

SQUIGGLE SHAWL

by Sara Goldenberg White

Break out of the grid with this elegant shawl that uses weft floats created with pick-up to make wiggly warp lines. The neutral palette of gray and natural showcases the patterning, while a woven Philippine edge above the twisted fringe creates a crisp edge to ground the design.



RIGID HEDDLE

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Handwoven cloth has many possibilities for adding unique details. With this shawl, Sara wanted to move out of the woven grid by making her warp ends wiggle. The motion of the warp ends adds an unexpected detail and is a powerful design component. The gray squiggles come to life against the natural color of the bamboo. For even more detail, Sara finished the shawl with a woven Philippine edge to create a beautiful, braided look on the ends of the shawl.

RESOURCES

McEneely, Naomi. *Compendium of Finishing Techniques*. Loveland, CO: Interweave, 2003, 43.

Patrick, Jane. *The Weaver's Idea Book*. Loveland, CO: Interweave, 2010, 129.

MATERIALS

STRUCTURE Plain weave with weft floats.

EQUIPMENT Rigid-heddle loom, 20" weaving width; 10-dent heddle; 1 shuttle; 1 pick-up stick.

YARNS **Warp:** Kimberley (70% cotton/22% hemp/8% polyester; 115 yd/50 g; Lang Yarns), #070 Charcoal, 43 yd. Bamboo Pop (50% cotton/50% bamboo; 100 g/292 yd; Universal Yarn), #102 Cream, 504 yd. **Weft:** Bamboo Pop, #102 Cream, 415 yd.

WARP LENGTH 191 ends 103" long (allows 7" for take-up, 25" for loom

waste; loom waste includes fringe).

SETTS **Warp:** 10 epi. **Weft:** 10 ppi.

DIMENSIONS **Width in the heddle:** 19 1/10'.

Woven length: (measured under tension on the loom) 71". **Finished size:** 16" x 68" plus 7 1/2" fringe.

PROJECT STEPS

1 Set up your loom for direct warping a length of 103" or wind a warp of 191 ends 103" long following the warp color order in Figure 1. Warp the loom using your preferred method, starting in a slot and centering for a weaving width of 19 1/10'.

2 Wind a shuttle with your weft yarn. Allowing 10" for fringe, spread the warp with scrap yarn.

3 See Reader's Guide for pick-up stick basics. With the heddle in the down position and working behind the heddle, insert pick-up stick A, picking up only slot ends and following the pick-up pattern. Slide the pick-up stick to the back of the loom when not in use.

4 Starting with the heddle in the up position, weave 2 picks of plain weave. Weave for 71" alternating between the weaving sequence with pick-up stick A and pick-up stick B. Insert pick-up stick B following the pick-up pattern after each pick-up stick A weaving sequence. Remove pick-up stick B after Step 6.

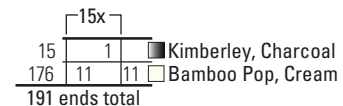
5 Weave 4–6 picks with scrap yarn to protect the weft.

6 Remove the shawl from the loom, leaving at least 10" of unwoven warp at each end for fringe. Trim fringe to 10". Remove scrap yarn from the beginning and end of the weaving

and secure both ends using a woven Philippine edge (see Do It by Hand, page 86). Sara prefers to cut the scrap yarn out in about 3" sections to keep the remaining warp ends tidy. (Be careful not to cut any warp ends in the process.) Prepare a twisted fringe in bundles of 6 ends. **Note:** The woven Philippine edge can be replaced with overhand knots if desired.

7 Wet-finish by hand in hot water with mild detergent. Lay flat to dry. Steam-press with a warm iron. *

Figure 1. Warp color order



Pick-up pattern

Pick-up stick A: 6 up [2 down, 4 up] 15 times. Push pick-up stick A to the back of the loom.

Pick-up stick B: [4 up, 2 down] 15 times, 6 up. Remove pick-up stick B from the loom when not in use.

Weaving sequence

1. Up.
 2. Pick-up stick A.
 3. Up.
 4. Pick-up stick A.
 5. Up.
 6. Pick-up stick A.
 7. Up.
 8. Down.
- Repeat Steps 1–8 with pick-up stick B.

