

## Intermediate Pick up Inkle Weaving – Brocade

Where the beginner pick up weaving produced the design with a warp float, the Brocade pickup technique produces the design with a weft float. Meaning that the weft or shuttle thread will be the one that floats over the warp threads. In this technique, you will be using two weft shuttles: one for the background and one for the design. The weft thread used in the design will be seen floating on the top of the band. The background weft should be the same weight and color as the background threads. The design weft should be a contrasting color and it works well if it's a heavier or fluffier yarn. In all pick up weaving, the pattern is read from the top down.

Warping for a brocade background is often all the same color. I like to begin and end with a heddle thread but that is the weaver's option.

Begin weaving with both weft threads all the way across the band to secure both threads.

Change sheds and beat snug, \* pass the background weft all the way across. Then, hold the threads on the top of the shed in your left hand. Using a pick up stick pick up the threads indicated by row 1 of your pattern from right to left, pick up these design threads from below. Meaning, you want the threads that the design weft will cover to be below the pick up stick and the rest of the warp threads to be above the stick. Pass the design weft through the shed created by the pick up stick, Remove the pick up stick. Change sheds and beat snug. Repeat from \* for each row in the pattern.

If you are designing your own patterns, remember that you don't usually want the weft floats to cover more than 3 warp threads at a time or you risk them catching on something. If you need a longer float, divide the float with warp tie downs every 3 warp threads. (Allow one warp thread to the top to break up the float.)

You can use different colors of design weft threads by adding additional weft shuttles or by tying off one color and starting another.

