TAPESTRY LOOM

WARping INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1: Mark with a pencil each 1" (25 mm) interval along the outside edges of the top and bottom loom rails.

Step 2: Turn the top tension knobs so the top rail is in the middle of its adjustable range.

Step 3: After determining the width of your first tapestry, tie the end of your warp thread to the bottom rail so the tapestry will be evenly spaced across the loom.

Step 4: Remove the locking peg and loosen the handles on either side of the loom to enable the loom to rotate easily on the floor frame.

Step 5: Hold the warp thread and begin to rotate the top of the loom towards you. Place the warp thread on the mark on the bottom rail the same distance from the centre as the top rail. Keep rotating the loom placing the required number of threads between each mark (1" or 25 mm apart) as necessary for your tapestry. This determines the DPI (dents per inch).
Step 6: When the desired width has been covered tie the thread to the bottom rail, then cut the warp thread off.

Step 7: Check that all threads are evenly spaced between pencil marks.

Step 8: Replace the locking peg and tighten the two side handles.

Step 9: Turn the two top tension knobs to tighten the warp if necessary.

Step 10: Twining. Cut a piece of warp thread 3 times the width of the loom. Fold the thread in half and form a loop around one loom side at the bottom. Thread one half behind each alternate front warp thread and tie off on the opposite side. Wrap the other thread behind each back warp thread and then firmly around the front thread. Then tie off on the opposite side. This binds all the warp threads together at the bottom.
Step 11: The loom is now ready for you to commence weaving. If desired, leashes can be used to enable the back shed to be brought forward more easily. Leashes are made from pieces of warp thread 42" (105 cm) long tied in loops. To thread them onto the warp, hold the leash rod so one end is opposite the start of the warp. Loop a leash onto the leash rod, wrap it around a back warp thread and loop it back onto the rod. Move the rod along as the leashes are loaded on to prevent them falling off. By pressing down on the leashes the back warp threads are brought forward so the weft can be threaded through.

Step 12: Slide your fingers into a group of threads in the open shed to produce the first shed.
Step 13: Gently pull down a group of leashes to produce the second shed.

Step 14: It is important in tapestry weaving to "bubble" the weft before it is beaten down into place.
Step 15: Beat the threads down gently with the pointed end of the bobbin.

Step 16: Weave in comfort with the frame resting on your knees. Note the holes in the stand for height adjustment. As the weaving progresses adjust to suit so you are comfortable weaving at all times. The Ashford Hobby Bench is the ideal companion to the Tapestry Loom as it is adjustable in height and has storage under the seat.