

THE USE OF A REED INSTEAD OF A RADDLE

If you do not have a raddle, it is possible to use the reed to spread the warp. However, this method is not recommended for the following reasons:

- A) Too many threads sliding in one dent damage the reed.
- B) This system causes threads to stick together and undermines the tension.
- C) Threads can be broken. It is difficult to beam evenly and some of the shorter threads will cause difficulty during the entire weaving.

However, if you wish to use the reed in place of a raddle, here is the way:

- Do not use more than 2 bobbins when warping in order not to have more than 4 threads in one dent.
- Insert the lease sticks the way described on page 45
- Tie the cross sticks to the front breast beam. Sley the crosses through the reed in groups of threads, leaving empty dents, so that there are as many threads per cm. or inch as you planned to sley.
- Refer to page 44 to insert the iron rod through the loops.
- Then, do the beaming as on page 47.

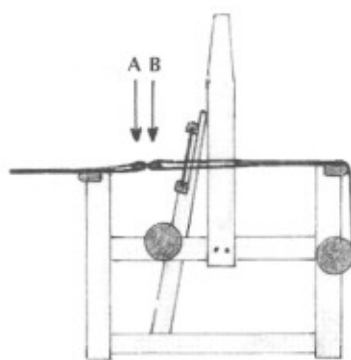


Fig. 352

When the beaming is completed, insert the lease sticks through the second cross which is at the front of the loom. You must transfer it to the rear. To transfer the cross of the warp to the rear of the harnesses, follow the steps on Figs. 353, 354 and 355.

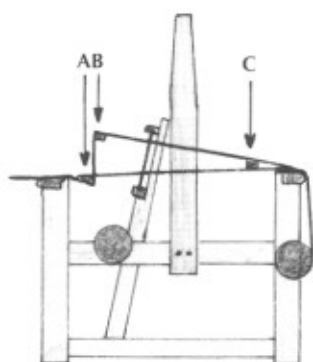


Fig. 353

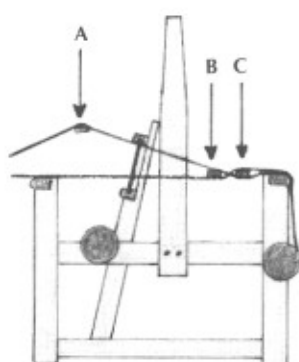


Fig. 354

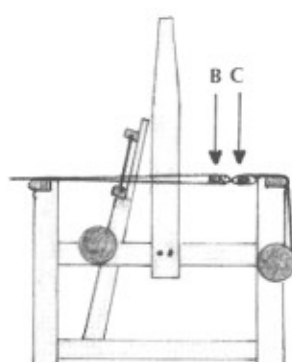
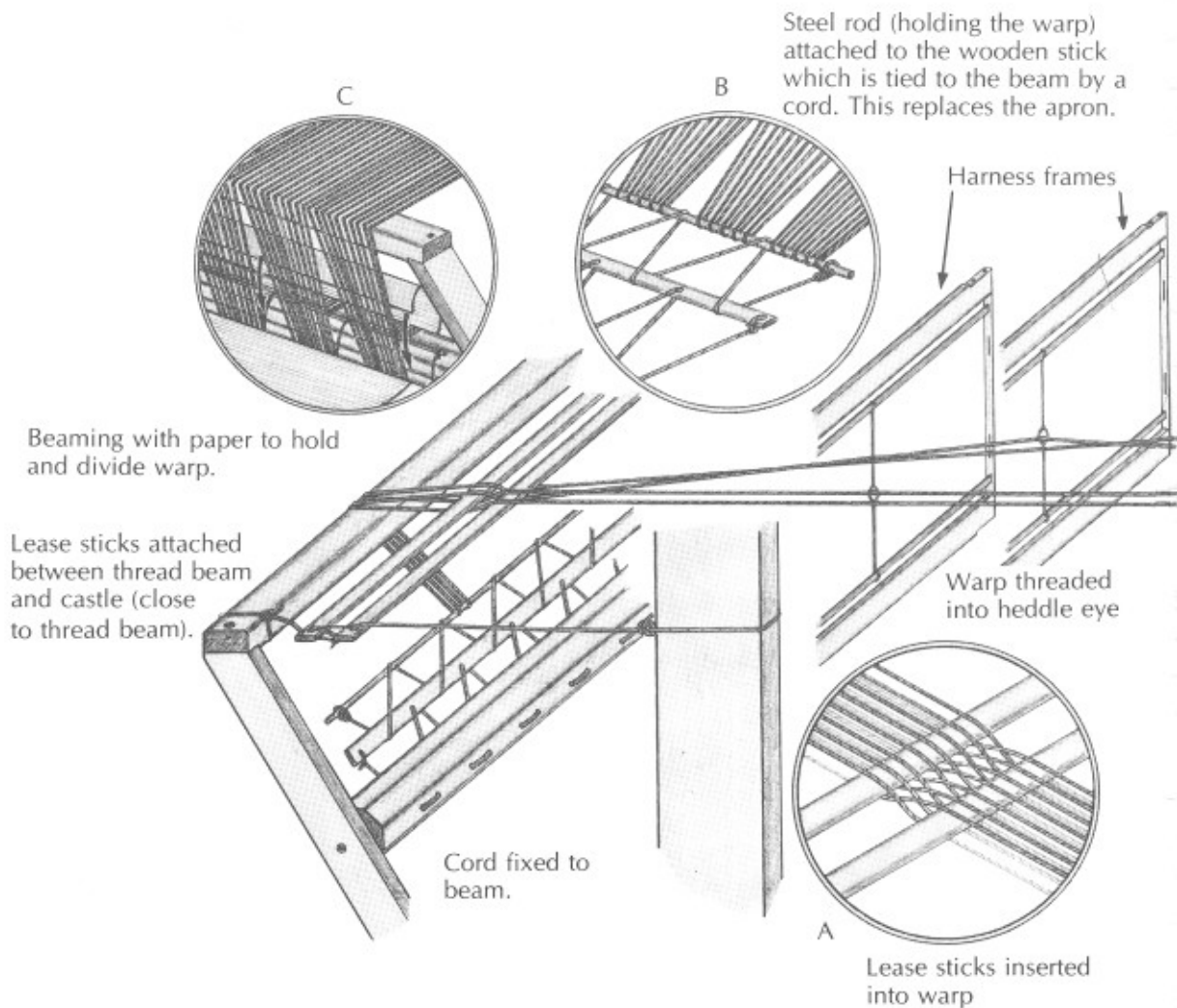


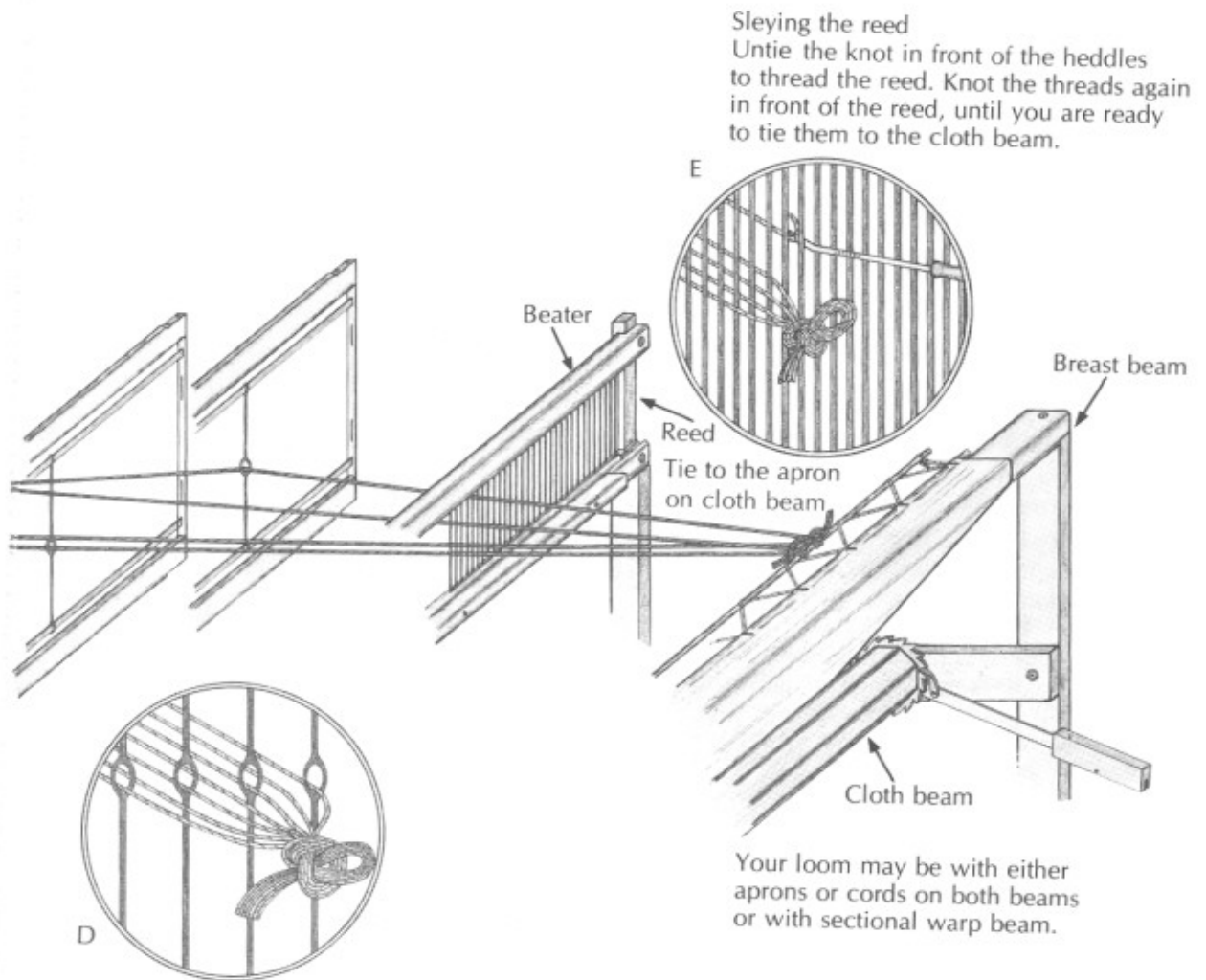
Fig. 355

A and B are your regular lease sticks. C is a newly inserted lease stick made possible by lifting B. (Fig. 353)

B is taken out, lift A, place B in new position (Fig. 354). Take out A. (Fig. 355)



The use of wooden sticks and cords prevents the stretching of apron when the loom is not warping at the full width.



Sleying the reed
 Untie the knot in front of the heddles to thread the reed. Knot the threads again in front of the reed, until you are ready to tie them to the cloth beam.

D
 After threading a small bunch of warp ends, make a slip knot to prevent the warp from slipping back.

Your loom may be with either aprons or cords on both beams or with sectional warp beam.

Fig. 356

IX THREADING

After your warp has been beamed, your loom is now ready for threading. This is accomplished in conformity with your pattern. (Chapter XI) Threading the loom can be a long and tiring process. Sit as close as possible to the harness frames. Insure that the harness frames are at the proper height to avoid unnecessary bending. It is well worth the time and trouble required for preparation to insure that you can thread as comfortably as possible.

Use an ordinary chair, they are usually found to be the correct height. A weaving bench will be too high.

On Leclerc foot power looms, except Artisat, remove the front breast beam, the cloth beam, the batten handtree and the reed.

Make sure the lams are not tied to the treadles (Fig. 370)

On a jack loom, raise your harnesses to a comfortable level by putting board, books, etc. under the harnesses. (Fig. 247)

On a counter-balanced loom, raise the harnesses by tying cords around the top roller and the small rollers will lift up (about 15 cm. — 6 in.)



Fig. 370

If your loom is a folding model, bring your thread beam as close to the heddles as you can, with the lease sticks tied to the back thread beam.

If your loom is rigid, slide the lease sticks along the suspending cords tied between the thread beam and the upright posts.

Unhook the heddle bars from the center heddle bar supports, so that the heddles may now slide freely from one side to the other.

If you start threading from the right, slide all of your heddles to the left. If you are working on a narrow warp, leave some of the heddles free on the right side so that upon completion of the threading you do not end up with all of your free heddles on one side of the harness frame.

Your warp must be centered on your loom as this permits an event beat.

With a reed hook, pull the warp end through the heddle eye from back to front. Take them in the same order as warped, being careful not to cross them.

Check every 20 ends to see that the draw-in is correct.

Tie the warp ends in small groups in front of the heddles as you thread, so that they can not slip back through the heddles. (Figs. 356 and 371)

Never pass a thread in more than one heddle.

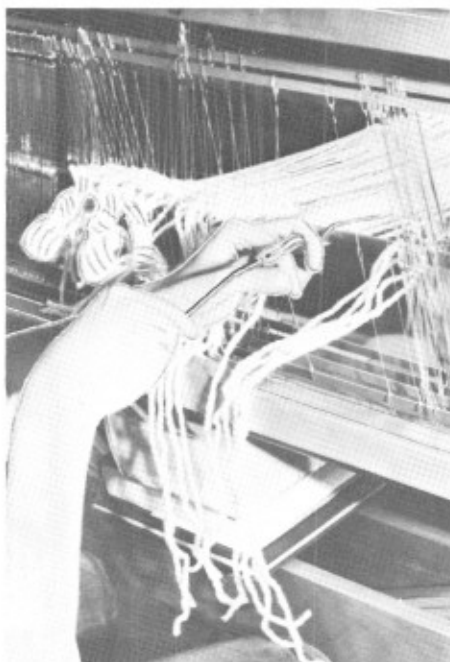


Fig. 371

A **THREADING HELPER** is helpful when threading the loom.

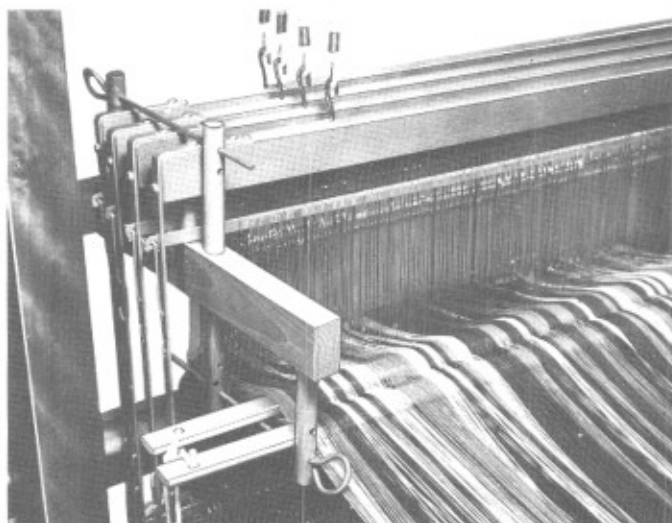


Fig. 372

It holds all the harnesses at the same level while threading the loom, and holds the lease sticks at the right height and distance for easy threading. (For 4-harness foot-powered Leclerc loom — Cat. No. 61474000)

SLEYING THE REED

After all the warp ends have been threaded, they have to be sleyed through the reed. Your warp must be centered in the reed. Find the center of the reed. If your warp width is 60 cm. (24 in.), you start sleying 30 cm. (12 in.) from the center.

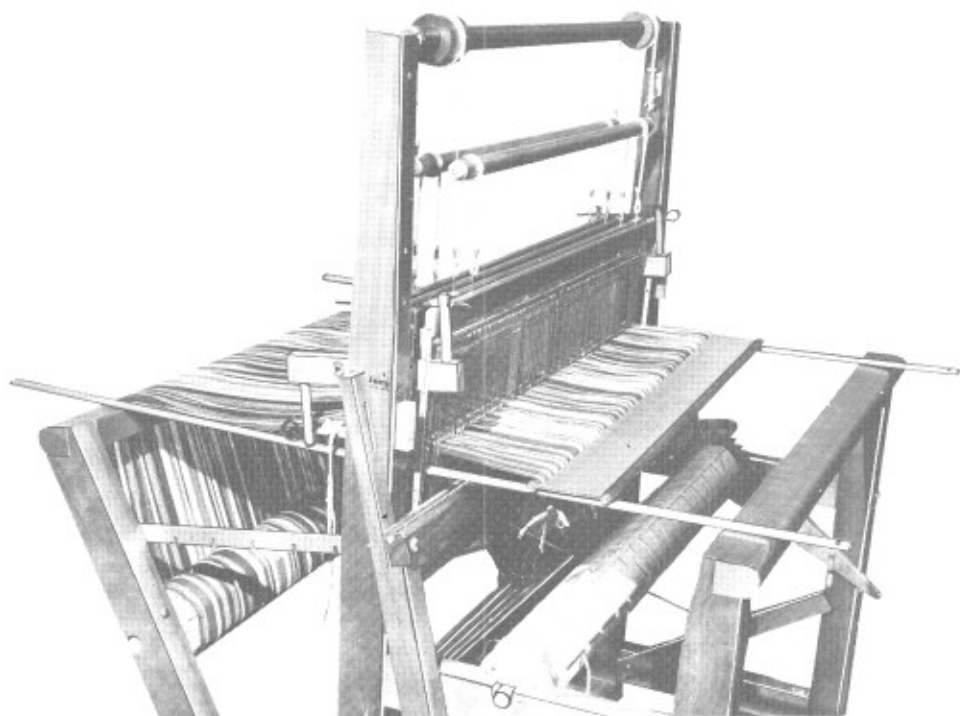


Fig. 373

Replace the front breast beam. Place two sticks between the heddles at each side of the loom. Place the reed flat on these sticks (Fig. 373).

Place the threads on top of the reed, and taking them in the order in which they were threaded, push down the correct number of threads through the dent with the back of the hook.

If our planned sett is 4 ends per cm., we should use a 2-dent reed, and sley 2 ends per dent.

If you have an inch-reed, the example would be: for a sett of 10 ends per inch, use a 5-dent reed and sley two ends per dent.

After about 10 dents, pull the threads in place and check to make sure they are sleyed correctly. Then divide this group in two and make a single knot to prevent them from sleying back.

Another way of sleying the reed is to pull the threads through the reed with a reed hook from underneath.



Fig. 374A

Sleying the reed by pushing the thread from top.



Fig. 374B

Sleying the reed by pulling the thread with hook from underneath.

Both methods of sleying the reed are equally good. Use the method you feel most comfortable with.

When the whole warp has been sleyed, replace the reed in the batten sley and replace the batten handtree.

Lower the harnesses to their normal height, put the heddles support back into the central hooks.

Return the tension to the brake on the rear beam by releasing the brake treadle. (Page 88)

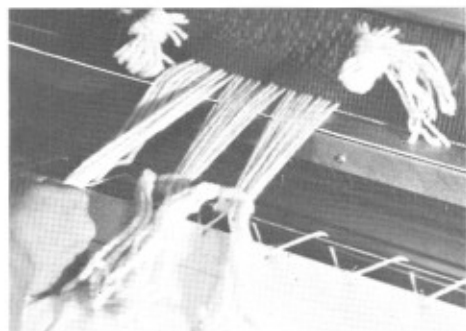


Fig. 375A

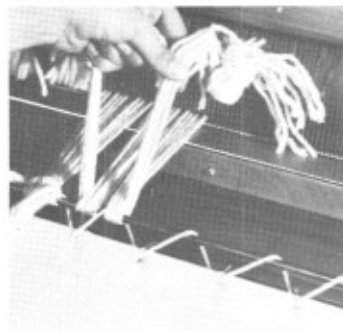


Fig. 375B

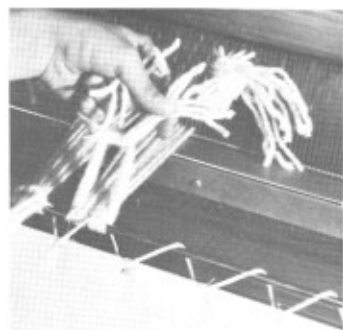


Fig. 375C

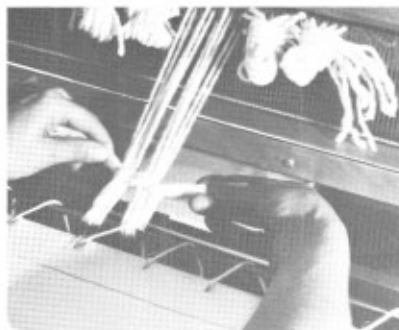


Fig. 375D

Tie the sleyed warp to the steel rod in front of the cloth beam apron. Note that one steel rod goes through the canvas, and the second steel rod is attached to the first.

Divide the threads in small groups (about 13 mm — 1/2" wide). Pass a group over the rod. Divide the group in 2 parts and tie the 2 parts together over the threads. Begin at the center, then right outside, left outside and fill in.

When you have finished, make sure that all the groups are tied at the same tension by running your hand over the top of the warp in front and back of the loom. If you find any loosening of tension, pull the single thread or group and adjust it in the knot. Then make double knots so they won't loosen while being woven.