

SUE PAYNE - WEAVING/LOOMS

I enjoy weaving on various types of looms. Tonight, I brought a floor loom, which means it has four treadles (pedals) that can be stepped on to move the threads and make different combinations and patterns in the cloth.

I enjoy weaving with silk from the silkworm cocoons that have been dyed various colors. Silk is soft and lustrous and takes color beautifully. No two scarves are alike.

Another type of weaving machine is an inkle loom – a very portable form of weaving used to make belts, straps, drawstrings, dog collars – any narrow items. It is simple to use – the warp threads are moved up and down by hand which creates an opening for the shuttle that holds the thread to pass through. Weaving can be as simple or complex as you choose to make it.

I also work a great deal with wool. Different breeds of sheep have different textures of wool as well as many natural colors – just like people.

There are different methods and tools for handspinning wool – the drop spindle has been used for thousands of years and is still used today for its convenience. There are antique spinning wheels and modern wheels. They are all mesmerizing.

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