

No-Sew Woven Blanket

Project at a Glance

Warp:

Berroco Weekend Cotton: Magenta, 125 yd; Lavender and Orchid, 225 yd each; White, 113 yd.

Sett: 8 epi

Width in Reed: 13.75" wide (14.75" with supplemental threads for loops added in)

Total warp ends: 110 ends (20 ends of Magenta, 36 ends Lavender, 36 ends Orchid, and 18 ends White).

Length of Warp: 6.25 yards for 3 panels (extra allowance for cutting each panel off and retying on).

Woven area: 50" per panel + 12" for fringe

Weft:

Berroco Weekend Cotton: Magenta, 540 yd.

8 ppi.

Tools:

Rigid-heddle, 2-shaft, or 4-shaft loom, with at least 15" weaving width, and an 8-dent reed.

Large boat shuttle

4 empty cardboard cones

Fishing weights

E-H crochet hook (optional)

Warp Color Order

		4x		4x		4x		4x		4x		4x		Totals	
6	1												1	6	20
	1		10		1								1	10	36
				1		10		1		1		10		1	36
							1		10		1				18

4-Shaft Draft

4				4			
	3				3		
		2				2	
			1				1

	4	
	3	
	2	
	1	
X		Around Left Selvedge
	X	Around Right Selvedge
X		Create a Left Selvedge Loop
	X	Create a Right Selvedge Loop

Repeat 100X

1. Wind a warp following the color order above. Warp your loom in your preferred method and tie onto the front apron rod using a lashing technique. (I prefer lashing to cut down on loom waste.) For a rigid-heddle loom, warp as you normally do. For a 4-shaft loom, use the draft given above.
2. Before spreading your warp we need to add the supplemental threads that will hold our loops on each selvedge edge. Measure out a piece of scrap yarn that has very little elasticity and can hold up to extra weight being added. I've chosen to use some mop cotton because it is incredible strong and readily available. I also like the mop cotton because it is sturdy so I can use the same piece over and over. Measure out 2 lengths approximately 3 yards long. Notice I did not wind the cords the same length as the warp; the reason will be evident later in the

weaving. Wrap nearly the entire length of the cording around an empty cardboard cone and then slide another cone over top of the cord length to secure to it won't unwind until you're ready. Next pass the end coming off the cone through the harness frames, bypassing the heddles. Bring it through the reed $\frac{1}{2}$ " or 4 dents out from your selvedge edge on the left and right. Tie the mop cotton or cording onto the apron rod. If you're weaving this project on a rigid-heddle loom, pass the mop cotton through your heddle in a slot (not a hole) so that the thread can move freely when manipulating the weft thread around it every fourth pass. Once you've secured the thread to the apron rod, allow the cone to hang over the back of the loom to establish tension. You may find that you need to add a bit more weight as I did. The cones hold fishing weights or bent steel bars for extra tension. Unlike a floating a selvedge where you're attempting to replicate the same tension as the rest of your warp, you really want to make these guide yarns inflexible. Because the cord has been threaded several dents out from the selvedge edge, it doesn't have the support of other thread directly next to it, making it more susceptible to draw in. This guide yarn will later be pulled out of the loops, but it plays a very important role until that point to make each loop consistently the same size.

3. Now that the supplemental threads have been established, spread your warp as you normally would, leaving enough warp length for your fringe. I allowed 6" for my sample. For those of you who would religiously hemstitch at the beginning of your piece, you will have to refrain for this project. Part of our finishing includes working the last loop into our fringe and securing with a knot..
4. Now to the weaving. To ensure that we not only have nice loops along our edges but also secure selvedge edges, we will be weaving a 4-row repeat. Begin by entering the shed from the right hand side and tuck your tail back into the same shed. Passing the shuttle from right to left in the first tabby shed you will exit the shed just before the supplemental thread, change sheds to the opposing tabby shed and weave back across your warp, exiting the shed again just before the supplemental thread. We have now woven 2 rows catching both selvedge edges. On row 3, change to your first tabby combination and throw the shuttle through the shed, this time exiting the shed by passing your shuttle beneath the supplemental thread. Lastly on row 4, change sheds to your second tabby combination, go over and catching your supplemental thread, reenter the shed, and exit coming out beneath the right-hand supplemental thread. You have now completed an entire 4-row repeat. What you will observe is you now have 2 rows that have locked in your selvedge edge and 2 rows creating one loop on each side. You will continue this sequence until you have a total of 100 loops on each side (approx 50").

4 rows per repeat x 100 repeats = 400 rows

400 rows ÷ 8 ppi = 50"

I used a small piece of paper and a T-pin to record every 10 loops I created, but feel free to use whatever system makes sense to you as an individual weaver.

5. Once you've completed the panel, weave 4 to 6 rows of waste yarn to secure weft yarn until finishing. I made a conscious decision to weave each panel, cut it off the loom and repeat. Some may find this to be an unnecessary step, but I found it helpful to correct any tension issues you may face on the cloth beam where the supplemental thread and loops are winding onto the cloth beam at different rates. Also if you're using a rigid-heddle loom, the cloth beam can only accommodate a certain amount of mass around the beam before it begins to affect your shed and or bumps up against your support beams. For this reason, I like to cut each panel off and re-lash onto the apron rod. Be mindful when cutting off that you allow enough fringe length, again I left 6". Remove the mop cotton supplemental cord that was holding your loops, set your panel aside, and tie back on
6. For the next two panels, you have a design choice. I chose to make loops on both selvedge edges for all three of my panels, but if you would like a nice clean selvedge edge on the outer edges of your blanket you can modify the weaving slightly for the 2nd and 3rd panel. When setting the loom up for the second and third panel, simply place a supplemental thread on only one side. This will give you loops to attach to the center panel but allow the outer edge to resemble any other woven piece you've ever woven along the edge. This is purely an aesthetic choice you can make for yourself. In the weaving you would simply modify row 3, that you would catch the selvedge edge rather than a supplemental thread to create a loop. Make your choice, then weave the second and third panel as you did the first.
7. All three panels are now complete and you're ready to assemble. Lay two panels out on a nice large work surface with the loops butted up against one another. This design is a mirror image, so it does not have a right or wrong side. You may use your fingers or a crochet hook to join the panels, based on your comfort level and dexterity. Begin by isolating the first loop on one of the blanket panels. (It doesn't matter which you choose). Open up the loop and pass through the first loop from the other panel. Now open the loop you just passed through and pass the 2nd loop from the first panel, open that loop and pass the 2nd loop from the second panel through it. Can you see a pattern starting? Continue in this fashion until all loops have been worked. At the very end of the panel, you will be left with a single loop. To secure it, simply pass one of your warp threads through the loop and tie off your fringe in 1/4"-1/2" bundles, based upon your finishing preference. Within moments, you've joined two panels together with little or no effort and certainly no four-letter words. So let's say the catastrophic happens

and 2 of your panels have 100 loops and one has 102, what now!!?? First, breath... then simply treat those pesky extra rows like they were your waste yarn and cut them out. It's just yarn, after all. Finish assembling the rest of the blanket by attaching the third panel in the same manner as the first 2. Remove the waste yarn at the other end, then secure your fringe with over hand knots.

Ta-da! You now have a miraculous and marvelous blanket without even picking up a sewing needle. Finish your blanket by gently handwashing in warm water with a little fabric softener, rinse, and allow to air dry.