CRICKET LOOM
PROJECT INSTRUCTIONS

EASY CRICKET MUG RUGS

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LEVEL: ADVANCED BEGINNER

PROJECT OVERVIEW
This project is a great introduction to weft-faced weaving. If you remember, warp threads are the vertical threads on the loom and the weft threads are the ones that cross the warp. In weft-faced weaving, the weft completely covers the warp. Weft-faced weaving is a fun way to experiment with designs. These mug rugs illustrate just the beginning of the pattern possibilities of weft-faced weaving. Think of each coaster as a little experiment—and have fun playing around with pattern.

Weave Structure: Weft-faced plain weave
Warp: cotton carpet warp in pale yellow
Weft: Worsted wool in blue, yellow, orange, green and white. (This project uses Nature Spun sport weight wool from Brown Sheep Yarn.)
Warp length: 40" which allows 10" for loom waste and take-up.
Width in reed: 4"
Ends per inch: 8
Number of warp ends: 32
Picks per inch: 30

WEAVING
Using carpet warp, leave a 12" tail and weave 8 picks packing in the weft so it completely covers the warp, about ¼". Cut off the yarn and weave the end back into the same shed for about an inch. To secure the weft and make a fringe, hemstitch (see page 3) across the bottom edge of the weaving with the tail you left when you started weaving. For these coasters we encircled 3 warp ends in each group. End the coaster in the same way.

PATTERNS
It's fun to weave a set of mug rugs with different patterns, but if you prefer, you could weave a set of coasters using just one of the patterns. Once you get the hang of weaving these, try some patterns on your own.

Weave about 4½" for each mug rug, leaving 1½" of warp unwoven between each mug rug. After all the mug rugs are woven, cut them apart, sew in any ends left hanging and steam press.

PATTERN 1
1. Weave 8 picks of carpet warp
2. Weave 10 picks blue
3. Alternate green and blue for 3"
4. Weave 10 picks blue
5. End with 8 picks of carpet warp

PATTERN 2
1. Weave 8 picks of carpet warp
2. Weave 4 picks yellow
3. Alternate blue and yellow six times
4. Weave another row of yellow
5. Repeat alternating yellow and blue 6 times, weaving an extra yellow after each sequence of 6 repeats, for a total of 3½"
6. Weave 4 picks of yellow
7. End with 8 picks of carpet warp
PATTERN 3
1. Weave 8 rows carpet warp
2. Weave 8 rows yellow
3. Weave 2 rows green
4. Weave 2 rows yellow
5. Weave 2 rows green
6. Weave 2 rows yellow
7. Weave 12 rows blue
8. Weave 1 row yellow
9. Weave 12 rows blue
10. Weave 1 row green
11. Weave 12 rows blue
12. Weave 1 row orange
13. Weave 12 rows blue
14. Weave 1 row yellow
15. Weave 12 rows blue
16. Weave 1 row green
17. Weave 12 rows blue
18. Weave 2 rows yellow
19. Weave 2 rows green
20. Weave 2 rows yellow
21. Weave 2 rows green
22. Weave 8 rows yellow
23. Weave 8 rows carpet warp

PATTERN 4
1. Weave 8 rows of carpet warp
2. Weave 8 rows of blue
3. Weave 2 rows of orange
4. Weave 1 row of yellow
5. Weave 2 rows of orange
6. Repeat 2–5 six more times
7. End with 8 rows blue
8. Weave 8 rows of carpet warp

PATTERN 5
1. Weave 8 rows of carpet warp
2. Weave 8 rows of blue
3. Alternate orange and blue 4 times
4. Weave 2 rows of orange
5. Alternate white and orange two times
6. Weave 2 rows of orange
7. Alternate orange and blue 4 times (this completes the border)
8. Weave 10 rows blue
9. Weave one row of green
10. Repeat 8 and 9 three more times
11. Weave 10 rows of blue
12. Repeat border in reverse, steps 7–1

HEMSTITCHING
Hemstitching is a great way to prevent ravelling. It is easy to do on the loom when the weaving is under tension. These instructions are written working right to left, but if you are left handed, you may find it more comfortable to work left to right. Hemstitching is a two-part stitch, and once you have the hang of it, it progresses smoothly.

1. Begin by leaving a tail about three to four times longer than the width of your weaving at the right side of your weaving.
2. Weave three to five rows.
3. Thread a tapestry needle with the tail, and work on a closed shed. Note: Part of the weft tail is darker to more clearly show the path of the yarn.
4. Beginning at the right selvedge, insert the needle diagonally right to left under three warp ends and up two weft ends.
5. Bring the needle to the surface.
6. Place the needle over your working end and encircle this group of three. Pull tight and repeat.

Additional information on hemstitching can be found in Interweave’s Compendium of Finishing Techniques, by Naomi McEneely.