

# Assembly



# Instructions

The band weaving loom has a long tradition in the history of weaving in Sweden. Bands are used for many things, like the hanging tapes sewn into towel hems.

Wider bands can be used for bag handles, belts and hat bands.

Finer threads can be used to weave ribbons to decorate clothing.

Narrow bands can be used for shoe laces, glasses strings, bands for identifying important items like keys, or just to hang scissors on a band.

Having treadles to open the shed makes the weaving comfortable and leaves your hands free for weaving. Sit at the side of the loom as in this photo, to make using the treadles very comfortable. The weaving is done either with the shuttle which comes with the loom, or you can order the band knife and use a quill to hold the weft, as shown in the photo.

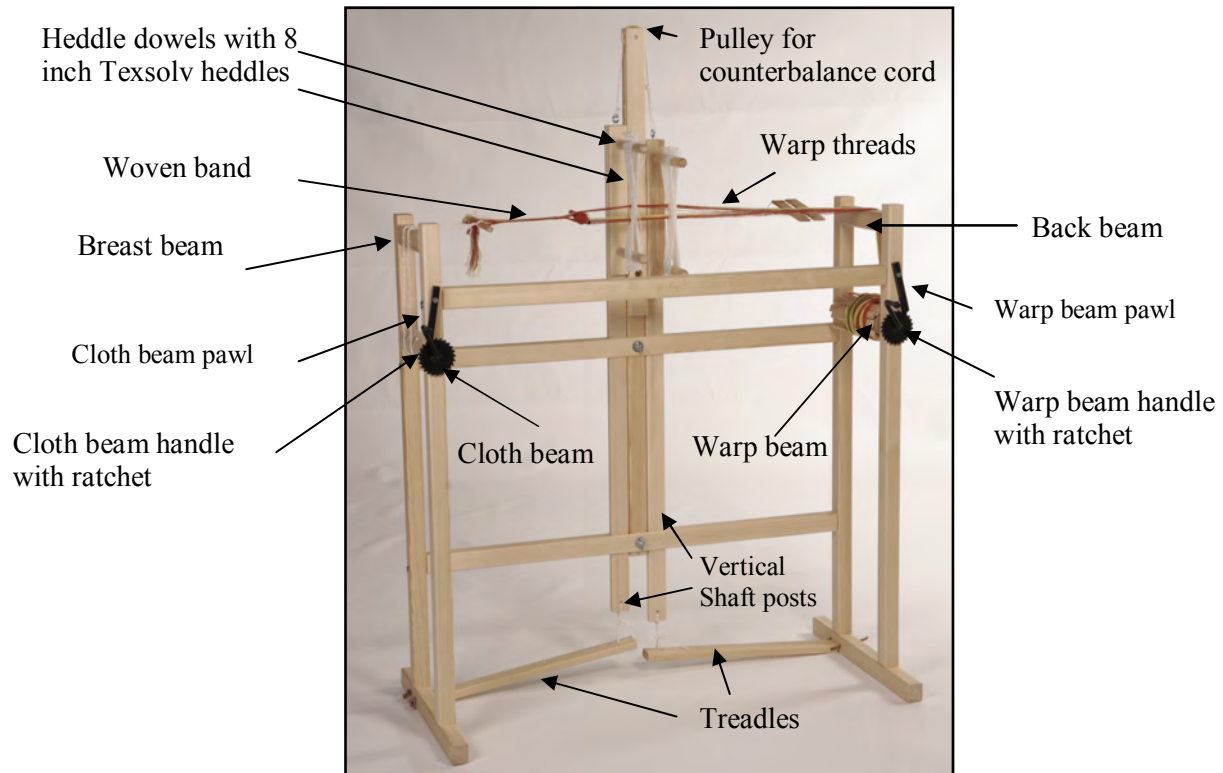
## *Assembly of your band loom*

These instructions include photos to help you follow the factory instructions for assembly of your band loom.

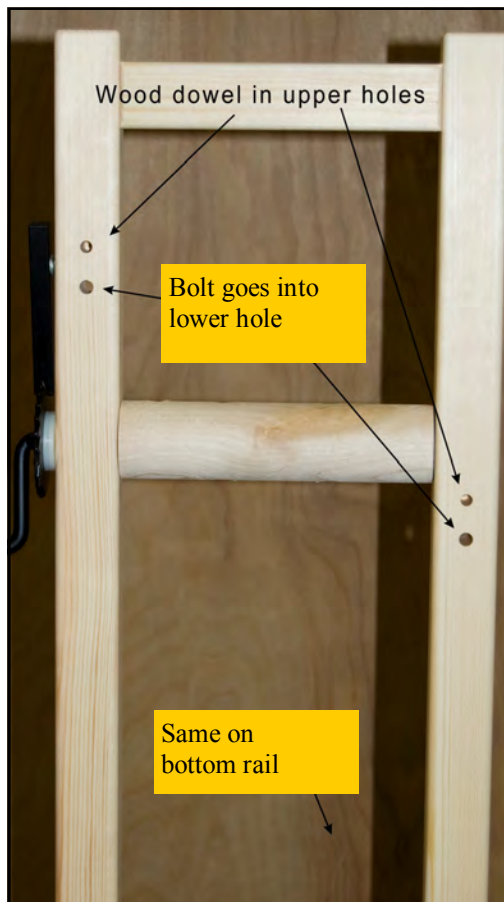
See page 2 of these instruction for a loom diagram and page 3 for frame assembly.

There are weaving instructions and page 8 has pick up pattern instructions.

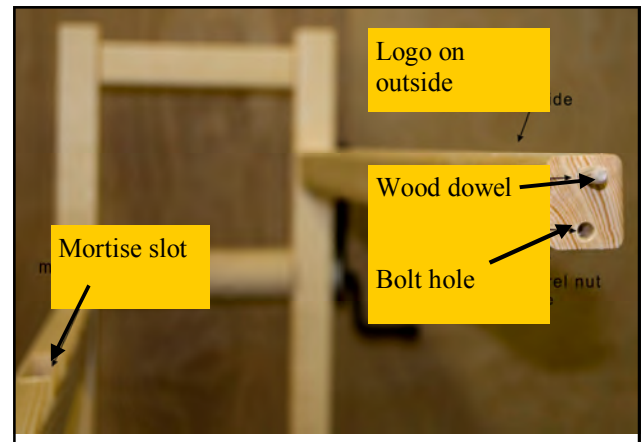
# The Glimakra Band Loom



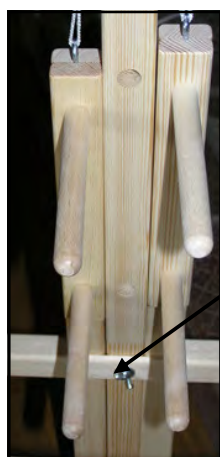
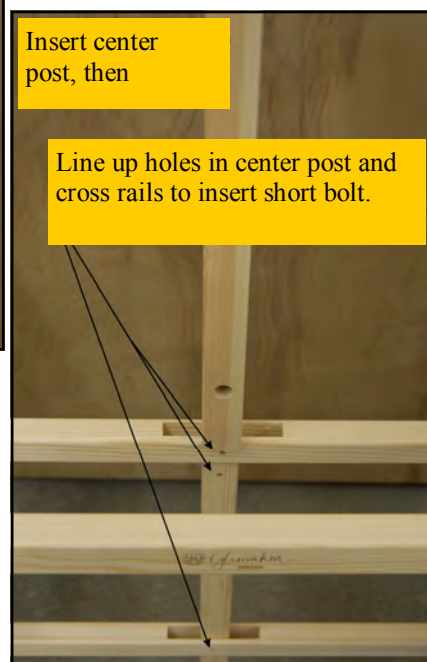
Assemble one end frame to the 3 cross rails first making sure the hole for the barrel nut is down.



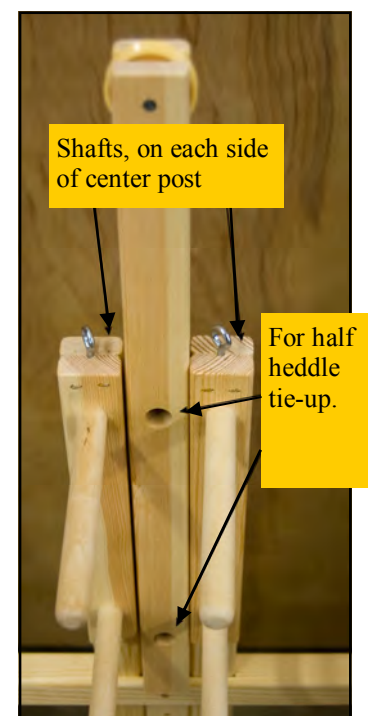
Bolt and barrel nut



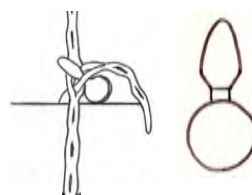
make sure the two cross rails with the mortise (slot) cut in them are on the same side.



Use the two smaller bolts to secure the center post. Do not over tighten the nut as that can bind or restrict the movement of the shafts up and down.



### Tying up the treadles

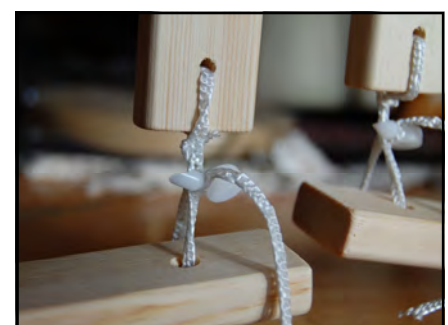


Texsolv arrow peg

Thread the leather through holes in the treadle and the loom and tie a simple knot.

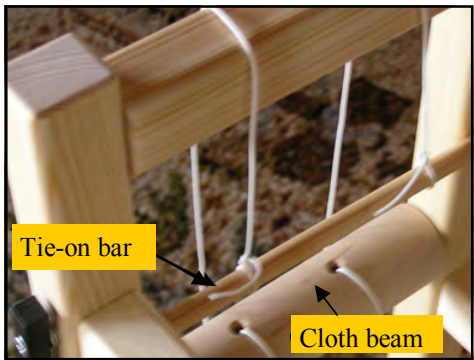


Thread the cord through the hole in the post then through the end of the cord. Pull to tighten. Then thread through the treadle and up through the cord. Secure with the arrow peg. For Texsolv instructions go to: [www.glimakrausa.com](http://www.glimakrausa.com)





## Attaching the Beam Cords



Use the longer Texsolv cords to make the beam cords. Texsolv is a cord made of linked loops and it is a good choice for making beam cords, as you can avoid tying knots.

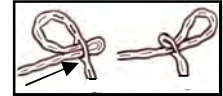
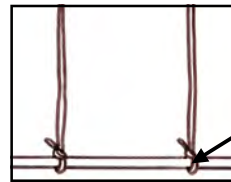


Texsolv cord

Thread one end of the cord through one hole in the beam and then through the second hole. Put the two ends together and center the cord. This makes a continuous beam cord.

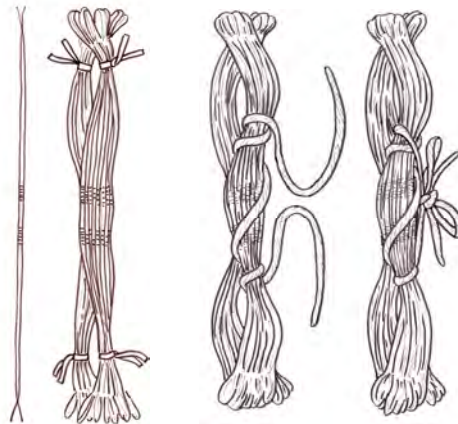
**B**

Diagram B To attach the tie-on bar, make a small loop in the end of each cord. Put the tie-on bar through the loops. Be sure your tie-on bar is parallel to the beam.



## Setting up your band loom with two shafts and two treadles

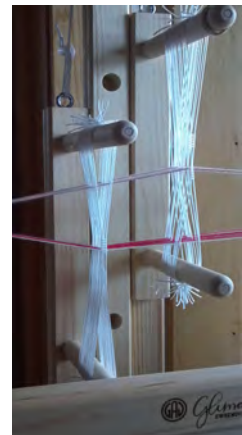
**Heddles** While still tied in a bundle, cut the end loops of the heddles to separate them. Count out how many you need and separate them from the bundle. Put them on the heddle dowels one at a time. When using a lot of heddles, put rubber bands on the ends of the heddle dowels to keep the heddles from sliding off.



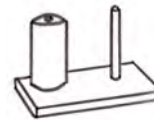
Texsolv heddles

Tying unused heddles

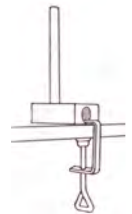
Heddles on the heddle dowels



**Warp** Select a thread which is smooth and not fuzzy, such as 8/2 Egyptian cotton. To see the 8/2 cotton colors on the Glimakra website, go to the home page and click on Yarns, threads and weaving kits. Click on Color Cards. 23 warp ends of 8/2 cotton shown in these photos make a band 1/2 inches wide. This is a good size for learning to weave a band.



The Glimakra spool holder and the warping peg are useful for direct warping.

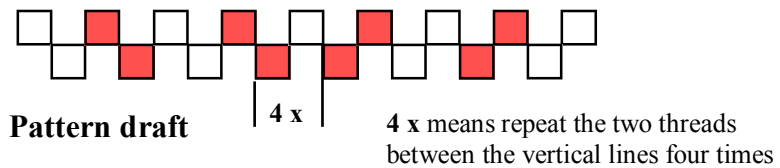


**Warping your loom** The easiest way to warp the loom is to use the traditional direct warping method. If you are not familiar with this method, ask for the instructions for the Glimakra Emilia loom.

For a long warp, wind your warp on a frame or reel. Spread the warp out on the warp beam to the full width of the beam, as shown in the photo. Use the beaming sticks as you wind on.

**Warp Patterns** On page 5 is a basic plain weave pattern. To make your own pattern, start with a center stripe. Wind 4 or 6 warp ends of one color. Or, you can select two colors and alternate them (A B A B). This makes horizontal stripes on your band. To get warp stripes, thread at least two ends of a color (AA BB). You can also thread three ends of a color (AAA, BBB). It is combinations of these stripe patterns which will give you interesting patterns.





This band pattern draft is an easy pattern for a plain weave band. It has 23 warp ends, 11 red and 12 natural. The photo shows this pattern woven in 8/2 Egyptian cotton from Bockens in Sweden. With the 8/2 thread, this bands will weave about 1/2 inch wide.

### Reading the draft

Each square represents one warp thread. The threads represented by the squares in the bottom row will be threaded into the front shaft of the band loom and the threads in the upper row will be threaded into the back shaft on the loom. If you use the half heddles, the top row of squares represents threads which go straight to the back beam of the loom and the bottom row is threaded through the half heddles.

### Threading the loom (see page 6 for half heddle threading)

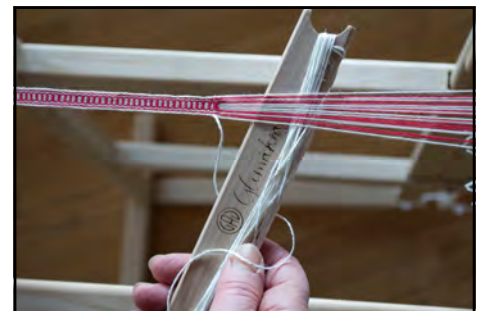
If you are using the treadles, put all the heddles on the loom. Start threading the first thread at the right selvage. Continue threading according to your pattern. Leave the extra heddles on the loom.

### Tie-up

You can tie the warp ends to the cloth beam tie-on bar with a bow or a knot.

### Adjust the height of the shafts

Tighten the warp, but not too tight. It is easier to weave a nice tight weave if the warp tension is not too tight. The warp threads should go straight from the breast beam to the back beam, in a straight line parallel to the floor. If the shafts are not at the correct height, adjust the length of the texsolv cord which goes over the pulley.



### Weft

Use the same 8/2 cotton for the weft, or for a thinner band, use 16/2 cotton, fine linen, or any thin, strong thread. There is a 7 1/2 inch flat shuttle included with your loom. Wind the weft with a figure 8 motion on one side of the shuttle.

### Weaving with the shuttle

Press down on one treadle. Put the weft through the shed, leaving a weft tail. Press on the other treadle. Weave the second weft. Put the tail of the first weft into this shed. Determine the width of the band by pulling on the two wefts to narrow the band. Continue weaving, alternating the two treadles and using the edge of your shuttle to beat before and after each weft is woven.



### Using a quill

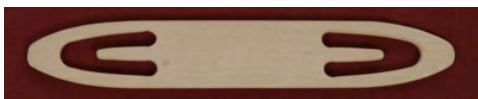
The weft can be wound on a 2 1/2 inch length of a cardboard quill. Use the shuttle as a beater or try the Glimakra band knife (see next page).



The band winds onto the cloth beam.



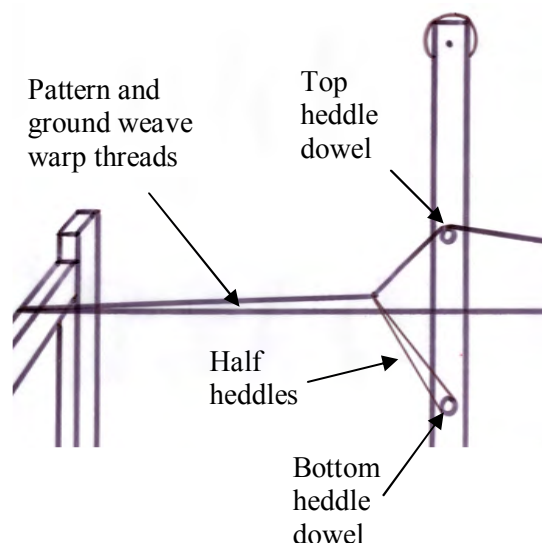
Another shuttle which is nice to use is the Glimakra #3B flat netting shuttle. The pointed ends are good for weaving pick up patterns.



### Weave with the half heddles

To weave without the treadles, you can set up the loom with half heddles. The treadles, the vertical shaft posts are not put on the loom.

Insert the two wooden heddle dowels into the vertical post. You will need a half heddle for every other warp thread and they need to be approx 5 inches long. You can make a half heddle from a doubled loop of strong cotton thread, 18 to 20 inches long, or use 9 3/8 in or 10 1/2 inch Texsolv heddles. The half heddle is formed by folding the heddle loop around the warp thread. The end loops of the heddle are placed on the bottom heddle dowel. The half heddles are put on every other warp end and that end goes over the top heddle dowel. The other ends go straight to the back beam.



### To weave

Do not tighten the tension too tight, as it needs to be somewhat slack to push or lift the shed open. Use your shuttle or band knife to push down on the threads which are not threaded in the half heddles to make one shed. Make the other shed by lifting these warp threads. Wind the weft onto the shuttle which came with the loom, or you can wind the weft onto a short quill and use a band knife.



Pick up pattern weaving with half heddles, using a quill and Glimakra band knife.

**Page 5 has a plain weave pattern and page 8 has instructions for threading and weaving pick up patterns**

The band loom can be set up in different ways to weave pick up patterns. Use the half heddles as described above or thread the pick up pattern on the two shafts and use the treadles.

### Weave pick up patterns using the shafts and treadles.

When using the treadles, adjust the treadle tie up so that the shed is not opening all the way, as a smaller shed will make the pick up easier.

If you are weaving with the flat shuttle which came with the loom, use your fingers to pick the shed. Or, use the tip of the Glimakra netting shuttle or the Glimakra band knife to pick the pattern warp threads.

When using the two shafts and treadles, you can also choose to thread the ground weave on the two shafts and leave the pattern warp threads unthreaded.

You may also want to try the Glimakra band knife.



Pick up pattern weaving with shafts and treadles, using a quill and Glimakra band knife.





## Pick-up Pattern weaving

### Warp and weft threads

A good combination of warp threads for pattern weaving is 8/2 cotton and doubled 8/2 cotton for the pattern. For a finer weave, use 16/2 cotton for the ground weave for warp and weft and 8/2 for the pattern. For a traditional Swedish band, try 16/2 or 20/2 linen for the ground weave with a smooth plied wool for the pattern warp. The 6/2 Swedish Tuna wool yarn works well. The pattern warp thread should be thicker than the ground weave thread.

### Threading a pattern weave

Pattern warps are made by alternating one, two or three ground weave threads with one pattern thread. Page 8 has a draft for a common pattern weave threading. It has one ground weave thread on each side of the pattern warp threads. This puts the pattern warp threads alternately in the two sheds.

Wind the warp as in this draft. The center of the draft has the pattern for the pick up weave with 5 pattern warp threads. Another way to write the pattern part of the draft:

g = ground weave, p = pattern: gg p gg p gg p gg

Borders of plain weave are added at the selvages. Use a different color if you like.

Spread out the warp when you beam it onto the warp beam. This keeps the warp threads spread out and makes picking the pattern easier.



### Begin to weave

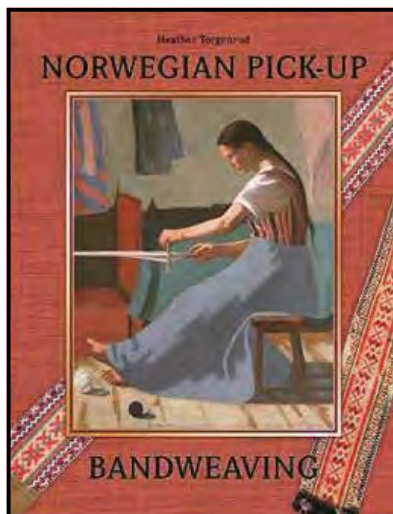
Begin by weaving the two sheds. One shed will have two pattern warps on the top of the shed and the other will have three.

Patterns are made by picking some pattern threads to be held on the top of the band and pushing down some to be held on the bottom. Pattern warp threads can be picked up with your fingers or with the tip of the shuttle or band knife. The pattern warp threads are usually double the thickness of the ground weave so that they will stand out. Patterns can be drawn on squared paper, each vertical row representing a pattern warp.

### Picking up a pattern

Start with the first pattern on page 8, the V pattern.

1. Open the first shed. Look to see if the pattern warp threads you want are already up. If you start at the bottom of the chart, you will want 1 and 5 up. If they are not up, weave without picking up the pattern and start on the next shed.
2. Pick pattern threads according to your pattern, 1 and 5 are up, so you need to push down the center pattern warp. Weave this shed.
3. Open the next shed. Pick up 1 and 5, as you now need them to be up. 2 and 4 are already up. Weave the second weft.
4. The next shed requires all the pattern warps to be up, so pick up 2 and 4.
5. Continue this way for the next two rows.



### Nowegian Pick-up Bandweaving.

This book has patterns and instructions for weaving bands.

To order this book, write to: [orders@glimakrausa.com](mailto:orders@glimakrausa.com)  
to find a shop where you can order the book.

## Pick up Patterns for 5 pattern warps

The pattern is made by picking up or pushing down the doubled red pattern threads. There is a ground weave of unbleached cotton, one end on each side of the pattern thread. There are two ground weave threads between each pattern warp thread. One woven shed has three pattern warp threads raised and the other has two. This pattern has two plain weave red stripes at each selvage. Choose a different color for these stripes if you like.

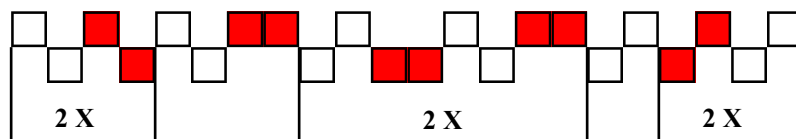
Warp: 8/2 Bockens Egyptian cotton  
unbleached.

Pattern: doubled 8/2 Bockens cotton, red  
Weft: 8/2 cotton or a finer cotton or linen thread

Total warp ends: 33, (38 total threads)

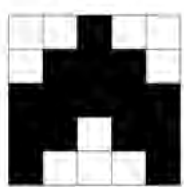
Total number of warp threads:

18 red, 20 unbleached

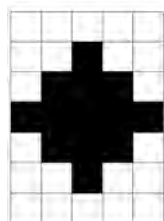


The center: 10 red, 12 unbl: 5 doubled red alternated with 2 unbl, begin and end with unbleached (6 pairs total).

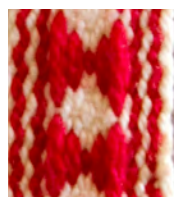
Selva ends: 8 threads on each side: 2 pairs red and 2 pairs unbleached



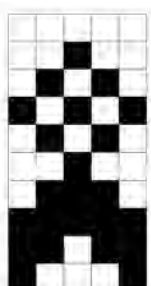
**V Pattern** Front and back look the same



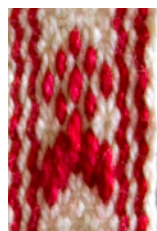
### Diamond Pattern



Back side



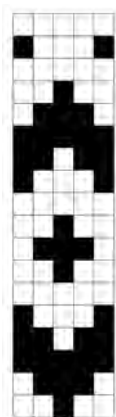
## Arrow Pattern



## Diagonal Pattern



Back side



### Big X and Diamond Pattern



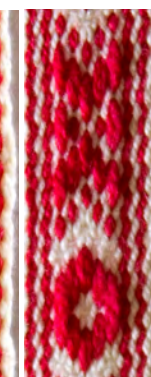
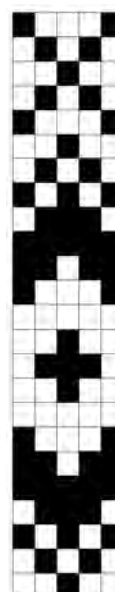
Back side



## X and Diamond



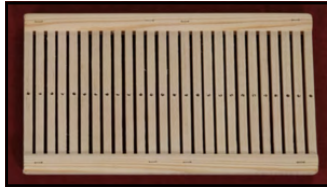
Back side



Back side

## X and Diamond with checks





### Wooden band weaving heddles

Paddle, 3.5 inches, holds 19 threads

Wider heddle, 6 inches, holds 51 threads



Netting shuttle, 8 inches



Quills

Band knife for beating in the weft



**Ask us about other Glimakra weaving looms**

**Threads and yarns** from Glimakra USA  
for weaving on your band loom

8/2 cotton, 8.8oz tubes 1780 yds 65 colors.

16/2 cotton, 8.8oz tubes 3500 yds 65 colors

16/2 linen, 4.4oz tubes 690 yds 68 colors

See also other sizes of linen and cotton threads.

Wool yarns

Tuna, 3.5oz skeins, 310yds, 109 colors

Mora, 3.5oz skeins, 3,035yds, 51 colors

You can see the colors on the website.

Click on yarns on the menu, then click on  
the type of thread or yarn.

Ask for the color cards with actual yarns, for  
wool, cotton and linen threads.



### Susanna rigid heddle loom

weaves 27 inches wide

### Julia floor loom

4 or 8 shaft countermarch

26 in weaving width

Comes with complete instructions.



For more information or other Glimakra  
weaving supplies

Or to find a shop near you, go to:

**[www.glimakrausa.com](http://www.glimakrausa.com)**

[orders@glimakrausa.com](mailto:orders@glimakrausa.com)