

EASY WEAVING WITH  
*littlelooms* PRESENTS

# TABLET-WOVEN TREASURES

## *5 Tablet Designs to Weave*







Photos by Joe Coca and Matt Graves

About a year ago, I took my first tablet-weaving class and ever since, I've been absolutely hooked. There's something magical about having complex patterns appear with a quick turn of the cards and a pass of the weft, and I know I'm not the only weaver who feels this way. To celebrate this wonderful weaving method, we put together this eBook of 5 tablet weaving projects ranging from shoelaces perfect for a beginner to more advanced woven dragons. Whether you're looking for your first tablet-weaving project, or are a seasoned weaver, I hope you enjoy this eBook.

Happy Weaving,  
Christina

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Photos by Matt Graves

# ASTOUNDING LACES

John Mullarkey

Are your high-tops just begging for some beautiful accents? These card-woven shoelaces will amaze your friends. They are durable and may outlast your shoes!



# ASTOUNDING LACES

John Mullarkey

People always notice fancy laces. They may not always comment on them if they aren't fiber people, but they always notice them. And if you weave your own in contrasting colors to your shoes they will get noticed. You may ask, as many do, why would you weave your own laces? That's like asking knitters why they knit their own socks. Besides being beautiful and fun to weave, these are superstrong laces and may very well last longer than your shoes. They also make great gifts that even your nonfiber friends will appreciate. And your shoes will thank you for taking the time to make them look even better.

## MATERIALS

**Type of Project:** Tablet Weaving

**STRUCTURE** Tablet weaving.

**EQUIPMENT** Inkle loom; belt shuttle; 10 four-hole weaving tablets.

**YARNS** *Warp and Weft:* 10/2 pearl cotton (4,200 yd/lb), orange-yellow, 72 yd; charcoal gray, 140 yd.

**OTHER SUPPLIES** Clear packing tape.

**WARP LENGTH** 40 ends 80" long for each lace (allows 8" for take-up and 8" for loom waste).

**SETTS** *Warp:* 106 epi. *Weft:* 24 ppi.

**DIMENSIONS** *Width:*  $\frac{3}{8}$ ". *Woven length:* (measured under tension on the loom) 128". *Finished size:* two laces 58" each.

### 1. Draft

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A										
B										
C										
D										
	S	S	S	S	S	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z

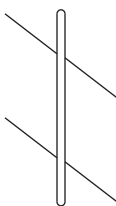
**Z** Cards threaded right to left (Z threading)

**S** Cards threaded left to right (S threading)

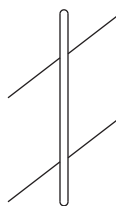
 orange-yellow

 charcoal gray

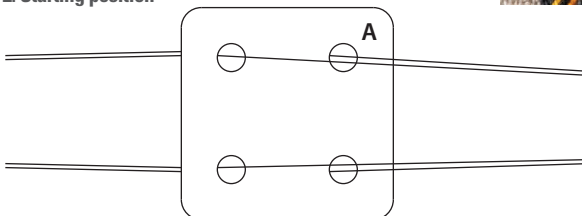
**S-threaded**



**Z-threaded**



### 2. Starting position





## PROJECT STEPS

**1 Single lace:** Wind a warp of 40 ends 80" long on your inkle loom and thread the ends on tablets following the draft, Figure 1.

**2** Align the tablets so that the A corners of the tablets are at the top far corner as shown in Figure 2.

**3** Wind a belt shuttle with charcoal gray.

**4** Weave about 64" using the following tablet weaving sequence: 4 turns forward (away from weaver) and 4 turns back (toward weaver). The fun of tablet weaving is to see what other patterns can emerge, so feel free to try turn sequences other than 4 forward and 4 back.

**5** Remove from the loom and roll each end in clear packing tape as tightly as possible to create an aglet. Trim aglet ends with scissors.

**6** Repeat steps 1 through 5 for the second lace. (If you wish to weave both laces at once, double the lengths in steps 1 and 4.) \*







Photos by Matt Graves

# HERE BE DRAGONS!

Julie Beers

Add a touch of drama to your boots with these dragon-adorned boot bracelets. The design was inspired by a fragment of a belt that was found in Dublin, Ireland, and dates to the tenth century. This tablet weaving project is also an opportunity to try the dropped-hole technique.





TABLET

## HERE BE DRAGONS!

Julie Beers

### RESOURCES

Consolini, Silvia. *Tablet Weaving Medieval Collection 15: Basic Patterns*. Emulina Edizioni, 2021.  
Crockett, Candace. *Card Weaving*. Loveland, CO: Interweave, 1991.  
Inglennook Fibers, [inglennookfibers.com](http://inglennookfibers.com).

Ostheller, Karen. "Weave Along with Elewys, Ep 16, Dublin Dragons of Drachenwald." Lady Elewys of Finchingfeld, JdL, GdS, April 2, 2021. [ladyelewys.carpevinumpdx.com/2021/04/02/weave-along-with-elewys-ep-16-dublin-dragons-of-drachenwald](http://ladyelewys.carpevinumpdx.com/2021/04/02/weave-along-with-elewys-ep-16-dublin-dragons-of-drachenwald).

### MATERIALS

**STRUCTURE** Warp-faced twined weaving.

**EQUIPMENT** Inkle loom; shuttle; 22 four-hole tablets or cards; fishing weights or flat washers to use for warp weights; weaving sword or band knife (optional). **Note:** Julie prefers a Sami shuttle, but a belt shuttle will work. A sword or band knife is helpful for beating the weft into place and opening sticky sheds.

**YARNS** **Warp:** Palette (100% wool; 231 yd/50 g; KnitPicks), #24007 Tidepool Heather, 88 yd; #23728 White, 24 yd; #24249 Sweet Potato, 16 yd. **Weft:** Palette, #24015 Garnet Heather, 30 yd. **Note:** Julie used handspun wool and cashmere yarns.

She recommends Palette as a substitute commercial yarn.

**OTHER SUPPLIES** ½" flat washers tied to fishing-line barrel swivel clips (2–4 washers per clip), 22 sets; short dowel or double-pointed knitting needle.

**WARP LENGTH** 64 ends 72" (2 yd) long (allows 4" for take-up, 42" for loom waste and sampling; loom waste includes fringe).

**SETTS** **Warp:** 30 epi. **Weft:** 9–10 ppi.

**DIMENSIONS** **Finished width:** 1½". **Woven length:** (measured under tension on the loom) 26". **Finished size:** (after steam-pressing) one boot bracelet 24" × 1½" with 5" fringe.

### PROJECT STEPS

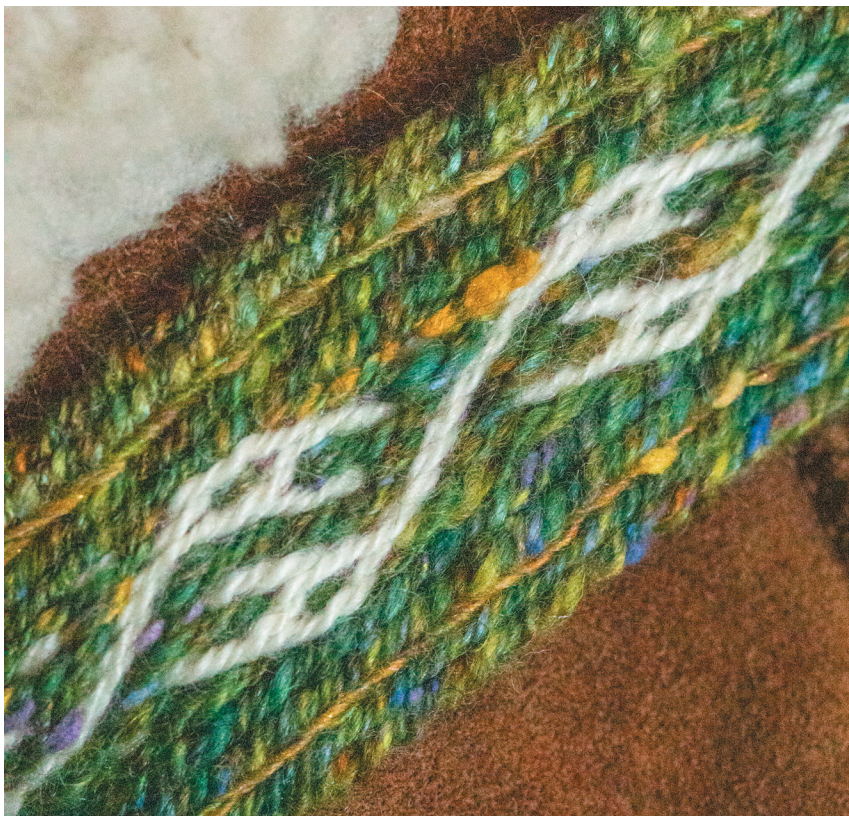
**1** Wind separate 72" warps for each color: 44 ends of Tidepool Heather, 12 ends of White, and 8 ends of Sweet Potato. Thread the warps on tablets following the draft in Figure 1.

**2** Put the threaded cards on the loom with the printed sides facing left and tie the warp to the front peg. Drape the warp over the back of the loom. Separate each card's warps from the rest, chain them so they aren't on the floor, and clip a weight to the chain. Repeat until each card on the warp is weighted. Julie starts with the warps chained so the weights hang about halfway to the floor from the top of her loom.

**3** Align the tablets so that the A and D corners of the cards are at the top.

**4** Wind a belt shuttle with Garnet Heather.

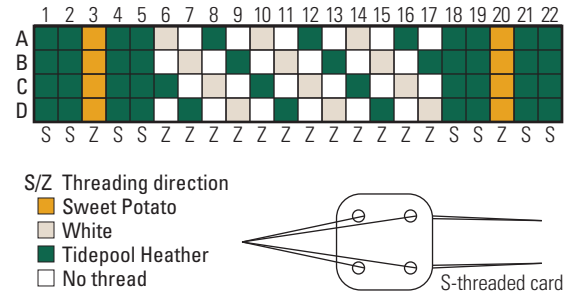
**5** To start the band, follow the weaving sequence in Figure 2 to weave the first row, leaving a 2"–3" tail of weft. Pull the weft snug and turn the cards to make the second-row shed. Use the band knife or shuttle to beat the weft, and then pass the weft tail and the weft through the shed from opposite directions. Pull both ends tightly enough to cause the warp yarns to sit together snugly. Create the third row and beat the weft in firmly. It may take a few rows to get to the width you want. The warp yarns should be packed together firmly, and you should not be able to pull them







**Figure 1. Draft**



**Figure 2. Weaving sequence**

	Cards							
	1-5	6-7	8-9	10-11	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-22
Rows 1-2	B	B	F	B	B	B	F	B
Rows 3-4	B	B	B	B	F	F	F	B
Rows 5-6	B	F	B	F	F	F	B	B
Rows 7-8	B	B	F	F	F	B	F	B
Rows 9-10	B	F	F	F	B	B	B	B
Rows 11-12	B	F	B	B	B	F	B	B

apart. The weft should show only on the selvages and through the indented areas created by the open or dropped holes. On Julie's band, the weft only showed on the back of the weaving.

**6** Continue weaving the band following the weaving sequence. The cards with empty holes will not sit straight within the pack but will start to turn on their points. Julie uses a short dowel or double-pointed knitting needle to push through one corner hole of the pack after the tablets are turned to hold them aligned while throwing the shuttle. Weave for 26" or desired length. You should be able to get a band at least 1½ yd long. Julie experimented with her warp, so her finished band is shorter.

**7** Finish the band by cutting the weft yarn, leaving a 2-3" tail. Remove the weights from the warps and take the band off the loom. With a tapestry needle, weave the weft tail back through the next-to-the-last row of weaving, pull it snug, and cut it flush with the selvage. Use a steam iron set on the wool setting or a damp cloth and iron to steam-press the finished band. Trim the fringe to 5" or your preferred length. ✱

### NOTES ON WARPING

For this project, Julie uses a warp-weighted setup rather than warping an inkle or other band loom using traditional methods. If a circular or fixed-warp method were used, cards 1-5 and 18-22 would build up twist at a different rate from the rest of the warp. Weighting the warp over the loom and using swivels helps alleviate uneven twist along the warp. It also means you technically don't need a loom to weave this project—just a set of cards, weights, swivels, and a place to tie the front of the warp.





Photos by Matt Graves

# PLUMERIA PLANT HANGER

Barbara Goudsmit

You don't have to wait for your plants to flower. Weave a colorful card-woven hanger to add the burst of color you are looking for now or in any season.



# PLUMERIA PLANT HANGER

Barbara Goudsmit

A well-placed plant can bring a little garden into the comfort of your home. With this in mind, Barbara was inspired to interweave garden and home by creating a tablet-woven plant hanger. She designed a band displaying little flowers enclosed by two twisting green vines and named it after the plumeria flower as a reminder of holidays in sunny locales.

## MATERIALS

**Type of Project:** Tablet weaving

**STRUCTURE** Tablet weave.

**EQUIPMENT** Inkle loom; belt shuttle; 26 four-hole weaving tablets (cards).

**YARNS** *Warp:* Cotton 8 (175 yd/50 g; Scheepjes), #720 Pink, 55 yd; #716 Orange, 37 yd; #669 Green, 68 yd; #515 Black, 159 yd. *Weft:* Cotton 8, #515 Black, 27 yd.

**WARP LENGTH** 104 ends 110" long (allows 9" for take-up, 11" for loom waste).

**OTHER SUPPLIES** D-ring, 1½"; textile glue; potted plant with a diameter of 4"–6". (The hanger is designed to accommodate pots of varying diameters, and Barbara has tried the plant hanger on 4"–6" pots with good results.)

**DIMENSIONS** *Width:* 1½". *Woven length:* (measured under tension on the loom) 90". *Finished size:* (after sewing and wet-finishing) one plant hanger, 1½" x 20".

## PROJECT STEPS

**1** Wind a warp of 104 ends 110" long on your inkle loom and thread the warp ends on tablets following the draft, Figure 1. The threading direction in the diagram corresponds to the slant that the threads make when you look at them from above.

**2** Align the tablets so that the D corners of the tablets are at the front top corner as shown in Figure 2.

**3** Wind a belt shuttle with black yarn.

**4** Weave the strap using the following tablet-weaving sequence repeated for 90". The 2 outer tablets on each side are the border tablets; the 24 tablets in the middle are the pattern tablets.

- For the pattern tablets, alternate 4 picks with backward turns (toward you) with 4 picks with forward turns (away from you).

- For the border tablets, turn backward for each pick until there is too much twist buildup to proceed. Then switch to turning the border tablets forward and repeat. This will keep the edges clean.

**5** Cut the strap from the loom. Weave in the weft tails and cut the fringe short.

**6** Soak the strap in a basin of lukewarm water for 30 minutes. Use a towel to blot out excess water, and then lay flat to dry. Press if needed.

**7** Lay the strap flat with the pattern side facing down and slide the D-ring onto the strap to the middle of the strap.

**8** Take the left-hand end of the strap and bring it to the middle with the pattern side facing up, a little beyond the D-ring. Fold this end back inward a little toward the strap, such that the pattern side of the left-hand end faces the wrong side of





Figure 1. Draft

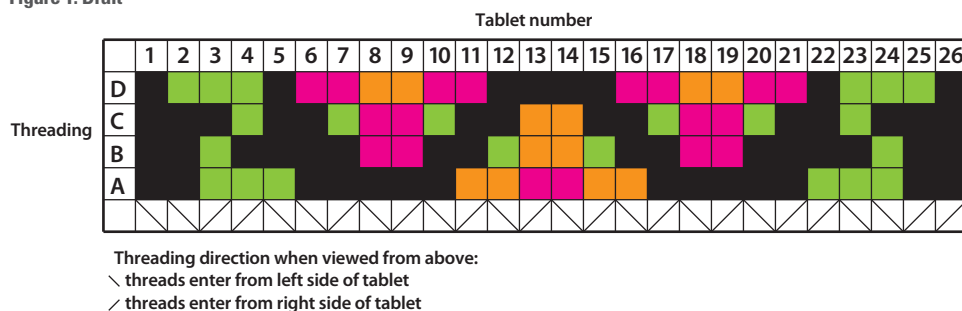
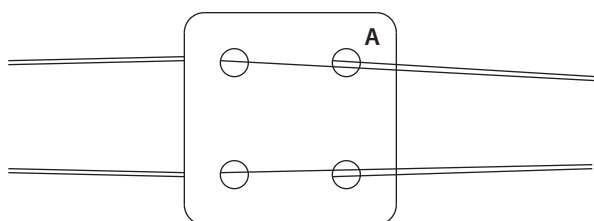


Figure 2. Threading start position



the strap in the middle. The left-hand side of the strap now touches the D-ring on the right. This creates a loop in the left half of the strap. Mirror this process for the right-hand side of the strap.

**9** Holding the rounded portion of the D-ring at the middle point, fold the strap in half with the pattern side out. This traps the ends of the strap and the D-ring at the middle point and creates two loops of equal length.

**10** There are now four layers on top of each other: an outer layer, the two strap ends, and another outer layer. Sew these layers together with black yarn about an inch from the D-ring. If the fringes of the ends show on the side, apply a little textile glue.

**11** The plant hanger consists of two loops. Place one loop into the other so that the bottoms of the loops are perpendicular to each other and the pattern sides of the strap are facing out. This creates a “basket” for the plant pot. The weight of the pot keeps the plant hanger in place. \*



# Purple Tablet-Woven Bag

GUDRUN POLAK

**S**ample, sample, sample! This is the advice that weavers are often given to help them figure out if and how their ideas will work out. The intended project usually follows. With tablet weavers, it is the other way round. We love to weave sample after sample: short bands, long bands, pattern after pattern. And often we don't do anything with the bands, which is fine for most of us most of the time. But sometimes we feel like making something with our bands.

The tablet-weaving or card-weaving process creates warp-twined fabric with attractive patterning: as the cards are turned, bringing different colors to the surface, the warp threads are twisted around each other. The beautiful, sturdy bands are suitable for belts, guitar straps, camera straps, or larger items such as purses if you don't mind a little sewing. This article shows how to convert bands of a simple design into a handbag.

The body of the pouch is made of bands in two patterns, Chevron and Diamond, based on the same pattern draft but with different weaving sequences. The strap (which also forms the sides of the bag) is a longer, narrower band woven from a different pattern draft. These are all threaded-in designs, meaning that most of the design is determined in the warping. For the Chevron band, all the cards are turned in the same direction until the mid-point and then reversed. For the Diamond band and the strap, the pattern cards are always turned four times forward, then four times back.

## RESOURCES

Crockett, Candace. *Card Weaving*. Loveland, Colorado: Interweave Press, 1991.  
Tablet Weavers' International Studies & Techniques. *TWIST Journal*, Spring 2010. [www.tabletweavers.org](http://www.tabletweavers.org)  
[www.theloomybin.com](http://www.theloomybin.com) (shows setup)

- 1 Chevron band:** Wind 104 warp threads 80" long and thread 26 tablet-weaving cards following the threading in Figure 1. **Note:** Weaving this band will generate considerable twist buildup. Choose a setup that either lets you untie and untwist the warp periodically or use a setup where the entire warp is stretched out.
- 2** Wind a belt shuttle with black cotton for weft.
- 3** Weave a band 56" long, turning cards forward (away from you) for each pick up to the midpoint (28"). Weave another 28" by turning all cards backwards (toward you) on each pick. Take care to weave smooth, even selvages. They make the entire piece look good and make it easy to sew the bands together.

- 4 Diamond band:** Prepare warp as for the chevron band. (Don't try to weave both bands on one warp, as the constant twisting and untwisting will eventually weaken the warp threads.) Weave a band 56" long, always turning the 4 border cards on each side backwards while alternately turning the pattern cards 4 times forward, then 4 times backwards. (Weaving this band and the strap will generate considerable twist buildup for the border cards but not for the pattern cards. To maintain even tension for both sets of cards, tie up patterns cards and border cards separately so that you can untie the border warps and let out twist.)
- 5 Strap:** Wind 64 warp threads 90" long and thread 16 tablet-weaving cards following the threading in Figure 2. Weave a

## STRUCTURE

Tablet weaving.

## EQUIPMENT

26 four-hole tablet-weaving cards; belt shuttle.

## YARNS

**Warp:** 8/4 cotton carpet warp (1,600 yd/lb; Maysville; WEBS), #21 Lavender, 74 yd; #25 Purple, 84 yd; #2 Black, 312 yd; #27 White, 156 yd.  
**Weft:** 8/4 cotton carpet warp, #2 Black, 90 yd.

## OTHER SUPPLIES

Magnetic snap closure; commercial lining fabric, approx. 26½" x 7"; 2-sided fusible web interfacing, approx. 25" x 6"; sewing machine or needle for hand-stitching; decorative bead (optional).

## WARP LENGTH

**Chevron and Diamond bands:** 104 ends 80" long each (allows 24" for take-up and waste). **Strap:** 64 ends 90" long (allows 25" for take-up and waste).

## DIMENSIONS

**Weaving width:** Chevron and Diamond bands: 1½"; **strap:** 1". Woven length (measured under tension): **Chevron and Diamond bands:** 56"; **strap:** 65".

**GUDRUN POLAK** is addicted to card weaving, so now she looks for new and creative ways to use card-woven bands. One solution is to sew them together and make a pouch . . . or two. Find more ideas on her website [www.theloomybin.com](http://www.theloomybin.com).





Photos by Joe Coca



band 65" long, turning border cards back-wards and alternately turning all pattern cards 4 times forward, 4 times backwards.

- 6 Secure the ends by machine stitching over the last picks, then cut off the loose warp threads. Block the bands by ironing them with a damp cloth.

## ASSEMBLING THE BAG

- 1 With edges butted together, sew the Chevron and Diamond bands together along one long edge, as shown in Figure 3. This gives you half the width of the pouch.
- 2 Fold sewn-together straps in half and flatten so that the two edges of the Chevron band meet in the middle and the fold forms a point. Sew the remaining long edges of the Chevron band together to form the center of the bag. This gives you the full width of the pouch plus a triangle for the flap. You now have the full shape of the pouch.
- 3 Insert magnetic snap for closure according to manufacturer's instructions.
- 4 Cut lining to fit your bag as noted in the shaded area in Figure 3, adding 1" width and 1 3/4" length for seam allowance. Turn the two long edges under 1/2" and press. Place one short end and the straight end of the bag, right sides together, and machine stitch using a 1/2" seam. Flip the lining to the inside of the bag forming a bound edge around the ends of the bands. Topstitch.
- 5 Insert webbing between bag and lining fabric. Tuck the ends of the strap between the bag and lining where the bottom folds will be (see Figure 3). Following manufacturer's directions, fuse the webbing to the bag and lining. Handstitch the layers together along the fused edges.
- 6 Tuck the top of the lining under the base of the flap triangle and handstitch the flap down.
- 7 With bag right side out, sew the sides of the strap to the sides of the bag with a running stitch.
- 8 Spray the finished bag with Scotchgard.



### 1. Chevron and Diamond threading

Card number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
A																										
B																										
C																										
D																										
Threading direction	S	S	Z	Z	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	S	S	S	S	S	S

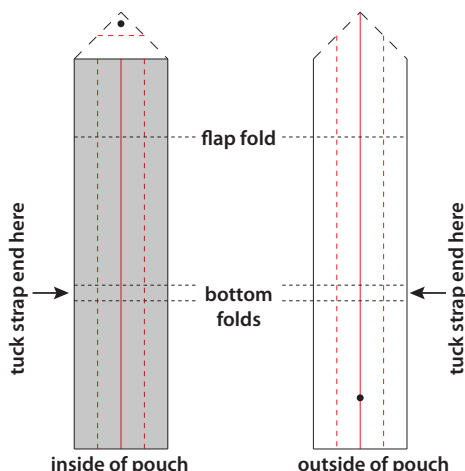
Warp Colors	
12	Lavender
14	Purple
52	Black
26	White
Total	104

### 2. Strap Threading

Card number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
A																
B																
C																
D																
Threading direction	Z	Z	S	S	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	S	S	S

Warp Colors	
8	Lavender
8	Purple
32	Black
16	White
Total	64

### 3. Assembly diagram



- magnetic snap
- lining area
- - - first seam
- - - second seam



1. Sew Chevron and Diamond bands together



2. Fold to form point, and sew center seam



3. After applying lining, fold bag and sew on strap to form sides

~~~~~ Stitching lines





Photos by Matt Graves

# ROAD TRIP LANYARDS

Angela K. Schneider

Pick your traveling style—the tablet-woven long and winding road or the inkle-woven straight and narrow path—or weave both bands, one for each set of keys. Both bands have reflective yarns in the warp, making them easy to spot in the dark—you'll never lose your keys again!





## ROAD TRIP LANYARDS

Angela K. Schneider

Drive in style with two road-themed lanyards holding your car keys. Tablet weaving is a natural choice for creating the curved lines of a long and winding road, while inkle weaving is perfect for weaving the straight and narrow path. Make one of each to tell your key fobs apart. Optional reflective yarns in the stripes will add a little more realism to the journey and make your keys a little easier to spot in the dark.

### RESOURCES

strapworks.com

### MATERIALS

#### Long and Winding Road

**STRUCTURE** Tablet weaving.

**EQUIPMENT** 20 four-hole weaving tablets; belt shuttle.

**YARNS Warp:** 8/2 Tencel (100% lyocell; 3,360 yd/lb; Valley Yarns; WEBS), Forest Tonal, 68 yd. 8/2 acrylic (3,360 yd/lb; Brassard), Gris Moyen, 65 yd; Bianchi, 16 yd; Bouton d'Or, 4 yd. Reflective (22% polyester/53% glass beads/12% phenolic resin/13% adhesive; 25 yd/spool; Kreinik), 19 yd (optional). **Weft:** 8/2 Tencel, Forest Tonal, 17 yd.

**OTHER SUPPLIES** 19 mm (¾") swivel snap hook with lobster clasp (see Resources).

**WARP LENGTH** 80 ends 68" long (allows 6" for take-up, 17" for waste).

**SETTS Warp:** 106 epi. **Weft:** 16 ppi.

**DIMENSIONS Width:** ¾". **Woven length:** (measured under tension) 45". **Finished size:** (after wet-finishing and sewing) ¾" × 39½" with clasp.

#### Straight and Narrow Path

**STRUCTURE** Warp-faced plain weave.

**EQUIPMENT** Inkle loom; 24 string heddles; belt shuttle.

**YARNS Warp:** 8/2 Tencel (100% lyocell; 3,360 yd/lb; Valley Yarns; WEBS), Forest Tonal, 46 yd. 8/2 acrylic (3,360 yd/lb; Brassard), Gris Moyen, 38 yd; Bianchi, 8 yd; Bouton d'Or, 2 yd. Reflective (22% polyester/53%

glass beads/12% phenolic resin/13% adhesive; 25 yd/spool; Kreinik), 10 yd (optional). **Weft:** 8/2 Tencel, Forest Tonal, 11 yd.

**OTHER SUPPLIES** 19 mm (¾") swivel snap hook with lobster clasp (see Resources).

**WARP LENGTH** 49 ends 68" long (allows 6" for take-up, 17" for loom waste).

**SETTS Warp:** 65 epi. **Weft:** 14 ppi.

**DIMENSIONS Width:** ¾". **Woven length:** (measured under tension on the loom) 45". **Finished size:** (after wet-finishing and sewing) ¾" × 39½" with clasp.

### PROJECT STEPS

#### Long and Winding Road

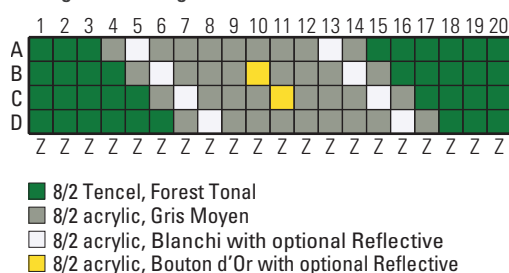
**1** Wind a warp of 80 ends 68" long and thread the tablets following the draft, Figure 1. Tension your warp using your preferred method. Orient the tablets with the labels facing to the right and A and D on the top (see Figure 2).

**2** Wind a belt shuttle with Forest Tonal.

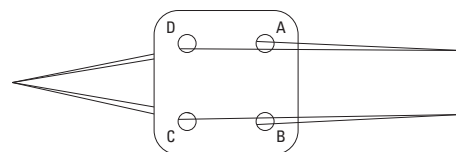
**3** Weave the band alternating 4 backward turns (toward you) and 4 forward turns (away from you) for 45".

**4** Cut the band from the tablets.

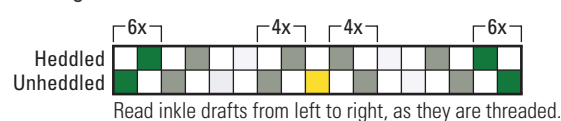
#### 1. Long and Winding Road tablet draft



#### 2. Starting position



#### 3. Straight and Narrow Path inkle draft



Read inkle drafts from left to right, as they are threaded.

### WEAVING TIPS

- The reflective yarn is optional. Wind the reflective yarn along with the Bianchi or Bouton d'Or as 1 working end.
- The reflective yarn will kink with any excess twist. To avoid twisting it, unwind the yarn from the side of the spool, not from the end.





## Straight and Narrow Path

- 1 Wind a warp of 49 ends 68" long on your inkle loom following the draft, Figure 3.
- 2 Wind a belt shuttle with Forest Tonal.
- 3 Weave for 45".
- 4 Cut the band from the loom.

## Wet-finishing and assembly

- 1 Wet-finish the bands by hand-washing in warm water with mild detergent. Rinse. Blot out excess water in a towel. Stretch the bands out and dry flat.
- 2 Zigzag across the strap at one end and again at 40". Trim excess close to the stitching.
- 3 Thread the clasp onto the band. Create a loop with the band overlapping the ends  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". To keep the right sides showing above the clasp, put a half twist in the tablet band and place the wrong sides of the ends together. The inkle band is identical on both sides and doesn't need a twist. Baste across. Zigzag both layers together over each cut end. Move the clasp to the cut end on the inside of the loop and fold the band over the clasp. Straight stitch across all layers near the clasp and again above the other cut end  $\frac{1}{2}$ " away. \*

