

Tricks of the Trade

Tool Tips

Readers share clever tips to make your weaving life easier and more organized!

Get better selvages

Weaving with multiple wefts

Instead of trying to wind several threads onto a single bobbin (which usually results in their unwinding unevenly), Robyn Spady uses old sewing machine spools. Wind each weft onto a spool and place the spools on the shuttle spindle, separating them from each other with beads (below).

A temple for every warp

Sandra Rude uses a temple made following an idea of William Koepf's. This temple works with any warp width and doesn't

cover up the weaving. Tie a cord to a clamp (the kind that attaches cords to tarpaulins) for each side of the warp with a fixed loop at the other end. On each side: Clamp the cloth just below the fell, hang the cord over the side of the loom, shape a paper clip into an S, and attach it to the loop with a weight (1½ lb fishing weights work well).



ROBYN SPADY



SANDRA RUDE



JOAN GRIFFIN

Yarn storage—and display

A spool rack of chains and dowels allows Joan Griffin to pull off yarn as she needs it. It adds color and beauty and is also an efficient storage system.

Carts for weavers

The Föhöja

Barbara Walker uses IKEA's Föhöja kitchen cart. Kitchen-counter height and on wheels, it is convenient for sorting, planning, and holding the needed items for any weaving task at hand.



BARBARA WALKER

Cafe Cart

Beside each of Dawn McFall's looms resides a "Portable Work Station" (Cafe Cart by Whittier Wood Products from Mills Fleet Farm). The drawer in each cart has all the items that she needs for any project (see below). The shelves are then available for yarns and other tools and materials specific to the project she's working on.



DAWN MCFALL