

## THANKFUL THANKSGIVING!



Hi Friends,

I hope you are enjoying your new Hazel Rose looms and beginning to feel at ease with them.

I've had some feed back that I thought I'd share with you. Some people don't like the bit of doubled weaving that results from weaving the ends back into the body of the tri\*s and squares so I tried it a bit differently and I think it does look a bit better and appears to be just as firm. Instead of weaving the last tail of yarn back into the weaving, wait until you decant the square/tri and then weave the tail in along the edge for a dozen or more loops. That makes a bit of a thicker edge but it can be flattened and also disappears when you sew the blocks together and it shows no double line in the weaving.

**One weaver asked:**

How did you change colors to get the pretty plaid square I saw on your web site?

When you decide to change colors, bring your yarn to the beginning peg of the next round and pull out about 6" and cut it. Use that tail and the beginning of the new color and knot them loosely together on the outside of the nail then continue weaving as usual. Do this each time you are changing colors. When you are finished you can untie the knots and weave in the ends. Or, if you are making something you want a fringe on, leave the ends as long as the fringe is going to be and they will blend in.

I find it much easier to use variegated yarns to get plaids but then, I am basically lazy! In fact, I just went to look (my sister took the pictures on the new web page) and I think the ones she has there were made with variegated yarn. Otherwise do it like the above instructions. It depends on what you want and how

much effort you want to put into it. Play with some variegated yarns, they're rather fun.

I have been "inventing" and would like to share a few ideas with you. I've been thinking about sending this newsletter thing every now and then. Probably on holidays and again in the Dreary months. We'll need something to tide us over between the Christmas let-down and Spring. If you are inspired with a nifty idea, please email me and let's share it with the rest of the HR weaver's.

So here are the results of my Autumn cogitation. I hope you enjoy.



**Some Indian Corn for your centerpiece or Thanksgiving Wreath**



The Indian corn is made with the 8" set. You need one square in yellow or a color that looks sort of like the colored Indian corn. you'll need one tri in a shade to match for the shucks. This can be green if you wish or a 'dried' color like tan or brown. I chose a teal because it went best with my colors.

Sew the square into a tube and gather one end. Stuff it not too firmly and gather the top. Decant the tri by chaining off the top edge. Starting on the

right side pick the first loop off the loom . Hold it on the hook and pick up the second loop (we're going across the long side now) and pull it thru the loop on the hook. Pick the next loop off and pull it thru the loop on the hook. Continue across. When you get to the end, use the starting thread to tie off the loops. A hint: Before you start chaining, if you start at the tip and pick the loops off the nails on the right side it will ease the tension and make the chaining easier. Nothing will fall apart. You can do the same on the left when the loops start to get hard to remove. Bunch the tri by pinching it in the center and pulling up on the corners to make the corn shuck shape. Wrap a yarn around the base of this (where you pinched) and stitch to the top of the ear of corn. There you have it.

## THE TURKEY

You'll need one square in brown or whatever color you want your turkey to be. You'll need two tri\*s in a variegated for the tail. You'll need some poly stuffing and a bit of quilt batting if you have it, otherwise the poly stuffing will be fine. A bit of yellow, red, and black yarn for his features. (beak, waddle, eyes, and feet)

You'll also need two tassels made with the variegated yarn of his tail for wings.

Make a tube for his body and stuff, stuffing less for his head than for his body. Run a couple rows of gather stitch around his neck and pull in slightly, just to give him some shape.

Chain the tri\*s off the loom as you did with the corn shucks. Sew the two tri's together and pad it a bit with quilt batting or poly stuffing. You want it flattish, but stiff enough to stand up. Sew his tail to his back about half way up. You want it to show over the top of his head. The tip is up, by the way. You'll need to tack it in a couple places to keep it straight. Now you can crochet a circle for his feet and a triangle for a beak, or you can cut these shapes from felt and it will look just as nice or better, depending on your skill! Sew his features in place. Make the tassels and sew to his sides for wings. Turn him over and stitch the two points of his tail together in back. It will cup slightly.

I made French knots for his eyes but you can use wiggle eyes, too. If you have a straw wreath, I think you could use the turkey and the corn and a few colored leaves and make a nice Autumn Wreath.

## A PLACEMAT OR FOUR...

This is for the 12" square loom but you will find that a lot of my projects can be transferred from one loom to another. To make this on the small square you will need 4-6 squares, depending on how big you want your mats to be. You can double your 12" tri into a square also.

I used one 12" square for this one. It is made with some 'string' I found in a discount store. The label just calls it nylon string but it is actually a very thin, translucent ribbon scrunched into string shape. I would call it artificial raffia. And you may be able to use raffia for this project if you cannot find anything like this. There is no give to it but it holds it's shape nicely.



You'll need one 12" square for each placemat. I skipped a few rows in the center, working every other row in a couple of places to give a little textural interest.

Cut a piece of cardboard 2 1/2" wide and wrap your ribbon around it to measure out the fringes.

You will hook one piece into each 'loop' on two opposite edges of the mat. Make a larks head knot. In case you don't know what that is...

If you cannot find any ribbon such as I used, you can make these with acrylic or probably a hundred other yarns.

You'll want to be sure they are washable, tho! We will spill the gravy! I did wash this ribbon, gently by hand and it did well. Test yours!



That's it until Christmas. Blessings on you and your family!

From Hazel and Randy