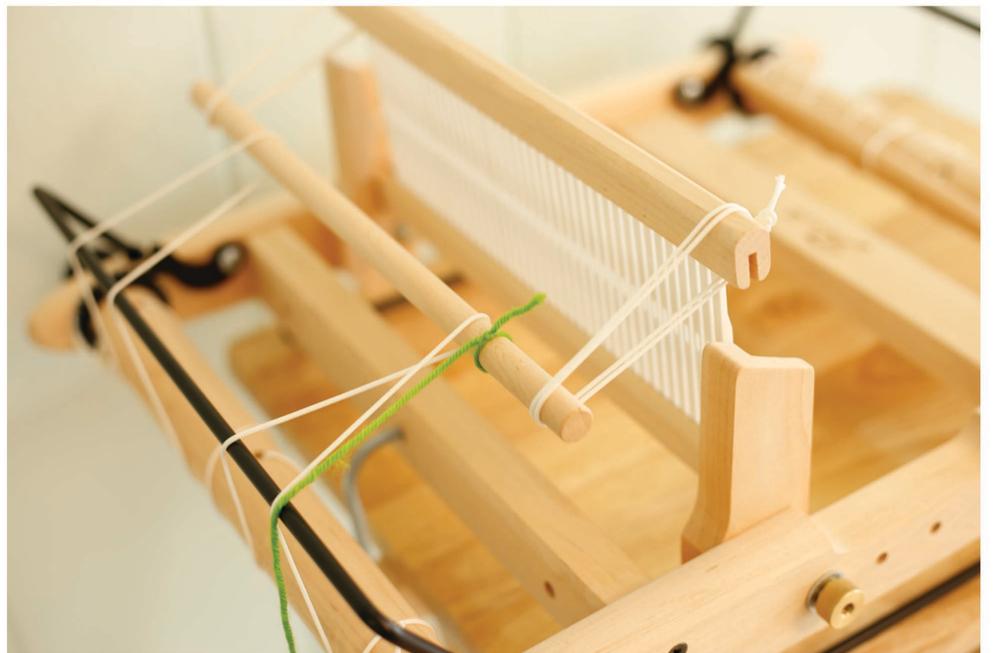


**4.** Use a measuring tape to check the distance.

**5.** Place the yarn in a bowl on the floor near the loom.



**6.** Tie the end that comes from the center of the yarn to the right side of the dowel rod.

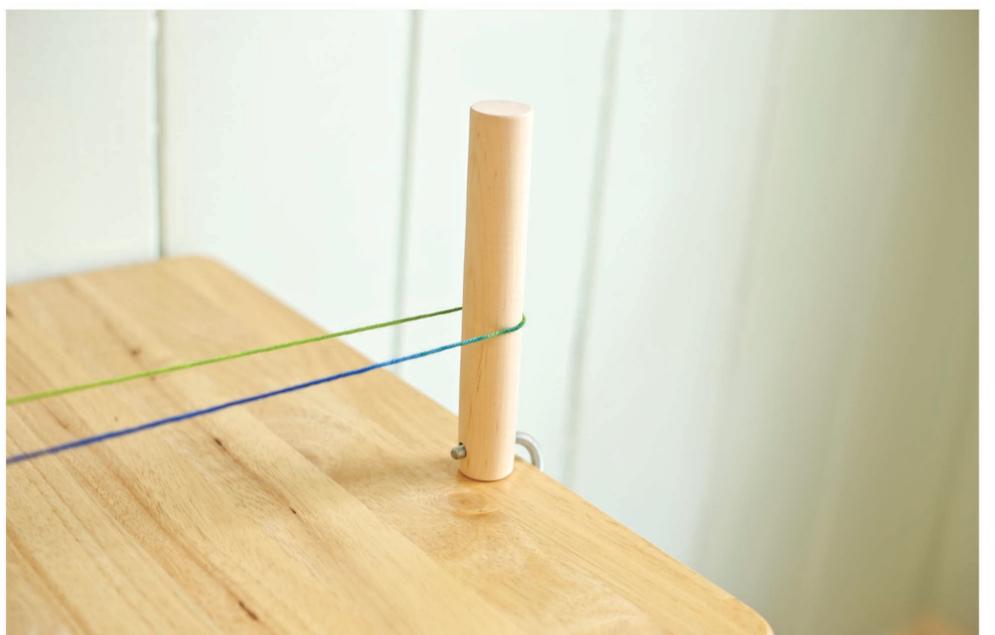


**7.** Insert the Heddle Hook, from front to back, into the 6th slot from the left.

**8.** Grab the yarn and draw it through the slot. This will form a loop. There will be two strands of yarn going through one slot.



**9.** Place the loop over the Warping Peg (80" (200cm) away). The yarns that pass through the heddle are referred to as the warp threads.



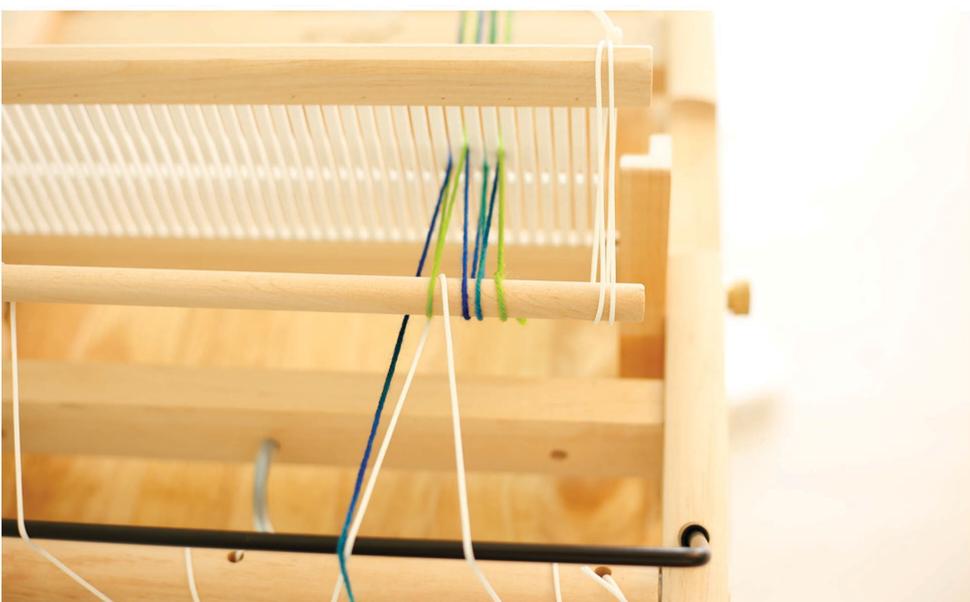
**10.** Take a look at the way the yarn travels over the dowel. In order to create the next loop, the yarn must first wrap around the dowel.



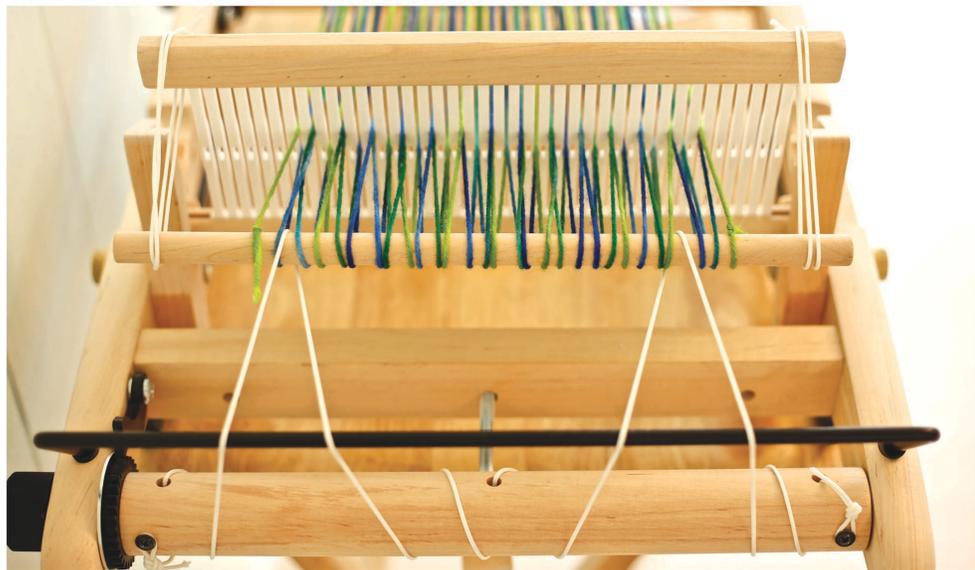
**11.** Insert the hook through the slot immediately to the right of the previous step. Wrap the yarn around the dowel and grab it from the underside of the dowel. Bring it through the slot and place it on the warping peg as before.



**12.** Now the yarn is traveling under the dowel. Insert the hook into the next slot and bring the yarn over the dowel before continuing through the heddle to the Warping Peg.



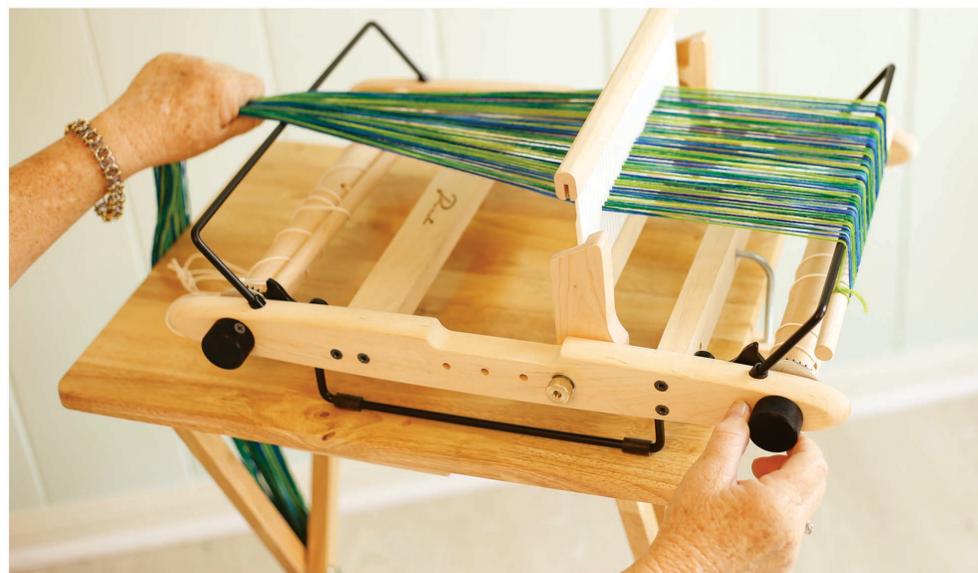
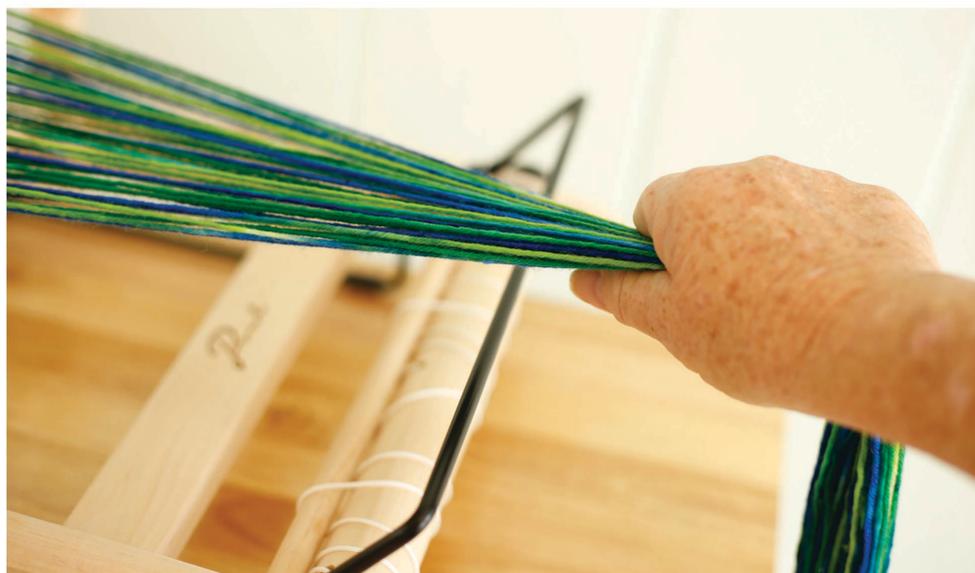
**13.** Repeat these steps across the heddle. When you have reached the place where the dowel strings attaches to the dowel, simply bring the yarn around it and continue as before. Do the same thing when reaching the second string.



**14.** Stop when there are 6 slots left to the right of the heddle. You should now have 28 loops (56 strands) of yarn running through the slots. Cut the yarn and tie it to the dowel. Remove the Warp Helper Loops.

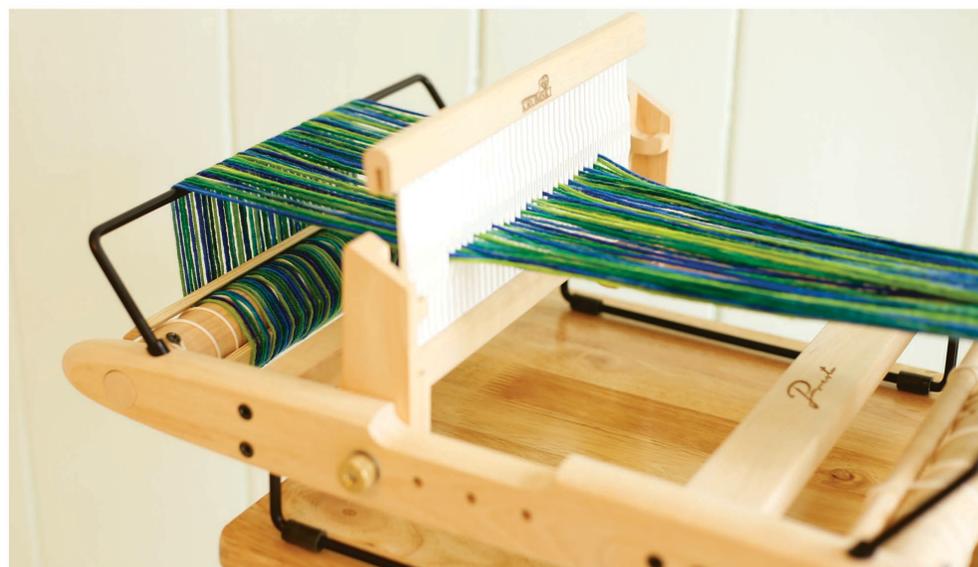


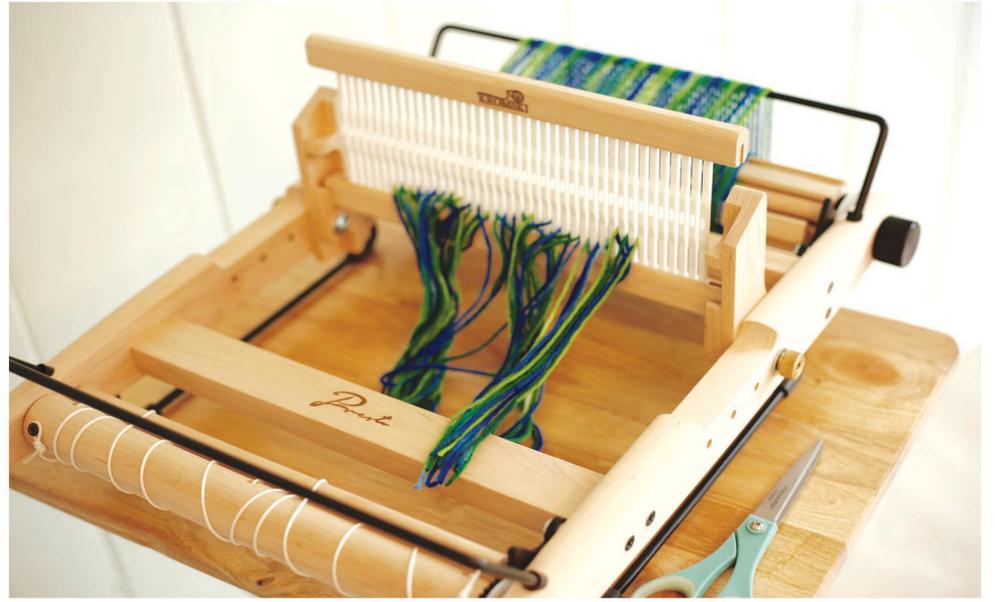
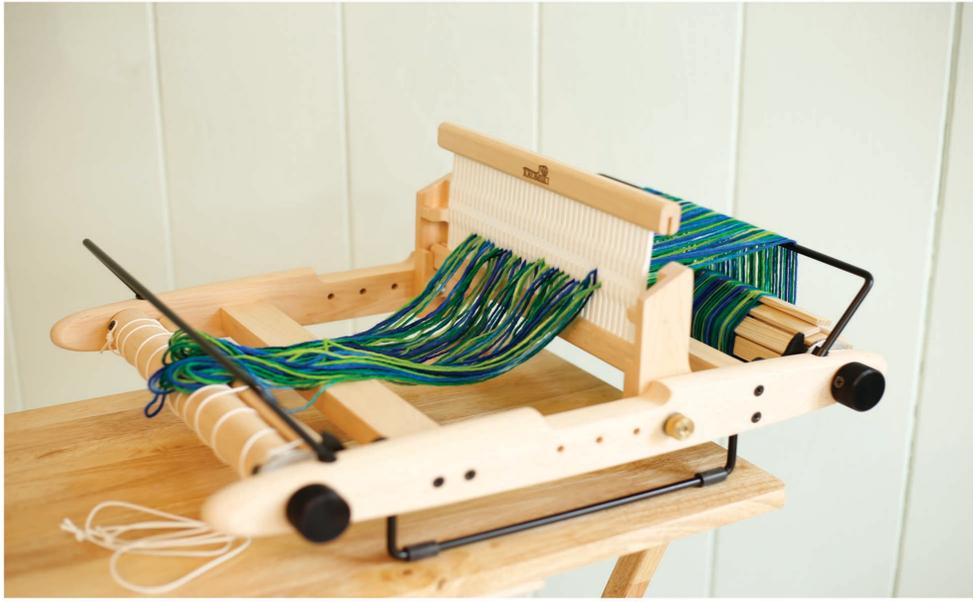
**15.** Carefully remove the yarn from the Warping Peg and tie a loose knot in the end to keep them together for the time being.



**16.** Now return to the loom and grasp the yarn in your hand, keeping the tension even across the heddle. Make certain the black knobs are facing you. Wind the rear knob while maintaining the tension on the yarn with the other hand.

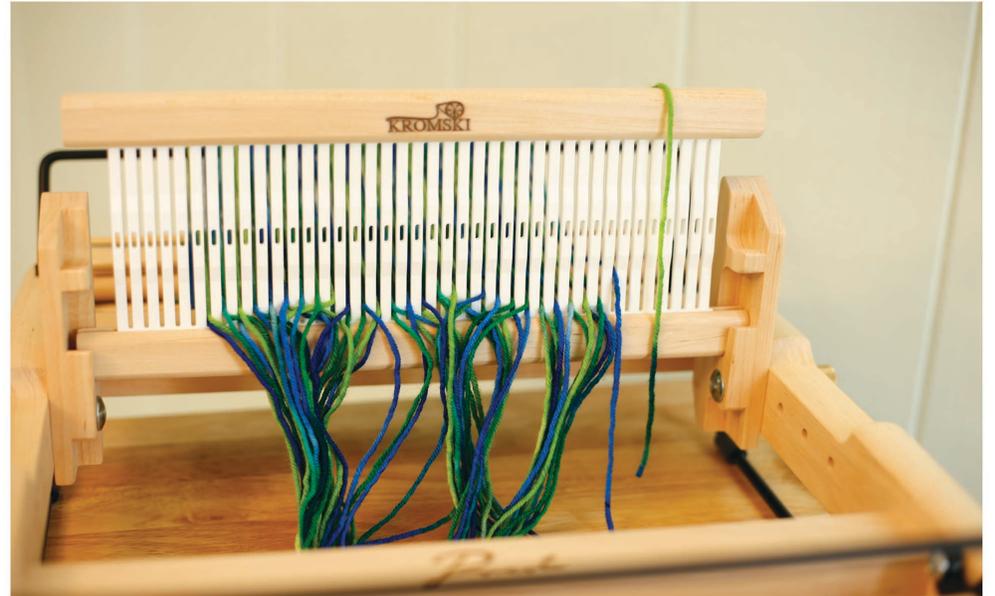
**17.** As the yarn is wound onto the back beam, place warping sticks or stiff paper between the layers. This will prevent the yarn from meshing with itself and help to keep the tension even. Even tension is very important in any weaving project.





**18.** Continue to wind and keep pressure on the warp until there is about 10" (25cm) left. You will need to untie the knot at the end as it approaches. Cut the end of the loops. There are now 2 strands of yarn in each slot.

**19.** Carefully pull one strand out of the slot, leaving the other in place. Check the way the yarn is laying on the metal beam. Try to choose the strand to the right. This will help prevent a crossed yarn behind the heddle. If you do develop a crossed yarn later in the weaving, don't worry. It will be fine. It's just best to try to avoid it.



**20.** Insert the smaller end of the heddle hook through the hole to the right of the slot, and bring the loose yarn through. Continue all the way across the heddle. Check that you have one strand in each slot and one strand in each hole (disregarding the heddles that are not in use at either end).



**21.** Tie strands in small bundles using a slip knot to prevent from accidentally pulling them out.

**22.** It's time again to use the Warp Helper Loops. This time they will not be doubled. Place them on either end of the heddle as before, except this time they will come forward and attach to the front dowel rod. Again, snug it up so that the dowel is held steady.



**23.** In this step you will attach the yarn to the front dowel. It's important to use this knot. Pick up a group of about 10 yarn ends and divide them in half. Bring them under the dowel and hold them so that they resemble a "W". Tie the ends together over the top of the group. Use just a single knot at this time. Snug it securely. Continue with all of the warp threads.

**24.** Check that the tension is even across the weaving area. Using the flat palm of your hand, 'bounce' across the yarn, feeling for loose areas. If its loose compared to the rest of the warp, then you will need to tighten that section. To tighten the knot pull the ends toward the back of the loom, and then snug up the knot. This may take several passes before an even tension is achieved.

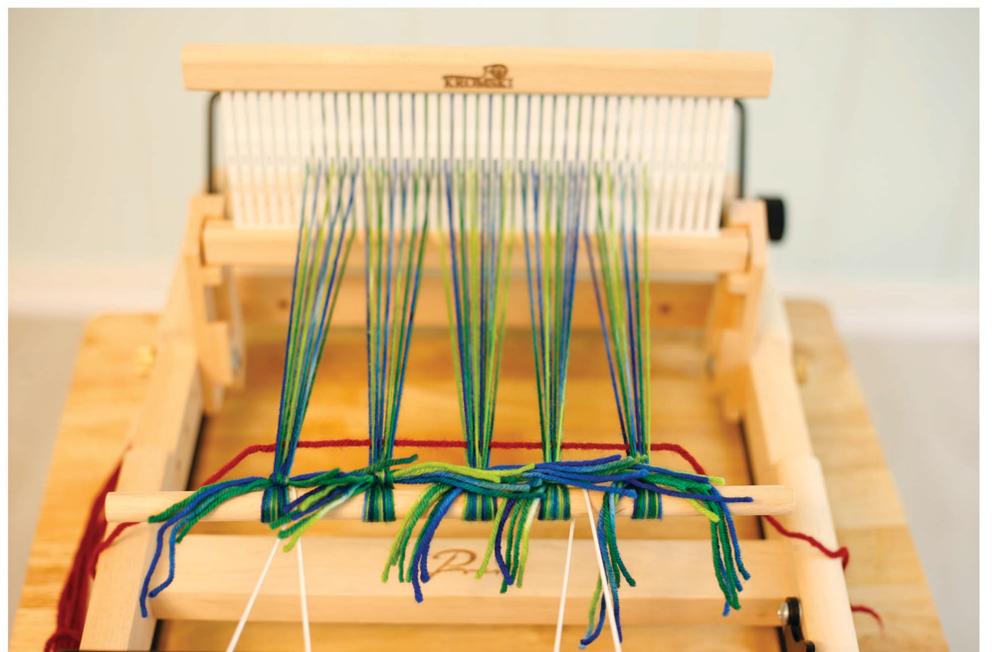
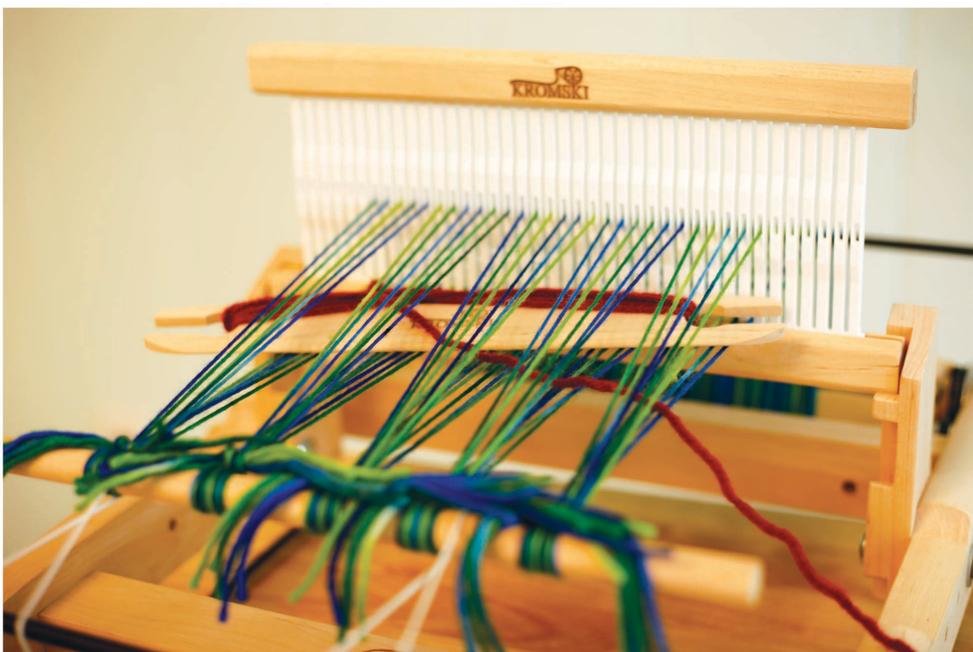
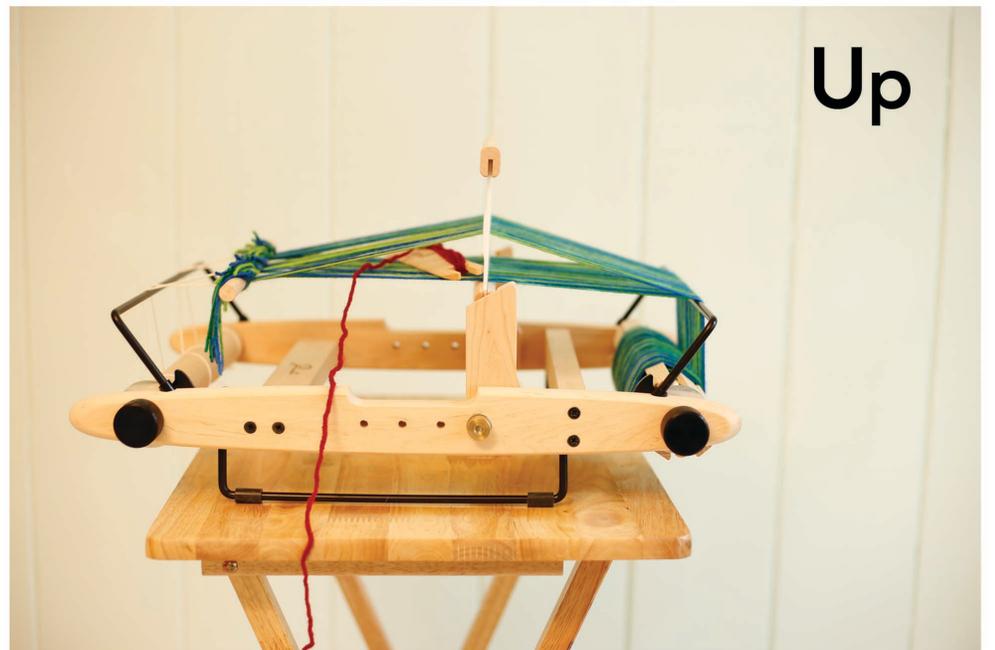
Now you are ready to weave!



**25.** Load the shuttle with the waste yarn included with your loom. Wrap the yarn in a figure 8 around the ends of the shuttle as shown. The warp yarn should be taunt, but not tight. It may be necessary to loosen the tension slightly now that the the knots are secured on the dowel.

**26.** Raise the heddle to the Up position as shown.

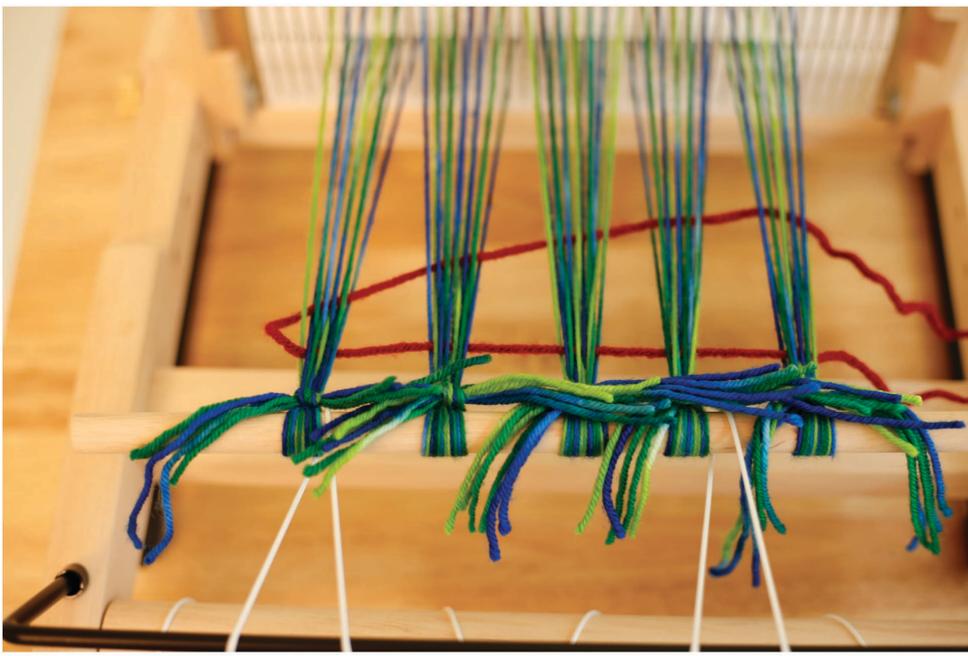
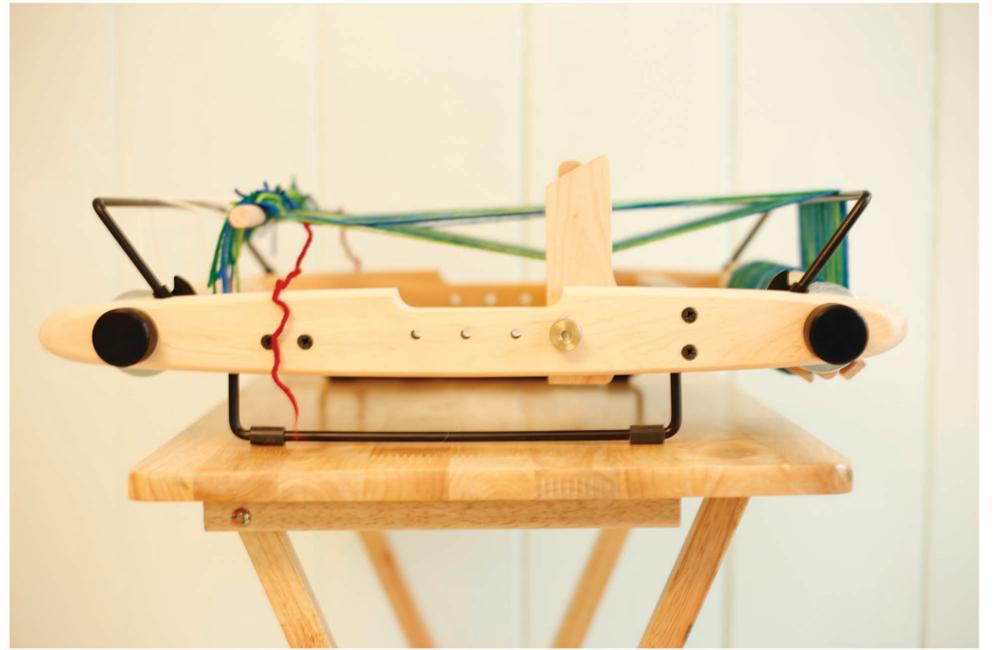
When looking through the side of the loom, you should see a clean shed. This means that the space between the threads has created an opening free of stray or loose threads. This opening is called the shed. If it does not produce a clean shed, look again at the holes and slots to be sure everything is correct and the tension is good.



**27.** Once satisfied that everything looks good, pass the shuttle through the shed from right to left. Leave a bit of yarn hanging out from the right side. Bring the heddle forward and gently press the yarn to the front of the loom. This action is called beating. However, you do not really want to beat the weft, merely press it into place.

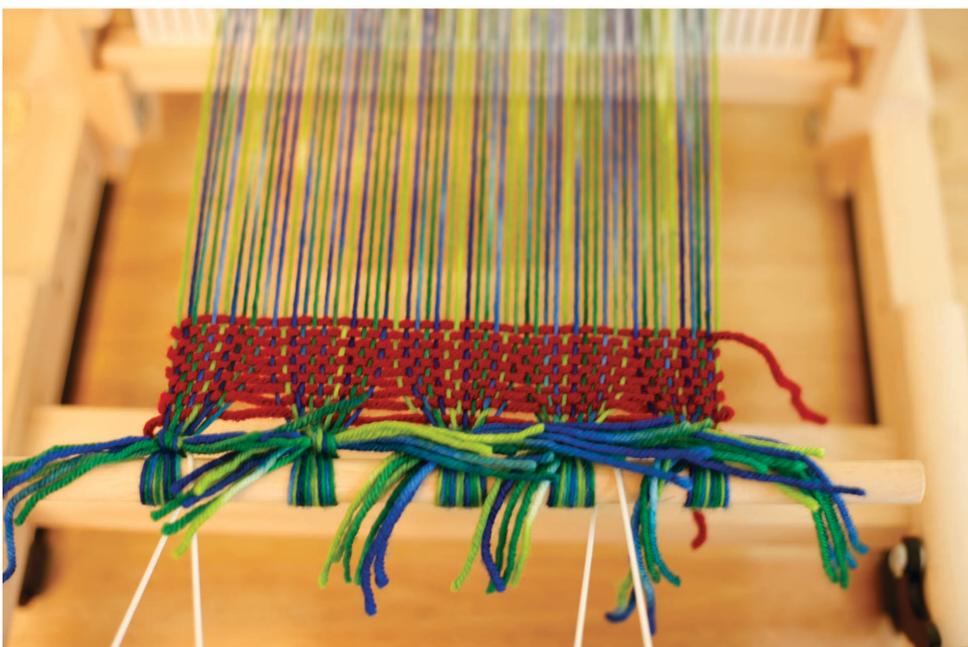
The yarn that travels from left to right is the weft.

**Down**

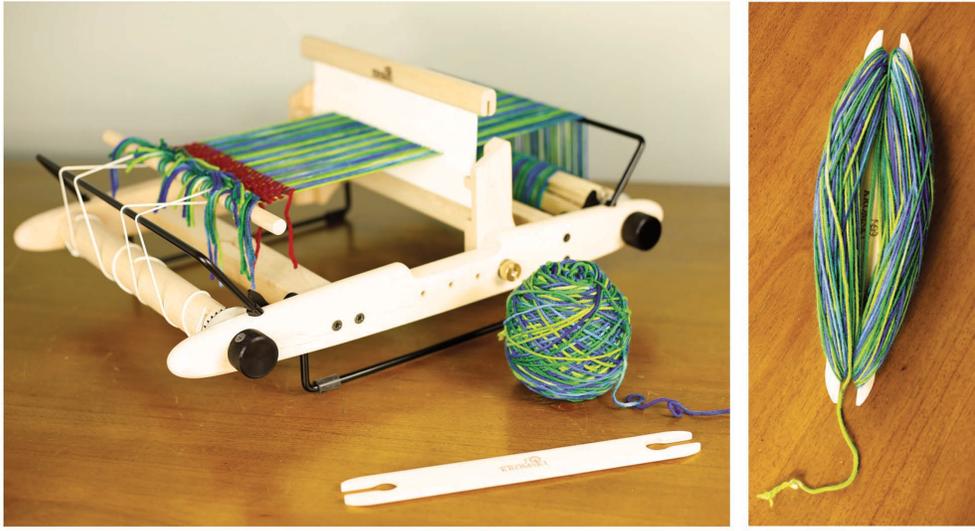


**28.** Next, place the heddle into the Down position. Again check the shed. After this, you will not have to continually check the shed unless something feels like it has gone wrong. Pass the shuttle back through the shed to the right, leaving a bit of a loop at the left side. The idea here is that the warp threads need to spread out creating an even, parallel weaving area. Again press the heddle forward.

**29.** Continue weaving back and forth, moving the heddle up or down and forward with each pass. As you progress, start to assist the edge by pinching the weft yarn at the edge of the weaving, no longer leaving excess off the edge. When the waste yarn is used up (be sure to end with the yarn off to the right) you should see how the yarn has evened out across the warp and the gaps are gone between the weft.

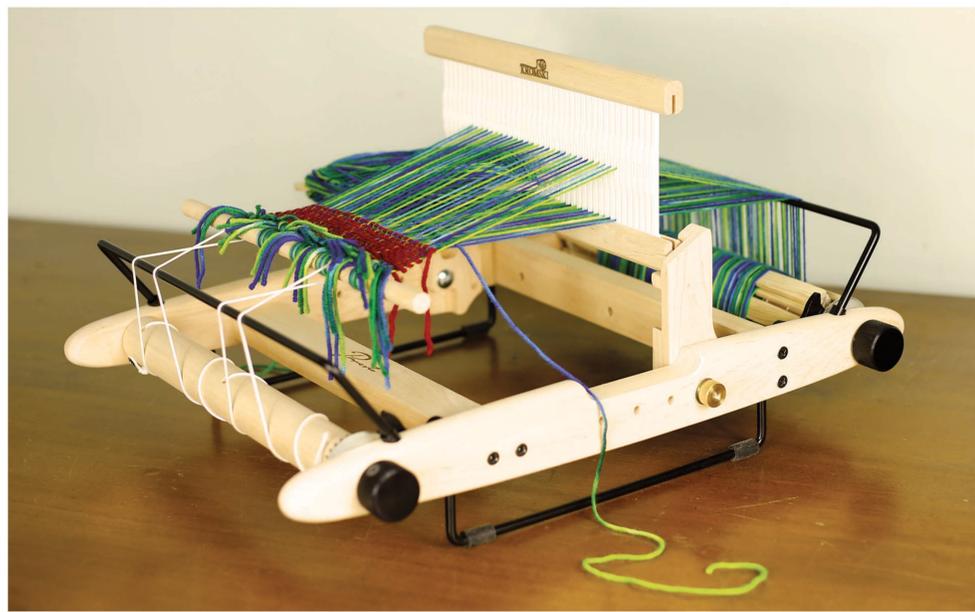


**30.** Once the scarf is finished and off the loom, the waste yarn will be removed. This area and the warp ties will become fringe.



**31.** Now it's time to weave the body of the scarf! Wind the yarn around the stick shuttle just as you did before. As it fills up, switch from side to side so that it fills evenly. For this project the yarn will fit onto the shuttle in a way that is slightly over filled. This is done to simplify the project.

In future projects, depending on the project size and yarn choice, the yarn may need to be cut and the end layered in when the shuttle is refilled. This is done by allowing the tail end of the working yarn to lay in the shed as normal, with an inch (2,5cm) or so sticking out between the warp. The new yarn overlaps the old by 3 to 4 inches (7,5 -10cm), again with the tail sticking out between the warp. Then continue to weave as normal. After wet finishing the project, these tails will be trimmed off.



**32.** Begin weaving with the scarf yarn. Leave a tail 24" (60cm) long. This will be used in a few minutes to give the scarf a nice hemmed edge. If you prefer, the scarf can be finished with no hem by tying the warp ends together in groups, however a hemmed edge is far more secure and will last through many years. It also gives the scarf a lovely finished look.

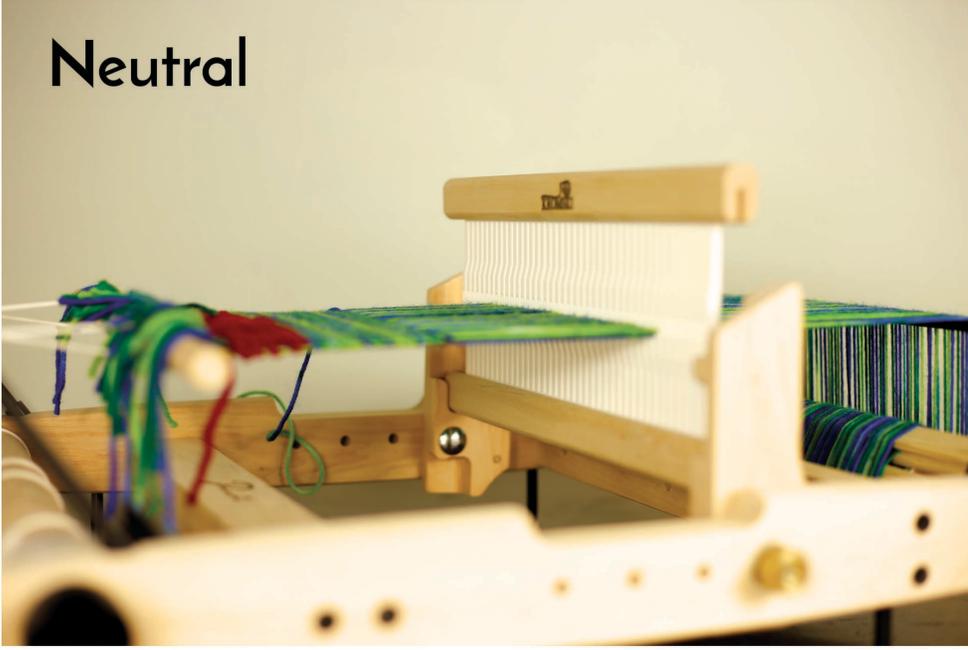
If you choose not to do the hem stitch, leave a tail that is about 4" (10cm) long. Lay it into the shed on the next pass when the shuttle travels from right to left. This will lock it in place.

Follow the tutorial on the Kromski North America website <http://kromskina.com/hem-stitch-forweaving/> to create the hem. You will need a tapestry needle (a thick, blunt sewing needle) for this. Note: for this project the needle travels under 2 warp strands.



Before we continue, let's talk about 'picks per inch (2,5cm)' and 'balanced weave'. The finished scarf should have a nice drape to it. The weft should not be packed in too tightly (making it stiff), or too loose (causing the yarns to shift). A 'pick' is counted with each pass of the shuttle. To achieve a balanced weave, there are as many picks (passes of the shuttle) as there are warp threads per inch (dents). For this dent size, there should be 8 picks per inch ( 8 per 2,5cm). Weave for approximately two or three inches (5-7,5cm).

## Neutral

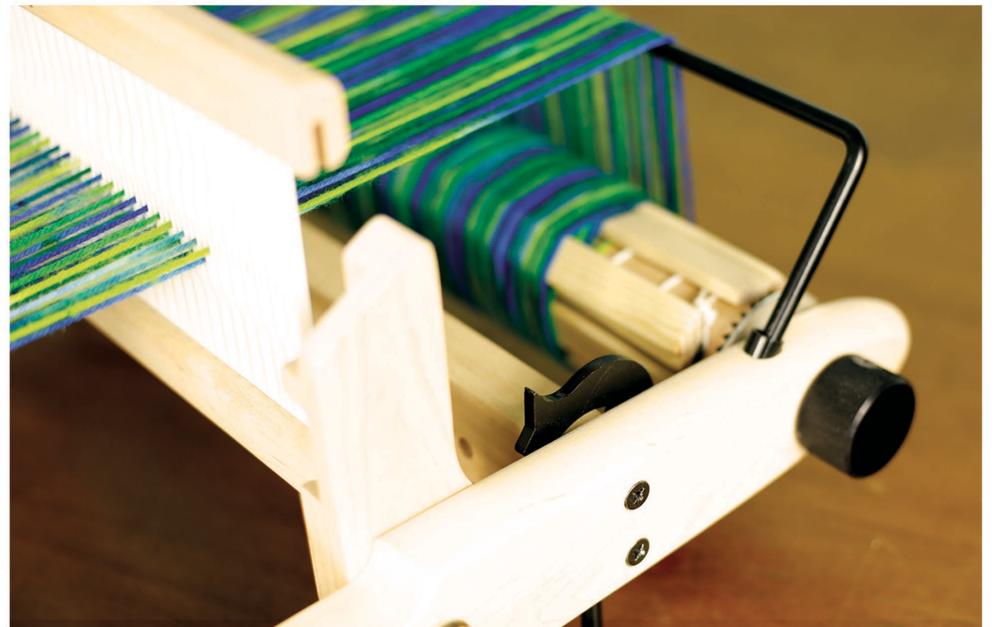


**33.** Place the heddle in Neutral. Allow the shuttle to rest off to the side. Do not cut yarn!

Now count the weft threads and verify that there are 8 per inch (8 per 2,5cm). If there are more, then it is beat too hard. If there are less, it is not beat hard enough. This will take some practice, but soon it will be a natural action.



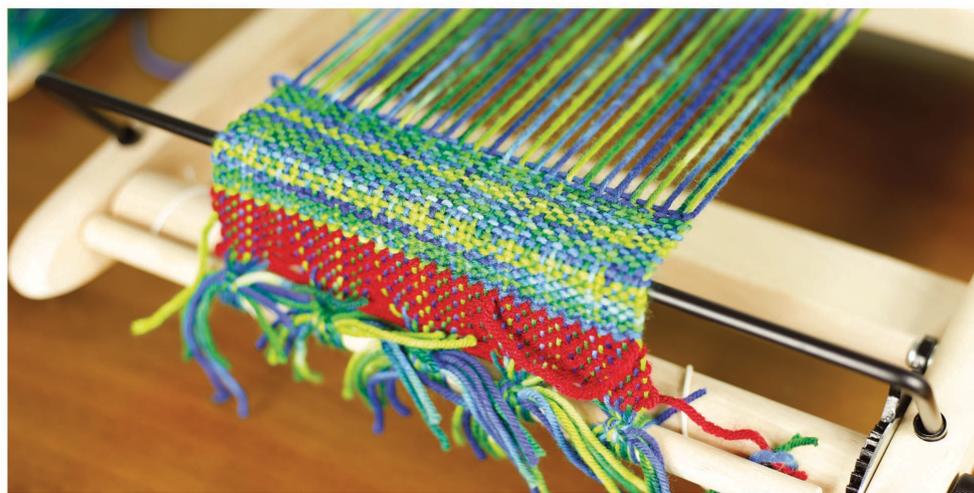
**34.** Pay close attention to the edges of your scarf as you weave. Be sure the weft is not so loose that loops form along the edge. Likewise, do not make it too tight as this will cause the scarf to draw in. If you notice a spot that is uneven, take a moment to go back and fix it. This is not difficult and you will be glad in the end that you took the extra time.



**35.** As the weaving surface grows, the shed will shrink. When there is no longer enough room to pass the shuttle easily, it is time to advance the warp. To do this, you must release the pawl. Set the shuttle aside. Place the heddle in neutral and reach up to the rear knob. Turn it forward slightly and detach the pawl from the ratchet.

Now turn the front knob until the warp advances to a point where the weft is about one inch (2,5cm) beyond of the metal beam.

**36.** Continue to weave, advancing the warp as needed, until you have woven all but 24" (60cm) of yarn for the hem on the finishing end. Be sure to check the picks per inch (2,5cm) and the edges as you weave.



Complete the hem as instructed on the Kromski North America blog. If you are not doing the hem stitch, stop when there is about 5" (12cm) left. Lay the end into the shed halfway across the warp. Bring the end out between the warp. Then wrap the tail back through the warp by hand on the next shed. This will lock the thread in.



**37.** You're almost finished with your first project! Cut the yarn on the back of the loom to release the project from the heddle.

**38.** Unwind the scarf and slide the dowel out of the ties where the warp was tied to the front of the loom to release the scarf. Untie the knots. Do not cut them or they will be too short to make the fringe. Carefully pull out the waste yarn. Lay the scarf out flat trim the ends so that they are even and that both ends of the scarf have an equal length of fringe.



Twisting the fringe will preserve the yarn over time. Pick up two strands of yarn and twist them separately to the right until they want to twist back on themselves. Then pinch the two ends together and twist them both to the left. Tie a knot at the end. Repeat this across the scarf until all warp threads are done.

All that is left now is to wet finish the scarf. Even though you are anxious to wear your beautiful project, wet finishing will improve the drape and feel of the fabric. Simply soak the scarf in room temperature water for approximately 5 minutes. Gently squeeze out the excess water and lay flat to dry.

## Congratulations!

You have just woven your first scarf on your new Presto Loom!