

Learn to double weave on the  
**Rigid Heddle Loom**



**ashford**  
WHEELS & LOOMS

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There are two methods for warping with two reeds, a simple method and a more advanced method. The simple method is great for double layer and double width projects.

The more advanced method is for double density, fine weaving. For the more advanced method refer to the Ashford Book of Rigid Heddle Weaving.

These instructions show the simple method of warping a loom with two reeds. In this example we have used black yarn for one layer and white yarn for the second layer.

## DOUBLE WEAVE AND BROOKS BOUQUET ON THE RIGID HEDDLE LOOM

**Note:** This project has been woven on a 40cm (16ins) Rigid Heddle Loom but can be adapted to any Rigid Heddle or Knitters Loom.

This is a great, useful first project to learn second heddle weaving. Using a different colour yarn for each layer makes it easier to understand when you are warping your loom.

### You will need:

Loom: Rigid Heddle Loom 40cm (16ins) or wider

Reed: 2 x 30/10cm (7.5dpi)

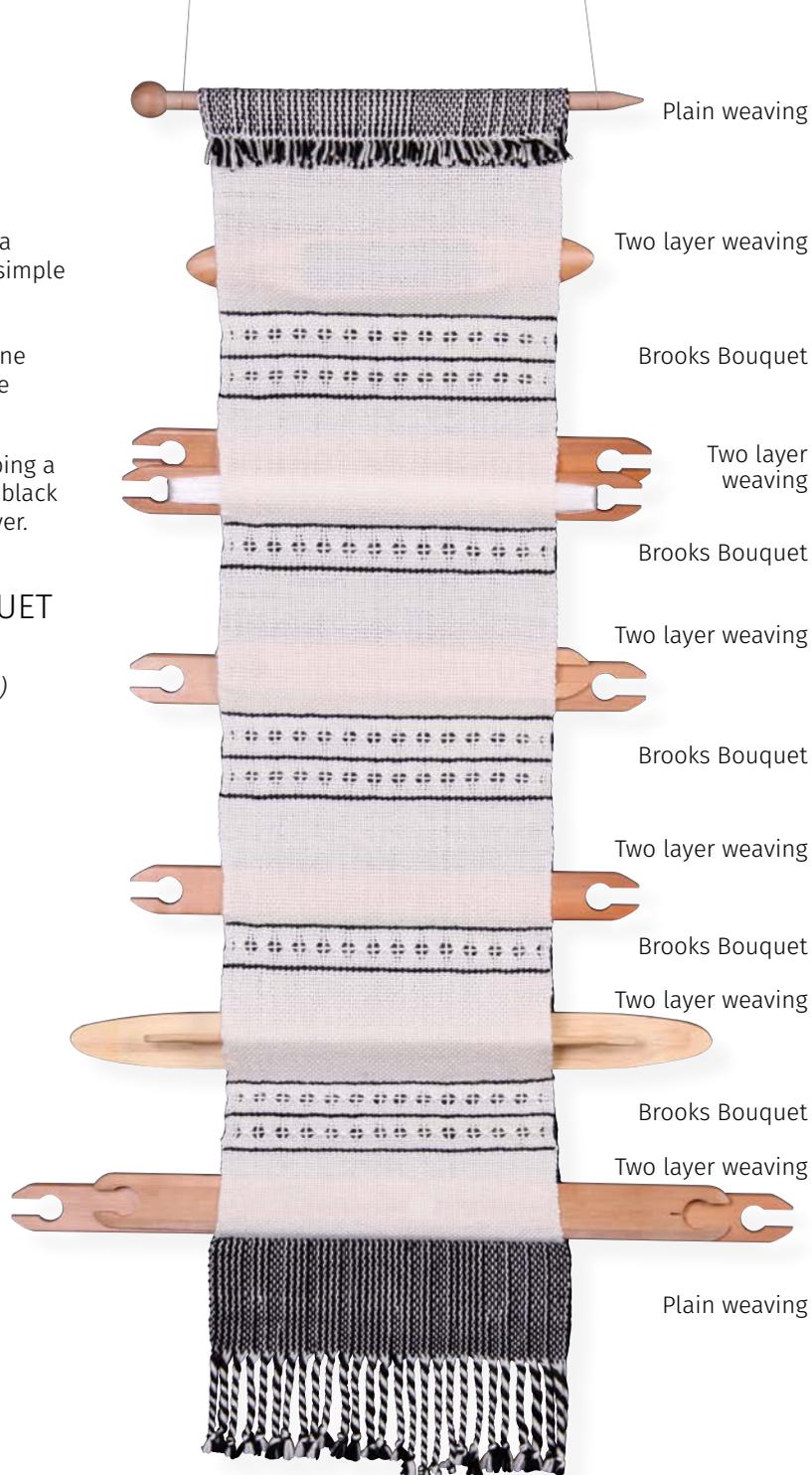
Warp and Weft Yarn: Ashford McKenzie 4ply (100% Merino; 385m/421yds;100gm net), White 1 ball, Moss 1 ball

Other: Two pick-up sticks (or shuttles), scissors, cardboard warp sticks, table, darning needle.

Length: 1.80m (70ins)

This length allows 10cm (4ins) at each end for fringe.

Number of ends: 192





Place one reed in the back rest position. Excluding the first three and last three slots, warp across the reed in the normal way but place two loops in each slot, one loop of moss and one of white (4 threads in each slot).



02

Wind the warp onto the back roller and cut the loops.  
(See steps 06 - 16 in the *Learn to weave on the Rigid Heddle Loom* booklet for detailed warping instructions).



03

With the front of the loom facing you, starting from the left, use the threading hook, take one of the moss ends from the slot and thread it through the eye to the right. Continue across the reed.



04

Place the second reed in the front heddle down position. Drape all ends from the back reed over the front reed (this will help to make the threading easier).



Starting on the left, take the first group of 4 ends (2 white ends, 1 moss end from the slot and 1 moss end from the eye to the right) and thread all 4 ends through the slot directly in front in the front reed.



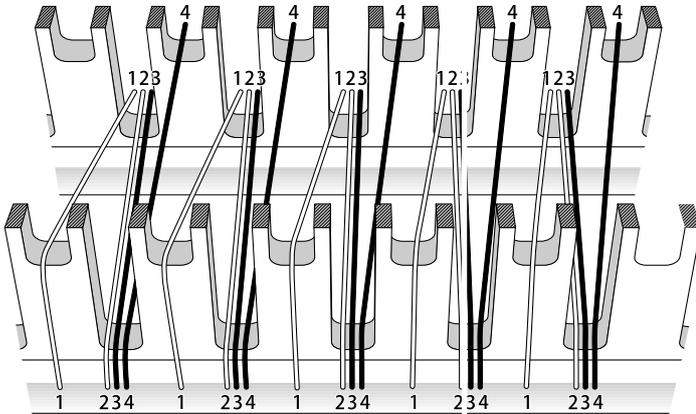
Continue across the reed. Now you will have 4 ends (2 moss and 2 white) in each slot in the front reed.



Place both reeds in the rest position. Take the first group of 4 ends and pull the moss pair down and the white pair up.



Take 1 white end from the pair of white ends (choose the one that is to the top or left of the pair) and thread through the eye to the left.



Continue across the reed. **Note:** Check there are no crosses between the reeds. If the ends are crossed remove and repeat step 07-08. Your threading will look like this diagram.  
Tie to the front warp stick.

## PLAIN WEAVE



**PLAIN WEAVE** - One layer double the ends per cm/in.  
Place both reeds in up position, weave one row.  
Place both reeds in the down position, weave one row.  
Repeat these steps.  
*Hint:* When changing the shed leave the front reed hanging.

## CREATING ADDITIONAL SHEDS



### PICK UP STICK A

Place both reeds in down position. Behind the back reed lift up all the white threads on the top and insert a pick up stick (A). Slide stick A to the back beam.



### PICK UP STICK B

Place both reeds in the up position. Slide pick up stick A forward and insert pick up stick B into the bottom shed that is formed. Slide both sticks to the back beam.

## TWO LAYER WEAVING

It is easy to create two separate layers of cloth at the same time.

**Hint:** When weaving two separate layers do not go around the alternate weft thread.

**Top Layer** - White warp and weft.

Shed 1 - Both reeds in the rest position, slide pick up stick A forward and turn on side.

Weave one row of white. Slide pick up stick A to the back.

Shed 2 - Place the front reed in the up position. Weave one row of white.

**Bottom layer** - Moss warp and weft.

Shed 3 - Both reeds in the rest position, slide pick up stick B forward and turn on side.

Weave one row of moss. Slide pick up stick B to the back.

Shed 4 - Place the back reed in the down position. Weave one row of moss.

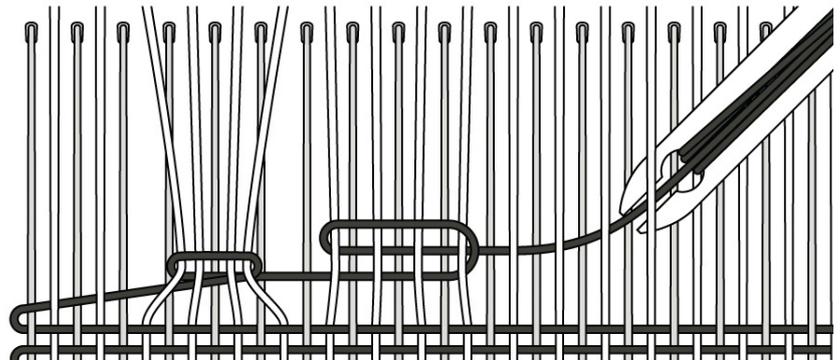
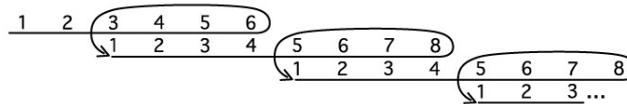
Repeat weaving one top layer and then one bottom layer until weaving reaches the desired length. To join the layers at anytime place the back reed up and weave one row of either moss or white.



## BROOKS BOUQUET

The beautiful lace of Brooks Bouquet is enhanced by the moss second layer backing cloth.

1. Weave 4 rows on the bottom moss layer and 4 rows top white layer (see instructions above).
2. Weave 4 more rows on the bottom moss layer.
3. Place both reeds in the rest position and slide pick up stick A forward and turn on side.
4. Slide the shuttle with the white yarn under the first 6 ends and back over and around the last 4 ends and pull the yarn to make a "bunch".
5. Pick up the next 4 ends with the shuttle and take it back over and around these 4 ends and under the next 4 (you will be going under 8 ends).
6. Continue across row (check that the number of ends will make equal-sized bunches).
7. When there are 6 ends left use the shuttle to pick up 4 ends and take the shuttle around the 4 and under the 2 ends to finish the row.



8. Weave 4 more rows bottom and top layers.
9. Join the two layers (see above).
10. Repeat instructions 1-9 for desired result.

**Hint:** Use your fingers to adjust the "bouquets" so they are level. Secure top end with hemstitch or machine zigzag stitch. Do a twisted fringe at the beginning of the weaving, which will become the bottom of the hanging. Handwash in warm water. Lay flat to dry. Fold top over 3cm (1½in) stitch down to make pocket to insert hanging needle.



## FINISHING

The woven work should be washed so the threads open up and fill the spaces to give the fabric a 'finished' look.

## WASHING

Wash the weaving gently in warm water with a little detergent. Push up and down for a minute. Let the soapy water drain away and rinse the scarf in warm, clean water. Lay flat to dry. While the work is still damp, cover it with a soft cotton cloth and press with a warm iron.

## HELPFUL HINTS

### Tying Knots

When you tie any knot during weaving you will need to undo it again at some stage. Always tie a knot that you can undo easily.

### Beating

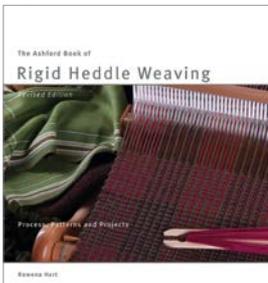
Always beat gently. Sometimes the work will look a little open. Remember, the work is under tension on the loom and will come together when taken off. Also, the washing process will close the gaps a little.

## RESOURCES

### The Ashford Book of Rigid Heddle Weaving

By Rowena Hart

All you ever needed to know about rigid heddle weaving. Easy warping, weaving techniques and projects including brooks bouquet, bronson lace and weaving with the second heddle kit. Create beautiful garments and homeware. 123 pages



## Youtube tutorials



Waxing a Samplett Loom



Assembling a Samplett Loom



Weaving on the Samplett Loom



Simple warping on the Rigid Heddle Loom



Tying a warp on a Rigid Heddle Loom



Spreading a warp on a Rigid Heddle Loom



Using the Fringe twister



Peruvian Diamonds

[www.youtube.com/user/AshfordHandicrafts/videos](http://www.youtube.com/user/AshfordHandicrafts/videos)

For more information, helpful hints and inspiration we recommend The Ashford Book of Rigid Heddle Weaving. Visit our website to view our tutorial videos [www.ashford.co.nz](http://www.ashford.co.nz)



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