

## Finishes: Warp and Weft Protectors



### Weft Protectors

Weft protectors are used to keep the weft from raveling in a woven fabric.

#### *Overhand knots*

- Quick and easy

#### *Stitching (or Weaving) back into weaving*

- Good technique for rugs where fringe is first to wear
- Takes time, but makes a smooth, clean edge
- A way to hide a fringe that looks too thin or too different from the woven fabric

#### *Stitched weft protectors*

- Easiest to do on the loom under tension
- Leave a tail 3-4 times longer than the warp width
- Hemstitching is probably the most common stitched weft protector. This stitch is also great as a decorative border.
- Basic embroidery stitches can be used, such as buttonhole or blanket stitch
- Work from the direction of your dominant hand

#### *Knotted weft protectors*

- Knotted finishes are often used for rugs but are also great for runners and coasters
- Philippine Edge gives a neat braided look. Several rows can be worked or just one, alternating sides, or all from the same side. The fringe looks braided.
- Damascus Edge is quick to do and makes a smooth, flat, even fringe. Worked from the back. Several rows can be worked, all from the same side, or alternating sides.

### Warp Protectors

Warp protectors are fringe treatments, braids that keep the warp from raveling. Allow sufficient take up. An overhand knot requires about 1 ½" of warp; braids may experience up to 30% take-up.

#### *Knotted*

- Knotted warp such as crossing groups to make a lacy fringe
- Successive knots made in a warp bundle
- Augment a skimpy fringe by adding fringe using a crochet hook
- Macramé, half hitches or square knots

#### *Braids*

- 3-, 4-, and 5-element flat braid
- 4-strand round braid
- 8-strand round braid

#### *Plied or twisted*

- Two groups of yarn are twisted separately in one direction, then combined and twisted in the opposite direction
- Great for blankets and scarves

#### *Wrapping*

- Time consuming but can be very useful in the right situation
- Contrasting yarn will add a design element