

# Instructions for Lashing On

By Chris Hammel

I do not recommend using this technique for linen warps or for warp-faced or weft-faced weaves (e.g., rep weave, boundweave, rug weaving and tapestry).

1. Finger comb the warp and trim the warp ends so that they are fairly even.
2. Working from right to left, gather the ends in  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " groups and secure each group with an overhand knot. Try to position each knot in approximately the same place at the bottom of the group.
3. Check that the knots are about  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " from the front beam; to accomplish this, either release more warp from the warp beam or wind more on.
4. Draw the rod that is attached to the cloth beam under and over the front beam. Stop when the rod is about 2" past the front beam (going in the direction of the heddles).
5. Tie a strong, smooth yarn onto the rod – approx.  $\frac{1}{2}$ " out from the right edge of the warp. Note that the yarn should measure at least 6 times the width of the warp. It is helpful to wind the yarn onto a bobbin to keep it from getting tangled.
6. Open a plain weave shed (or something close to plain weave). Keep the shed open through Step 7.
7. Bring the yarn through the shed/opening in the first group on the right, and then under and over the rod. Repeat Step 7 with each of the other groups.
8. Lower the shafts. Adjust the yarn so that the knots are approx. 1" to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from the rod. (Do not allow the knots to get too close to the rod or adjusting the tension in Step 10 will be difficult.) Pull the excess yarn towards the untied end. Wrap the untied end around the rod twice and then secure it with a square knot.
9. Turn the crank on the cloth beam so that the tension on the warp is increased.
10. Redistribute the lashing yarn until the tension on the warp is even. Tension should be checked in the area between the beater and the shafts. Do not allow the beater to rest against the knots when checking the tension.