

Weaving on a Tape Loom



You Need:

- A Tape Loom and shuttle - find instructions to make one on the Hyland House Activity website
- Three different colored balls of yarn. The best tape yarn is 100% cotton crochet thread, size 7 for 1.5mm crochet hook
- Scissors
- A piece of ribbon and a safety pin



Preparing your Loom

Step 1: Choose your pattern

In order to thread the loom you need to choose a pattern. The pattern below is the one used to make the ½" wide tape in the picture above. Also, determine the length you want for your tape. Add 10-15" to the length. For example, if you want to make tape that is 40" long, your warps (that is the yarn that goes through the slits and holes of the loom) should be 50" or 55" long.

Cut the amount of strings in the length you need according to the necessary strings for your pattern. The pattern for the tape in from the picture needs the following:

9 black strings

4 white strings

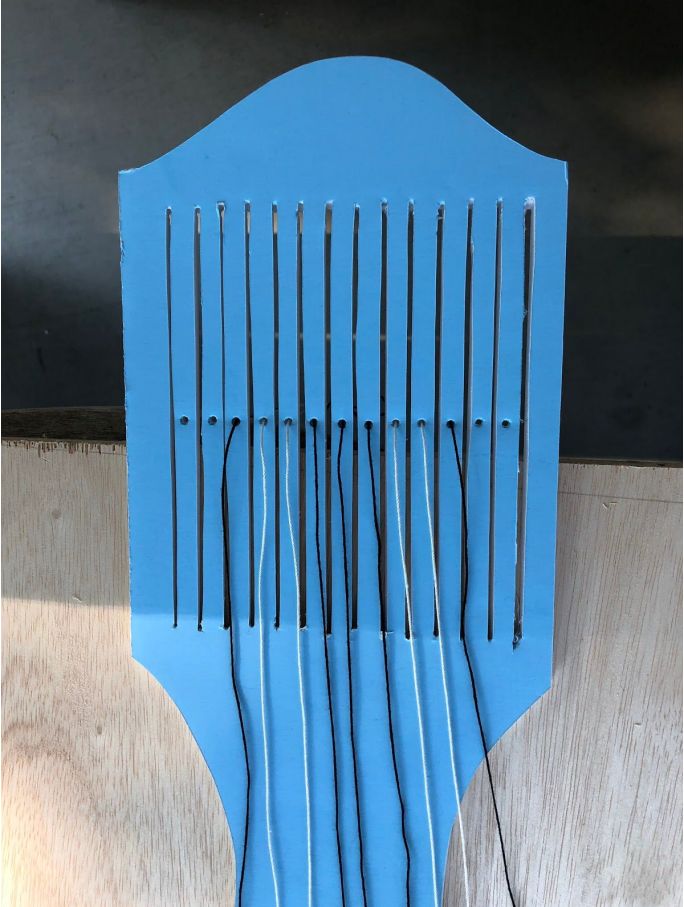
4 red strings

Step 2: Threading the warp through the holes

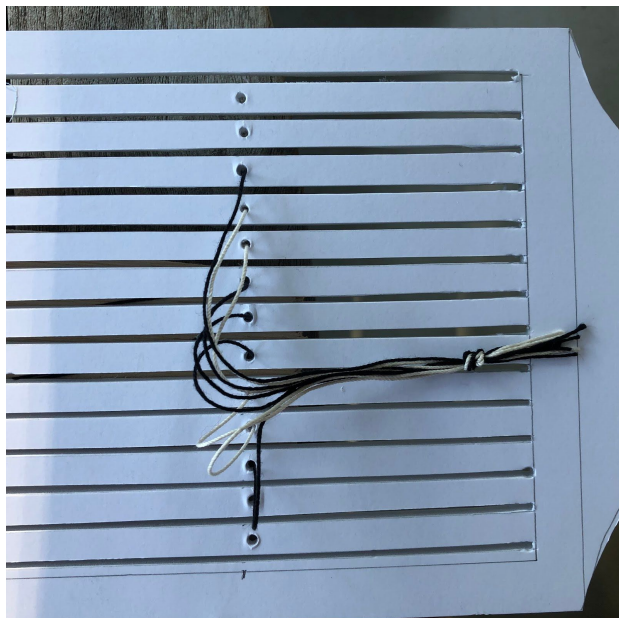
Place the loom on a table so that the holes reach over the edge. Thread the warp strings through the holes of your loom in the pattern below. Thread them in a way that they are centered. If you have a loom with 13 holes, the first and last two holes are staying empty. Let about 3" of the ends of the string hang from the loom and table. To avoid tangling of the strings, carefully lay the warp parallel to each other over the table.



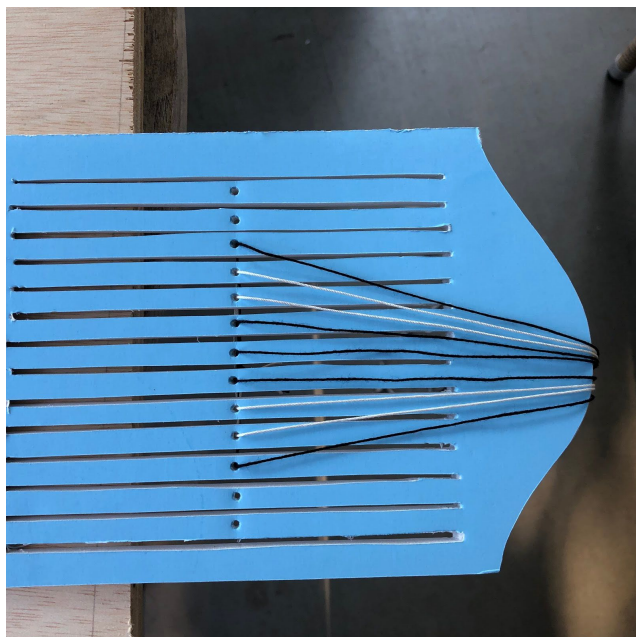
Holes: black, white, white, black, black black, white, white, black



When all warp is threaded through the holes, turn the loom around so that the backside is up. Knot the warp ends together.



Then turn the loom back and lay the warp over the loom so that they fall down the table. Since you knotted them together on the back, they are secured. Doing this makes space for the warp going through the slits in the next step.



Step 3: Threading the warp through the slits

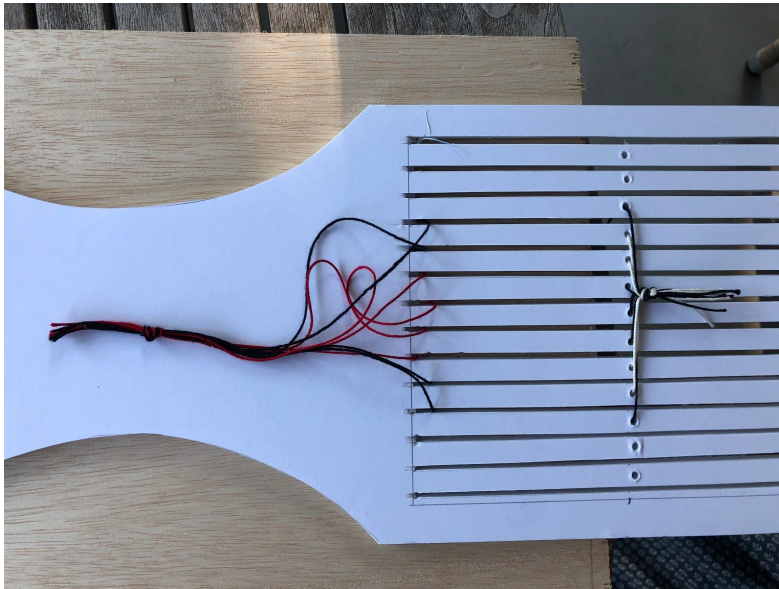
Thread the warp strings through the slits of your loom in the pattern below. You don't need all the slits for this example. Thread them in a way that they are centered. If you have a loom with 14 slits, the first and last three slits are staying empty.

As in Step 2, let 3" of the ends of the warp hang down the table and make sure that the warps lay parallel over the table lest they get tangled up.

Slits: black, black, red, red, red, red, black black



When all warp strings are threaded through the slits, turn the loom around and knot the ends at the back together.

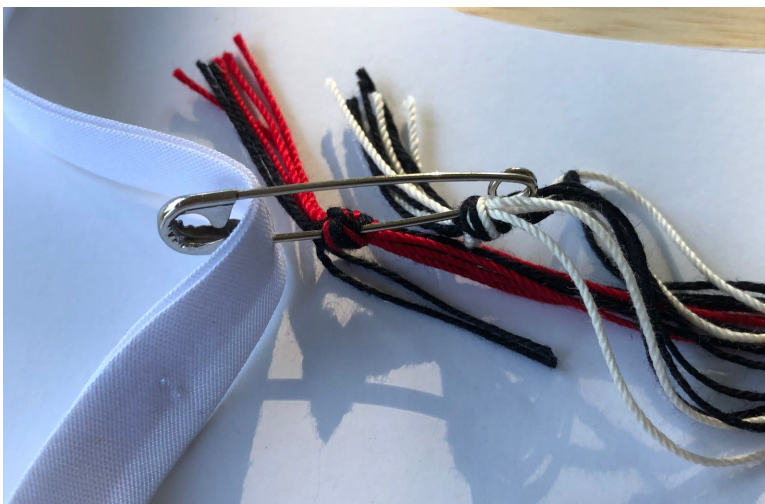


Step 4: Prepare your shuttle

Wrap yarn around the shuttle.

Step 4: Securing the warp

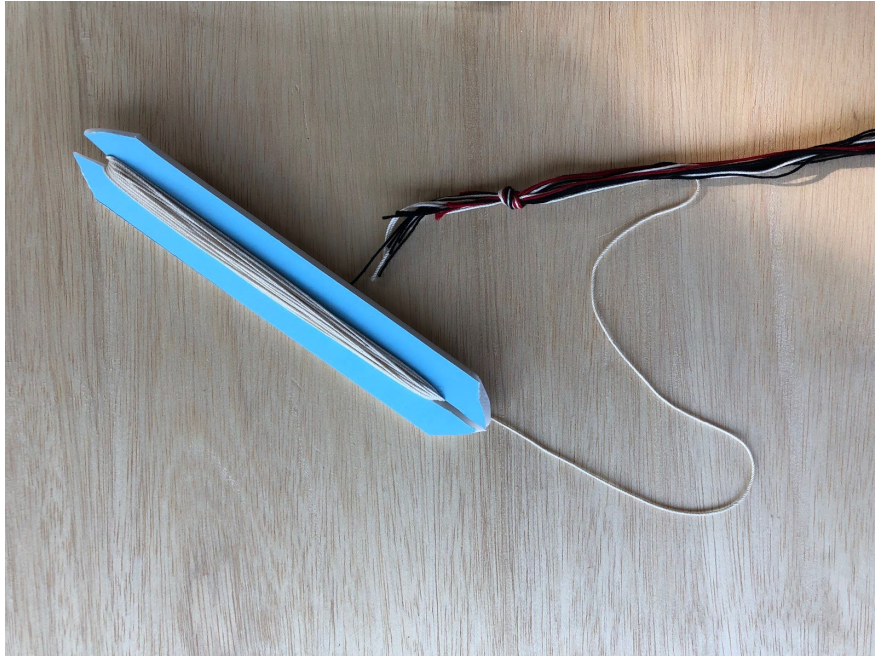
Put the safety pin through both knotted ends and the the middle of the ribbon.



Bind the ribbon around a table leg, a hook on the wall or a door knob. Be careful not to lose the warp as it is not secured yet. Hold the unsecured ends of the warp strings in your hand while pulling the warp strings tight and even and letting the loom hand in between. This will show you where to knot them together.



Knot the ends together including the yarn (weft) from the shuttle.



Weaving the Tape

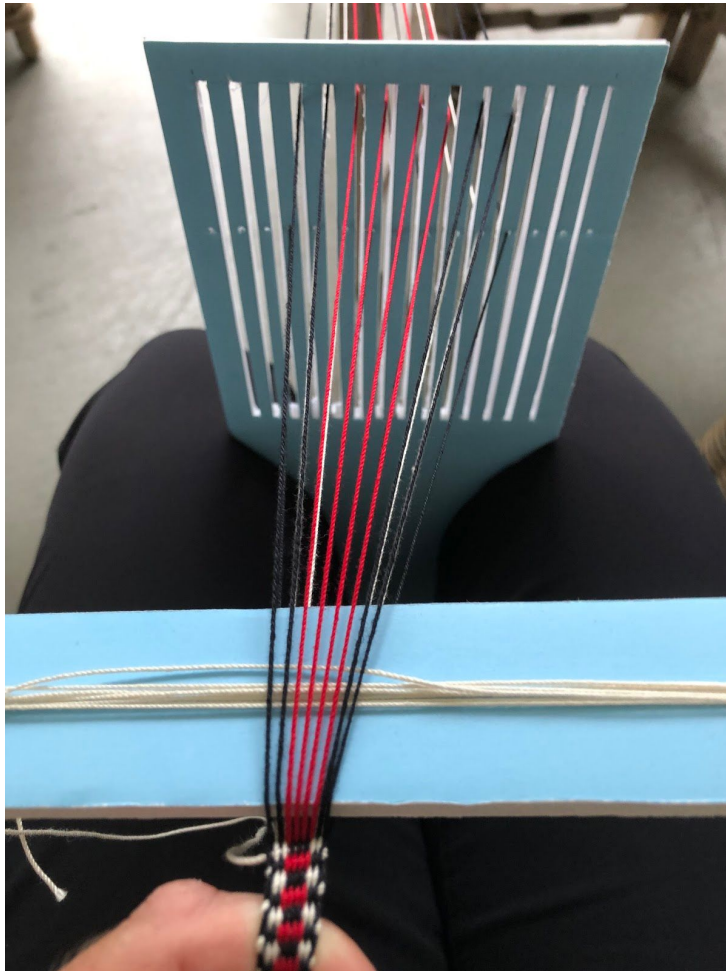
Step 1:

If you are sitting, put the loom between your knees and find the correct distance between the table leg and the chair you are sitting on. If you are standing, find the right distance from the wall.



Step 2:

Hold the warp strings in one hand so that the warp strings going through the slits are on the top of the loom. Push the shuttle through the opening and pull the string all the way through.



Step 3:

Move the warp stings by lowering your hand so that the warp strings going through the slits are below the holes. Push the shuttle back through the new opening. While the shuttle is in the middle, push the weft strings together with the shuttle. Pull the new weft string all the way through the opening.



Finishing the Tape

Repeat Step 2 and 3 until the end of the warp thread. Take the yarn of the safety pin from behind the loom and pull the warp stings out of the loom. Make a knot at the end of the tape that also includes the weft string. You can hang the loom at the wall for storing it in between your project.



