

JOE SULLINS

Shetland Scarf

PICK-UP CREATES A WAFFLE-WEAVE TEXTURE

A pick-up stick greatly increases the variety of patterns you can make on a rigid-heddle loom. Using a pattern called “window pane” from Betty Linn Davenport’s *Textures and Patterns for the Rigid Heddle Loom*, this scarf weaves up in a jiffy. Once the scarf is wet finished, it transforms into a lofty garment that is as much fun to wear as it is to weave!

STRUCTURE

Plain weave with pick-up.

EQUIPMENT

Rigid-heddle loom,
9" weaving width;
12-dent reed; 1 shuttle;
1 pick-up stick.

YARNS

Warp and weft: 2-ply
wool (1,800 yd/lb,
Shetland, Harrisville
Designs), Periwinkle,
630 yd.

WARP LENGTH

105 ends 3 yd long
(allows 7" for sampling,
5" for take-up, 24" for
loom waste; loom waste
includes fringe.)

SETTS

Warp: 12 epi.
Weft: 18 ppi.

DIMENSIONS

Width in the reed: 8 $\frac{2}{3}$ ".
Woven length: 72".
Finished size after
washing 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 69".

Weave structures like the one used in this scarf are created by using a smooth, flat stick to pick up certain warp threads. With the heddle in the down position so that only the slot threads are raised, alternate warp ends are picked up behind the heddle. The warp ends that are threaded through the slots move freely as opposed to those that are threaded through the holes. Thus, the slot threads are easier to manipulate to form pick-up sheds. Essentially,

the stick is acting like a third shaft, allowing you to produce structures beyond plain weave!

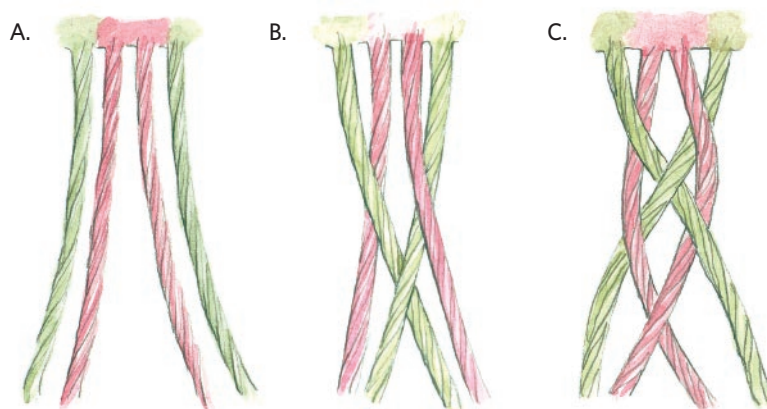
RESOURCES

Davenport, Betty Linn. *Textures and Patterns for the Rigid Heddle Loom*. Albany, Oregon: Fine Fiber Press, 2008.

—. *Hands On Rigid Heddle Weaving*. Loveland, Colorado: Interweave, 1997.

Gipson, Liz. *Weaving Made Easy*. Loveland, Colorado: Interweave, 2008.

Four-Strand Flat Braid



- Divide the warp into bundles of two groups with two warp threads in each group.
- Starting on the left side, bring the outside thread over the inside left thread. Then bring the right thread under the inside right thread and over the left thread that is now serving as the inside left thread.
- Repeat steps A and B until you have reached 6" and secure with an overhand knot.

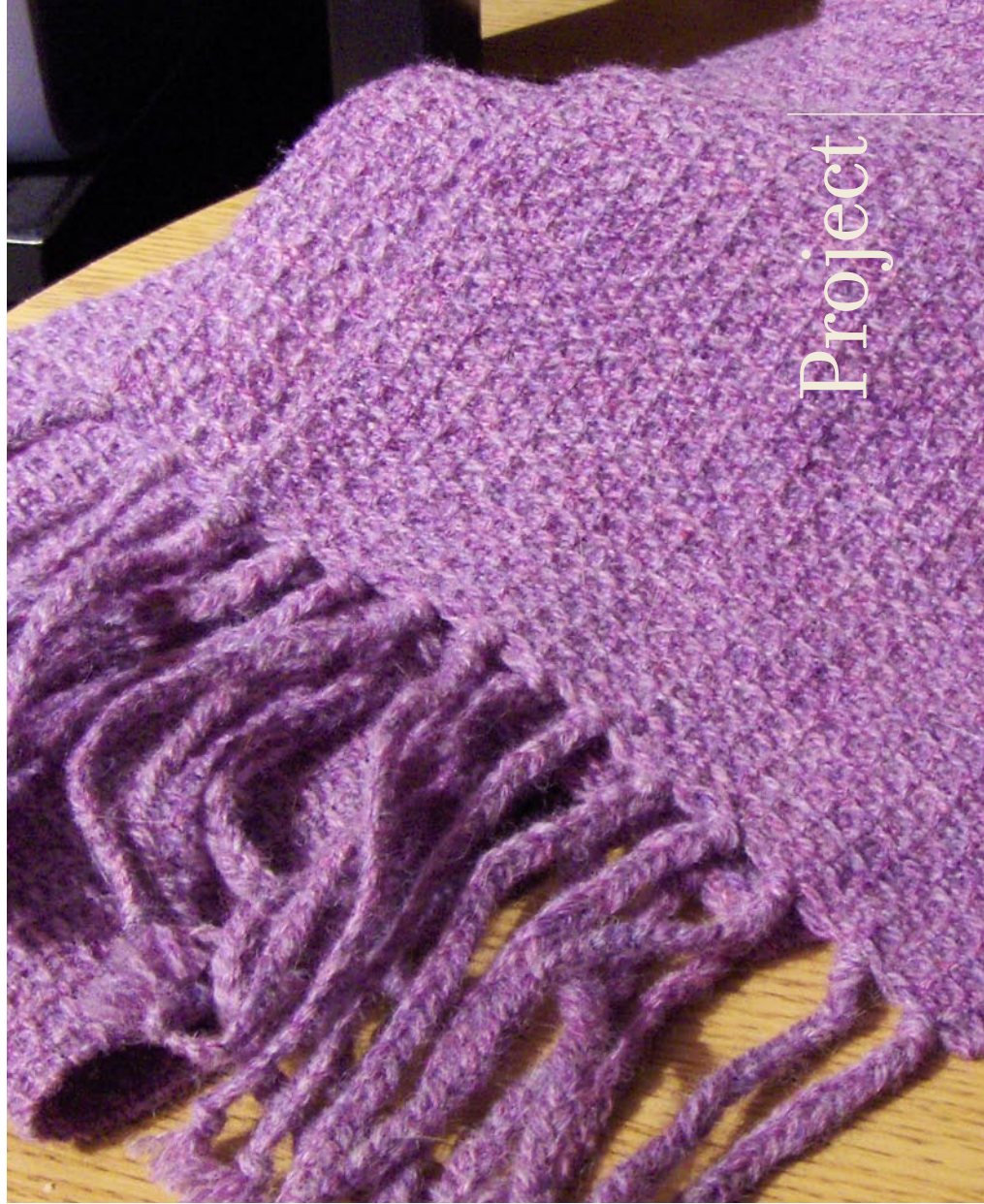
Woolly windows of Shetland wool create a cozy texture for this everyday scarf.

TIP: Always pick up warp threads with the heddle in the down position. This ensures that you only pick up the ends that are threaded through the slots.

- 1** Wind a warp of 104 ends 3 yd long. Warp the loom following the specifications on page 1.
- 2** With the heddle in the down position, pick up 1 thread and push down 1 thread across the width of the warp until you reach the last warp end (you'll pick up this end).
- 3** Push the pick-up stick to the back of the loom. Starting with the heddle in the down position, weave 4 picks of plain weave.

To create the windowpane pattern:

Row 1: Weave 1 pick, heddle up.
 Row 2: Weave 1 pick with the pick-up stick engaged: Put the heddle in the neutral position, pull the pick-up stick toward the heddle, turn the pick-up stick on edge to make a shed, and insert the weft. Then return the pick-up stick to the back of the loom.
 Row 3: Weave 1 pick, heddle up.
 Row 4: Weave 1 pick, heddle down.
 Row 5: Weave 1 pick with the heddle up and pick-up stick engaged: With the heddle in the up position, pull the pick-up stick toward the heddle and weave. Then return the pick-up stick



to the back of the loom.

Row 6: Weave 1 pick, heddle down.
 Repeat Rows 1-6 for 71 1/2". End with 4 picks plain weave.

- 4** Remove the cloth from the loom. Tie overhand knots in each group of 4 warp threads on both ends of the scarf, snugging the knots firmly against the last pick. Using a 4-strand braiding technique (see the diagram on page 1), braid each warp bundle for 6" and then secure each braid with an overhand knot. Trim the ends 1/4" from the knots.
- 5** Wash the scarf by hand or machine (gentle cycle) in warm water with mild soap. Roll up the scarf in a towel and press firmly with your hands to remove excess water. Lay flat to dry.

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