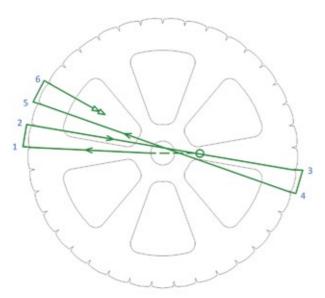


Getting started... weaving on the Majacraft circular loom

Warping

The Standard Warp is one of the simplest and fastest ways to warp for a circular weaving and is the perfect starting point. It is based around the idea of doing a simple warp from edge to edge, passing across the centre of the loom. Do not pull the warp thread too tightly.



Using a plain black yarn for your warp is a great place to start.

Secure the yarn to the back of the loom with a piece of tape (indicated by the circle).

Pass through the centre hole and then out to the perimeter through the first notch (marked with a '1').

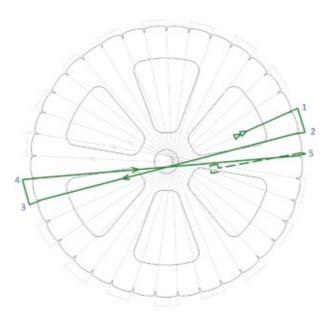
Loop around behind in a **clockwise** direction and then back out to the front through the notch marked '2'.

Take the warp thread across the front of the loom passing the centre and through the notch marked '3'. The thread may not pass exactly over the centre hole. This is fine.

Loop around behind in a clockwise direction and then back through the notch marked '4'.

Now pass back across the centre of the circular loom to the notch marked with a '5' and pass through that. Repeat the cycle all the way around the loom

As you complete the loop around the perimeter of the loom, you will need to tie the yarn off after it passes through the final notch. I would recommend taping it near to where you taped the start point of the warp on the back.



Take a short length of warp yarn and use this to tie the centre of the warp. Loop around the warp threads in the centre several times and the tie it off with a simple knot. It is better if you can tie the knot from the back of the warp, this will keep dangling threads from getting in your way.

Weaving

Your circular loom comes with a large needle to weave with. Choose the thread you will weave with (this is called the weft thread) and thread it through the needle leaving around 50cm hanging out.

The weaving process is simply passing this thread under and over the warp threads as you weave around the knot you tied at the centre of the warp.

Choose a starting point at the centre of the warp where you tied the knot and thread the needle from the back through to the front of the loom. It does not matter if you weave in a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction.

Pass over the top of the first warp thread and then underneath the next thread.

Continue this process around the centre. The weaving will grow in ever increasing circles out to the perimeter of the circular loom.

It is the "under then over" pattern that gives the weave it's strength



When you finish the first lap around the centre and are starting on the second lap, warp threads that you went under on the first lap, you will now need to pass over the top and vice versa. Sometimes the warp requires that you pass under or over two consecutive threads at one point to get the weaving back in sync.

Weave out as far as you can to the edge keeping the weft fairly tight. It is hard to thread the needle through when you get near the edge, only do as much as you can manage.

Removing

Finishing is really simple. All you need to do is work the warp threads out of the notches around the edge of the circular loom.

If you have changed yarns in your weft thread, you will likely have some stray ends floating about. These can be tidied up by threading them back into the weaving using the needle the kit came with.

Quick tips

If your weaving is coming out bowl shaped and this is not what you were hoping for, the weft thread has been pulled too tight - particularly around the outside.

It is important on the final loop that the weft thread does the under and over pattern all the way around. If you go under or over two warp threads at a time, the weave will not hold together so well.

Try experimenting with different yarns in your weft. It will create different visual effects and textures

Want more?

The circular loom is really simple and fun to start weaving with and if you are interested in connecting with other weavers then there are some great places to do this on the internet.

The Circle Weaving Facebook group regularly shares ideas, patterns and items that participants have woven.

Circle Weaving Group

https://www.facebook.com/groups/circleweaving

Majacraft on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Majacraft/120699558115947

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