

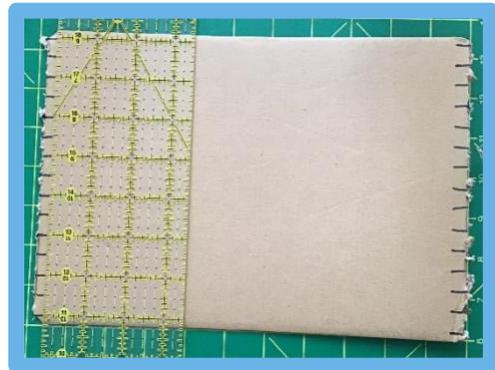
Weaving

Weaving is one of the oldest forms of human activity. It transforms plant or animal fibers into string and woven cloth. Cultures around the world have used these fibers for clothing, record keeping, and communication. To learn more about our understanding of ancient weaving, check out this [Daily Dig](#).

Step 1: Gather your materials. You'll need a piece of cardboard, string or yarn, material to weave (you can use yarn, natural grasses or fabric – whatever you have on hand!), scissors, tape, and something to write with.



Step 2: Cut evenly spaced slits on opposite sides of the cardboard – we used a ruler and marker before cutting. This is your **loom**. Tape one end of the yard or string on one side of the cardboard (this will become the “back” side).



Step 3: Thread the yard down and around the front and back of the loom. Keep doing this until all the slits are used. Cut and tape the end of the yarn to the back. This is called the **warp**.



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Step 4: Take the material you want to weave. This is called the **weft**. We're using fabric strips as our weft. Weave the weft under the first warp on the left and over the second warp. Keep repeating until you reach the right side of the loom. Pull the weft material all the way through, leaving a tail on the left side.



Step 5: Loop the weft under the last warp on the right side. Then continue weaving the weft over and under in the opposite direction. Push the second row of weft tightly against the first.



Step 6: You can change colors by leaving a small tail (like you did at the beginning) and following steps 4 & 5 in the new color. Once you fill the loom, cut the last row of weft yarn, leaving a tail. Thread the tails into the looped ends of the weft.

Step 7: Remove the tape from the back. Cut the warp down the middle on the back side of your loom.



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Step 8: Pull two adjacent warp yarns from the slit and knot together. Repeat with all pairs of warp yarn.

Step 9: Remove your weaving from the loom and trim the ends of the warp yarn.



Step 10: Take a minute to admire your handiwork! We turned ours into a door hanging, but you could use yours as a coaster, a placemat, or anything else you can imagine! 😊

