



## Wise words for new weavers

Be patient. • Measure your warp guide string twice. • Learn how to make a repair heddle and fix a broken warp thread. • Learn to laugh at Murphy's Law—some days what can go wrong, will go wrong. • Take time to love the texture of the yarn, the smoothness of the shuttle, the sounds of the loom, the feel of weaving. • Just because everybody says it can't be done doesn't mean you shouldn't try—you might like the results. • No matter how hard you try, you will not be able to invent a new mistake. • Mistakes repeated can be a new pattern. • It is just yarn and time. Keep trying. • Learn to love warping and do it well. • Learn from your mistakes. Always. They are "free" lessons. • Weave what makes you happy. • It can be overwhelming in the beginning. Slow down a bit and think it through. • Sample, sample, sample. • Keep good records because you will forget later. • Embrace the entire process. • Don't be stymied by wanting to be perfect. Perfect is the enemy of the good. • Ugly dishtowels still dry dishes and so do ones with weaving errors. • Just because what you wove doesn't match the image you had in your mind's eye, it doesn't mean it is bad. Three months later you might not think they are that ugly. • A mistake doesn't take away the love with which it was made. • Take it one step at a time. Don't get ahead of yourself. • Think you'll forget? Take a photo or a video. • Selvedges improve with practice. We promise. • Don't freak out! Help is available. • Make friends with other weavers. • Remember to breathe! • There is way more than one way to do things in weaving. Listen to others and find *your* way. • Get to know your loom. Keep it tuned up. • Weaving is not a matter of life and death. • Don't sweat the math. • Learning the vocabulary will help you understand the process and talk to other weavers. • Weaving can be very technical, but it shouldn't scare you. • Start with the basics, build a solid foundation, then reach for the stars. • Learn patience. • Join a guild or on-line community. • If a mistake bothers you, go back and fix it. • Cut yourself some slack. Your first project isn't intended to be a family heirloom. • The more you weave, the more you learn. • Wait to do that long warp. Short warps give you more warping practice. • If you can't warp well, you can't weave well. • Be consistent in every step. • Learn the beauty of tension—on the warping board, on the bobbin, on the loom. • Take time to *think*. • All mistakes are fixable, some just take a little more time to correct. Except a five year-old with scissors. That's not fixable.

We hope you enjoy a lifetime love of weaving.