



# Tea Towel with Hand-Painted Stripes

## Instructions / Suggestions

You will need a loom with at least an 18" weaving width,  
12 threads per inch reed or rigid heddle bar,  
Warping board or pegs, shuttle

Skills needed:  
Winding additional warp threads  
Warping your loom  
Weaving plain weave fabric

This kit includes two hand painted warp chains  
36 threads wide and 8 feet long,  
1 cone of 4/2 Dragon Tale cotton  
*For winding additional warp threads, and for weft*

This kit will make  
Two 15" x 28" towels,  
or one 15" x 58" runner,  
woven in plain weave at 12 threads per inch

Though you can place the dyed warp sections anywhere in the width of the fabric you choose, we suggest the following warping order:

26 threads solid color  
36 thread hand painted dyed section  
96 threads solid color  
36 thread hand painted dyed section  
26 threads solid color

Double the outside two threads on each side for a firmer selvage. If you double those threads your warp will be 18" wide in a standard 12 dent reed or 17.6" wide in a metric reed (like Ashford makes).



You can use any warping method you're comfortable with, but if you choose to chain warp front to back the warp will be shorter by the length taken up by ties on the back apron rod. Depending on your loom waste you might not be able to weave the full 66" needed make two 28" (washed and hemmed) towels, so yours might be a little shorter.

If you warp front to back, or your loom waste is more than 24", you might want to lash on your warp. *(Picture below)*



**earthguild.com**  
**33 Haywood Street**  
**Asheville NC 28801**  
**1-800-327-8448**

## Chain Warping

Wind the solid color sections in 3 or 4 separate warp chains. We suggest dividing the center 96 threads in two 48 thread chains, making a total of 4. Narrower, similar sections of warp wind on more evenly. If you divide the center section in half you will have 6 chains including the two painted ones.

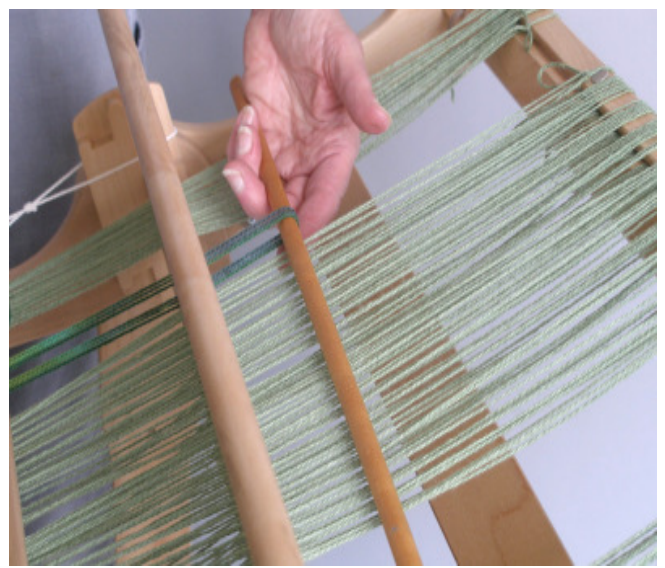
## Direct warping on a rigid heddle loom

Warp as you usually do but leave unthreaded spaces for the dyed chains to be added in. Wind on the outside 26 threads using the solid color, skip the next 18 slots and 18 holes, wind on 96 solid threads. Skip the next 18 slots and 18 holes, then wind on the remaining 26 solid threads.

*(Picture at right)*



To add in the pre-wound dyed sections, hold the pre-dyed warp chain at the cross with your fingers holding the cross open. Pull each loop through the slots of the reed in order. Slip them onto the back warp beam stick if you can, or tie them in small bundles to the beam. After the chains are attached firmly to the warp beam be sure to adjust the dyed warp chains by gently pulling the entire warp bundle at the choke tie (the one past the cross). This will help keep the threads in the dyed stripe aligned.





Another option is to use 2 shuttles as lease (cross holding) sticks. Slip the shuttles through the cross carefully and tie the shuttles to the loom as shown. Let the shuttles hold the cross while you pass each loop through a slot. Secure these loops to the back apron rod. On some looms you can slip them on the rod, on some you'll have to tie them on. An extra dowel or even a knitting needle might be helpful.



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Use whatever method you like for spreading the warp. We usually weave about 1 1/2" of waste yarn at the beginning and again at the end of the fabric. Weave the entire length of the warp using the solid color of Dragon Tale cotton. For two 28" towels, or one 58" runner, you will need to weave 66" of fabric measured with the tension released.

Remove the warp from the loom. Secure the ends by machine stitching a hem at either end in the area of waste yarn. Or tie the warp into small bundles to keep the fabric from raveling during finishing. If you choose this method cut off the extra warp length after knotting.

Machine wash and tumble dry. Check the dryer several times during the drying cycle to make sure your fabric hasn't tied itself in to a knot.

Remove the fabric from the dryer while it's still slightly damp and press dry. If you are making two towels, cut the length of fabric in half across the warp. Hand or machine stitch 1/2" hems on the ends. For a table runner simply hem the two ends of the entire length of fabric.

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### Other options

You should have enough yarn to wind a slightly wider (19" to 20") warp if your loom is wider than 18", but depending on loom waste, take up, draw-in, and how you beat the fabric you might need a second cone of yarn for weft. A narrower warp for a table runner or dresser cloth should be easy to make with the cone included.

Would you like to make a baby blanket or small lap robe? Simply buy 2 additional cones of Dragon Tale 4/2 cotton and make the warp 36" wide. In fact, 2 kits used together would work to make the blanket. Be creative and add other colors to the mix. Or get two different color kits. Place the four painted warp sections wherever you like.

These instructions are intended to be just a starting point. Please use the dyed chains in your kit in any manner you choose.