

April 2025



# Art Docent Lesson K-5

## Naiomi Glasses



Weaving on a Loom



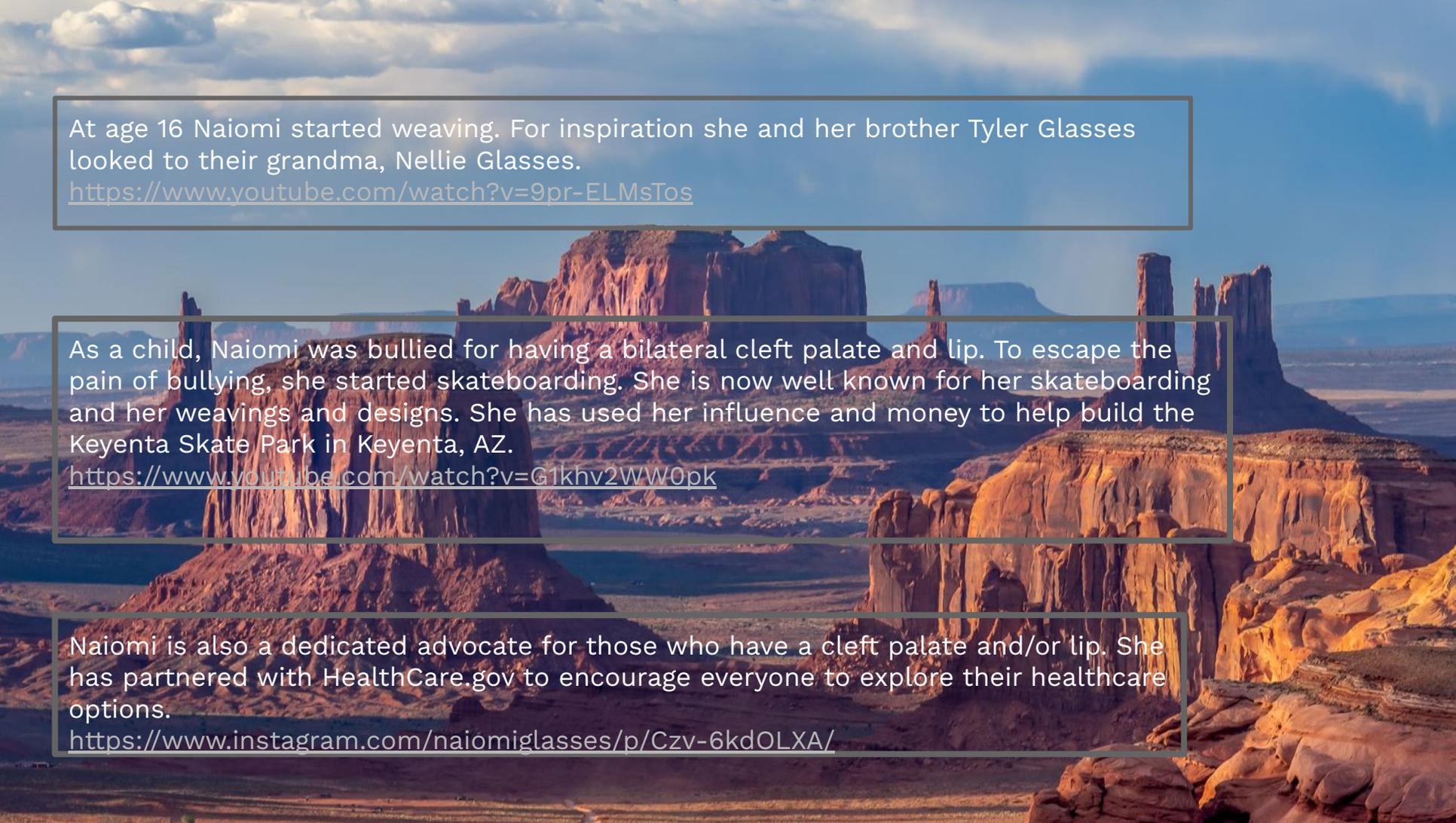
Naiomi Glasses is a seventh generation textile artist and designer that resides on the Dinétah (the Navajo Nation).

She is about 27 years old.

She lives in Window Rock, AZ which is the capital of the Navajo Nation.

In the Navajo language Diné means, “The People”.





At age 16 Naomi started weaving. For inspiration she and her brother Tyler Glasses looked to their grandma, Nellie Glasses.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9pr-ELMsTos>

As a child, Naomi was bullied for having a bilateral cleft palate and lip. To escape the pain of bullying, she started skateboarding. She is now well known for her skateboarding and her weavings and designs. She has used her influence and money to help build the Keyenta Skate Park in Keyenta, AZ.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1khv2WW0pk>

Naomi is also a dedicated advocate for those who have a cleft palate and/or lip. She has partnered with HealthCare.gov to encourage everyone to explore their healthcare options.

<https://www.instagram.com/naiomiglasses/p/Czv-6kdOLXA/>

Naiomi caught the eye of design powerhouse Ralph Lauren. She became their first Artist in Residence.

Drop 2: Color in Motion

Drop 1: Love of the Land



Drop 3: Denim Daydream

Naiomi's collections are model by her family and fellow Indigenous models.

The collections also feature traditional symbols important to the Navajo heritage.

Four-Directional Crosses:

Referencing the Earth's four directions, Naiomi uses this symbol to honor the significance of the number four in Navajo tradition.



Spider Women Crosses: Naomi uses this symbol to represent the creator and teacher of the weaving traditions in Navajo culture.





The Dragonfly:  
As a resident of the desert, Naomi uses symbols significant to water in her art and as an adornment to call in more moisture.

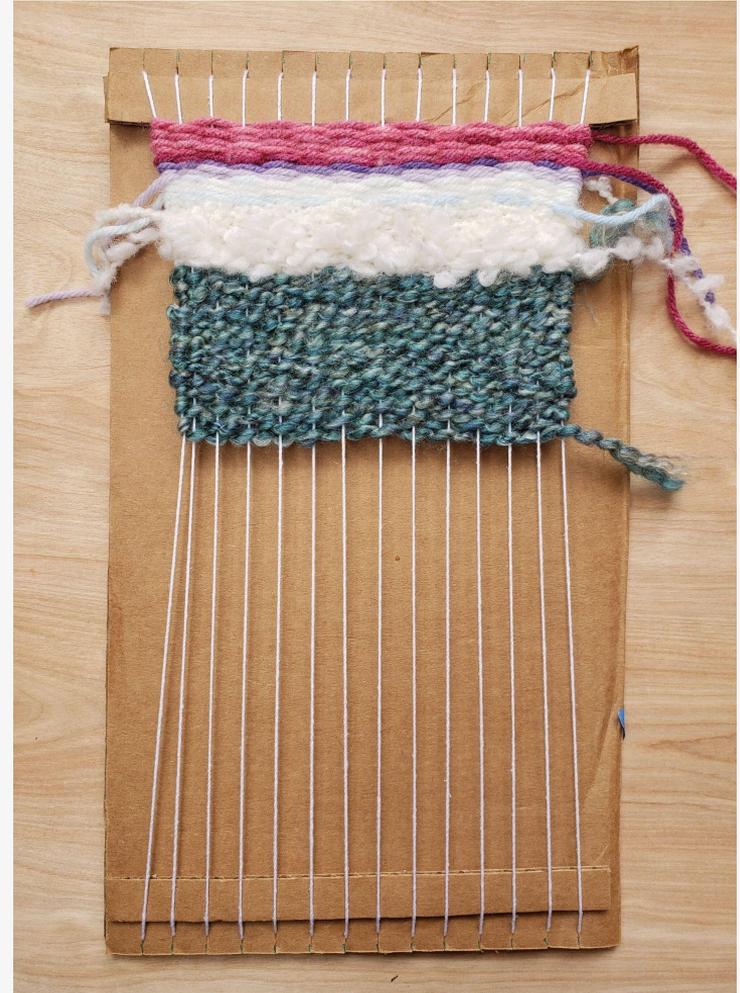
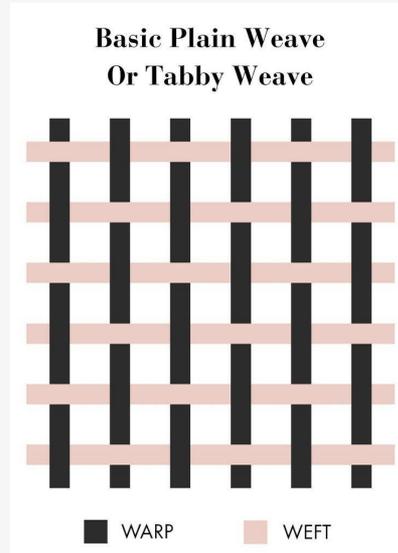


## Weaving on a loom and terminology

**Warp:** the vertical yarn (threads) on a weaving loom.

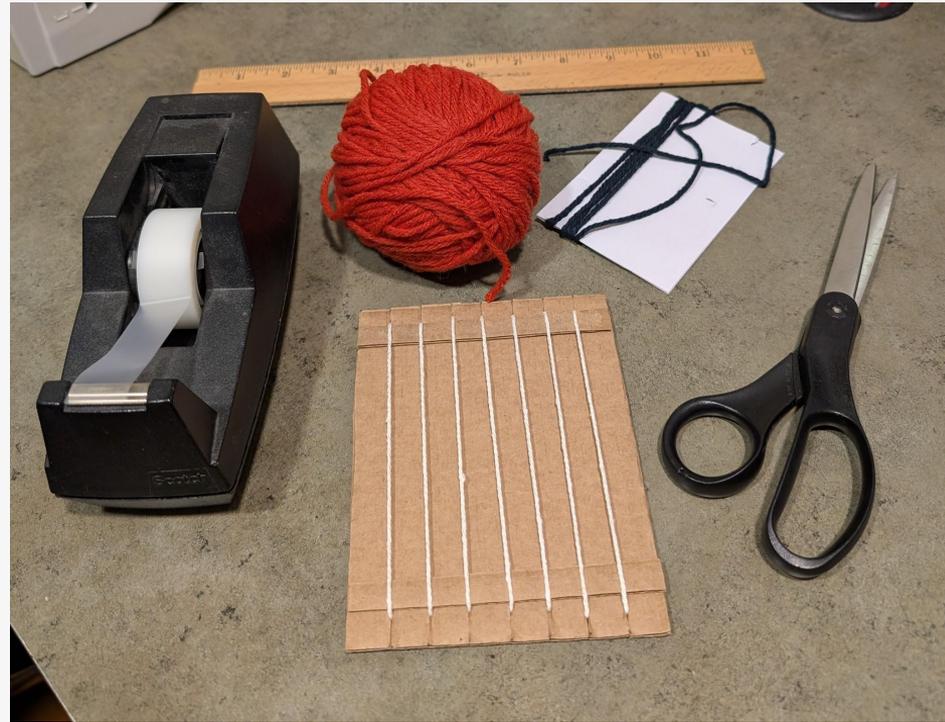
**Weft:** the horizontal threads that are passed under and over the warp threads.

**Tabby (plain weave):** the most fundamental weaving technique, where warp and weft threads cross each other in a simple over-one, under-one pattern, resulting in a strong, durable fabric.



## Supplies needed for the project

- Cardboard loom already with warp threads
- Tape
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Yarn (already cut into lengths of 1-3 feet or if not we recommend you cut it at 1-3 feet for ease of weaving).



Step 1: Take one end of a piece of yarn and measure out two inches.

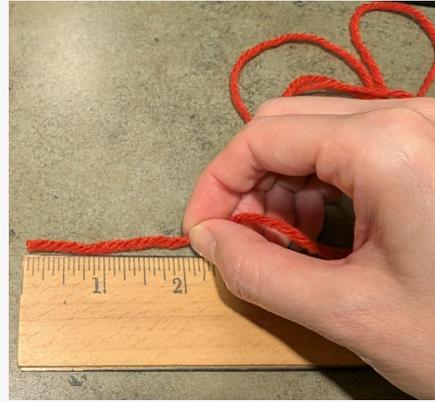
Step 2: At the two inch mark, slide it into the most left notch on the top of the loom. Have the tail (shorter side) face the back of the loom.

Step 3: Take the other end of the yarn and wrap a small piece of tape around it.

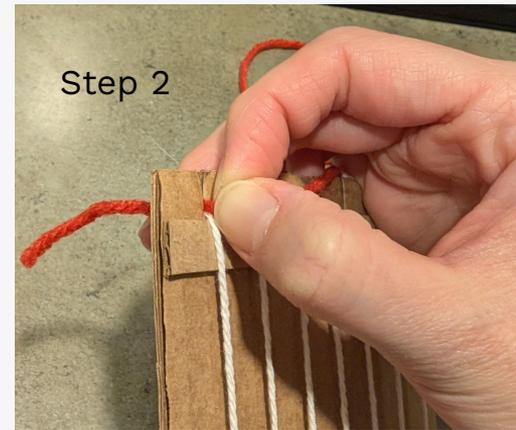
Step 4: Begin weaving with an under/over tabby weave.

Step 5: When you go the other direction, make sure to go around the most right warp thread.

Step 1



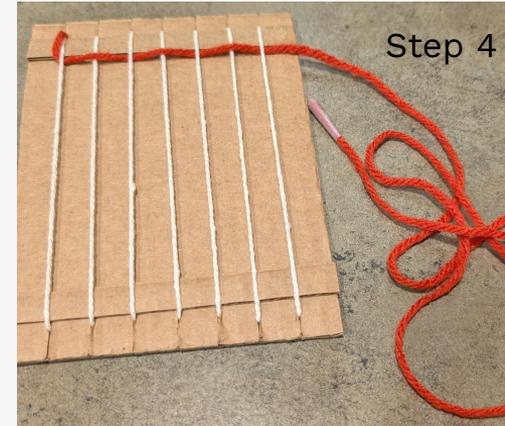
Step 2



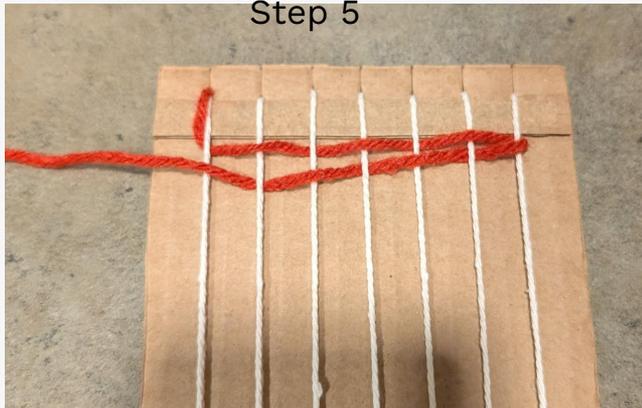
Step 3



Step 4

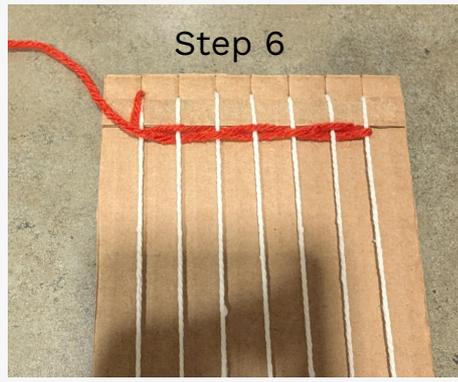


Step 5

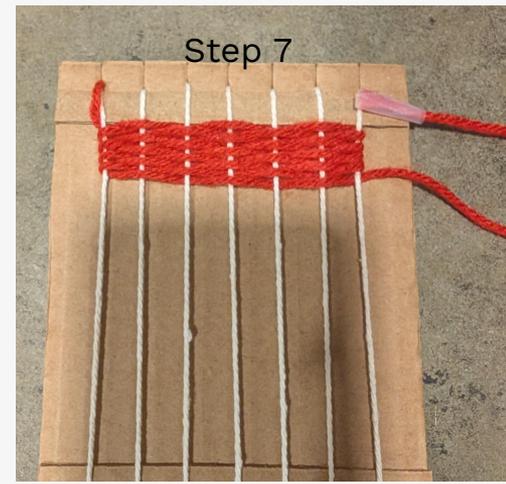


Tip: try to pull the weft yarn tight, but not too tight around the most left and right warp threads.

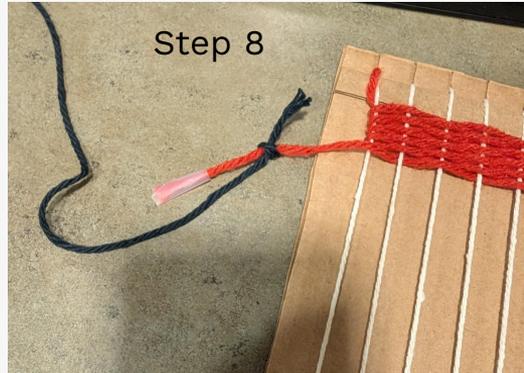
Step 6: After each full tabby weft weave, use your fingers and push it up against the weft weave above it.



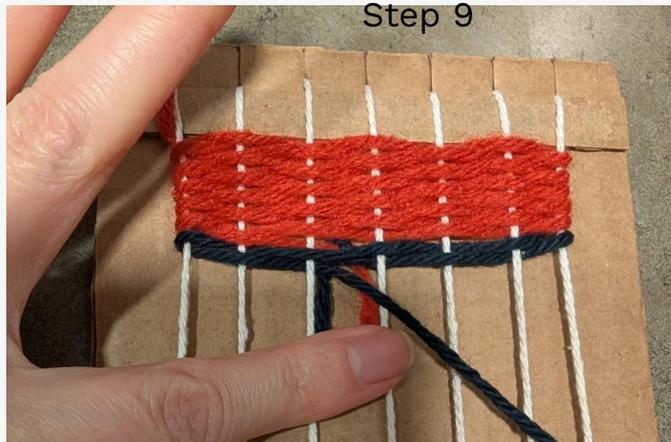
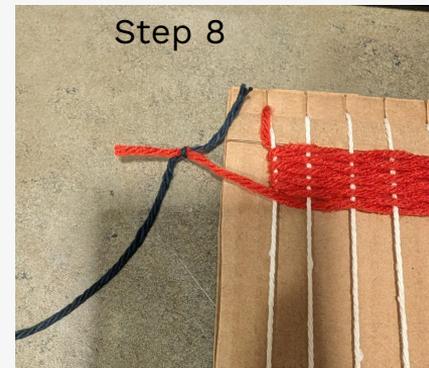
Step 7: Continue to weave until you need another piece of yarn (leave two inches so you can tie on the next piece).



Step 8: Tie on the next piece of yarn and cut off the piece of tape, BUT don't cut too close to the knot.



Step 9: Continue to weave and when you get to the knot tails, weave over them, putting them on the backside.



Step 10: When you get to the end of the loom, it's time to tie off the weft thread. Tie it around a warp thread. Ideally, it will be at one of the most right or left, but if it isn't that's okay. Pull the knot tight.

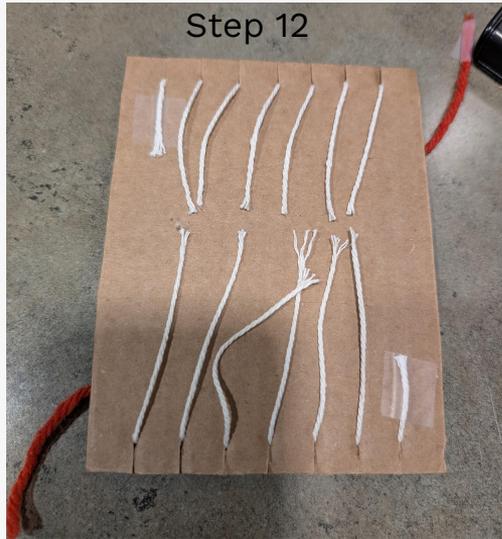
Step 11: Gently pull the upper left hand tail off the notch and tie it around the left most warp thread. Pull the knot tight.



Step 10



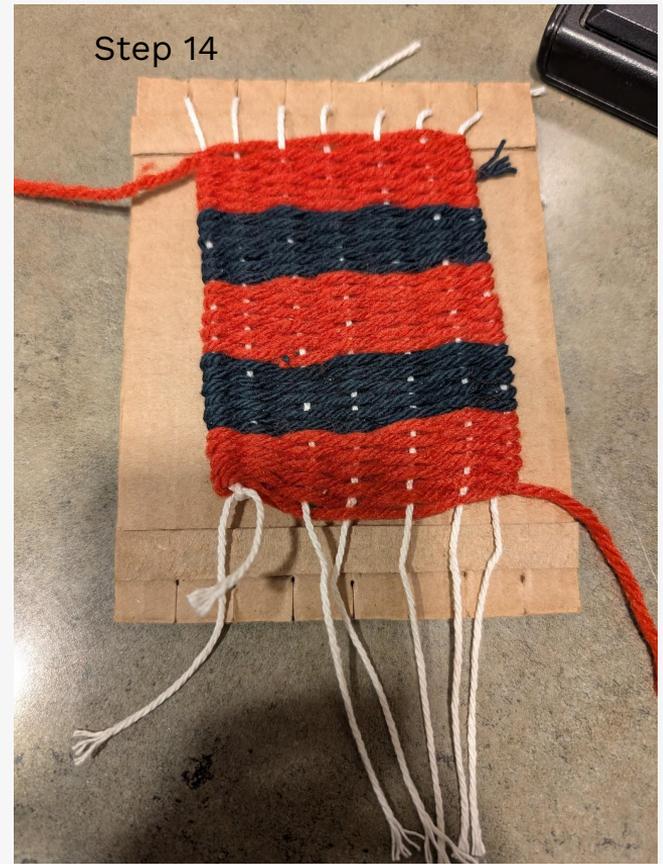
Step 12: Turn the loom over the cut the warp threads.  
Cut down the middle.



Step 13: Turn the loom over again and carefully pull of the bottom warp threads.



Step 14



Step 14: Tie two them together (ones next to each other and not the one with the weft thread- if you can, otherwise just make sure each warp thread is tied to hold the weave together.

Step 15: You can turn the project over and trim the knot tails too (just make sure you don't get too close to the knot).

Step 16: Trim all of the warp and weft tails to about the same length.

Step 15 & 16



Enjoy your finished weaving

