



## QUEEN BEE TABLE TOPPER

Gabi van Tassell

Photos by Matt Graves unless otherwise noted

Project originally published in *Easy Weaving with Little Looms* Summer 2023

Working with small hexagons opens the door to making artful designs in a mosaic fashion. This table topper features a queen bee on her honeycomb, constructed entirely out of hexagon shapes woven on a pin loom. With a little bit of planning, assembling the table topper is like putting a puzzle together—one with lasting, stunning results.





## QUEEN BEE TABLE TOPPER

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### MATERIALS

**STRUCTURE** Plain weave.

**EQUIPMENT** Hexagon pin loom, 1" side to side (Gabi used the PennyTURTLE loom, fine sett); 5" weaving needle; size C-2/2.75 mm crochet hook or a 2.75 mm locker hook; tapestry needle.

**YARNS Warp and Weft:** Catona (100% mercerized cotton; 68 yd/25 g; Scheepjes), #106 Snow White, 28 yd; #110 Jet Black and #208 Yellow Gold, 22 yd each; #162 Black Coffee, 54 yd; #383 Ginger Gold, 40 yd; #403 Lemonade, 30 yd; #404 English Tea, 72 yd.

**OTHER SUPPLIES** Felt piece, at least 20" x 20"; fabric glue (optional).

**DIMENSIONS Finished size:** (after sewing and wet-finishing) about 19" x 19".

### PROJECT STEPS

**1** Following the loom manufacturer's directions, weave the hexagons as listed in Figure 1. Leave the yarn tails for sewing the hexagons together.

**2** Refer to the layout in Figure 2, which shows the wrong side of the topper. Note that the left side of the bee is oriented at the top. Lay out the first row with each hexagon's starting tail pointing up toward the top and its ending tail pointing to the right. This will position the tails for joining.

**3** Following the layout in Figure 2, use the tails to whipstitch (see Reader's Guide) the hexagons

together in rows. Assemble the first two rows, then sew the first row to the second row. Whipstitch the next row of hexagons according to the chart, check to make sure the colors are in the correct spots, and then whipstitch that row to the previous two.

**4** Continue assembling rows and joining them to previous rows until all hexagons are joined.

**5** Use a tapestry needle to weave in ends.

**6** Wet-finish and block as desired.

**7** Optional backing can be added by cutting a felt piece to match the finished dimensions of the table topper and gluing the felt to the back. \*

### WEAVING AND ASSEMBLY TIPS

- Use small plastic snack bags to store hexagons by color as you weave.
- During assembly, line up the bags of woven hexagons to keep them organized.

Figure 1. Pin loom pieces

28	○	#106 Snow White
22	●	#110 Jet Black
22	○	#208 Yellow Gold
54	●	#162 Black Coffee
40	○	#383 Ginger Gold
30	○	#403 Lemonade
72	○	#404 English Tea
268 pieces total		

Figure 2. Layout

