



# SCHACHT NEWS

News From The Ewes

Fall 2010



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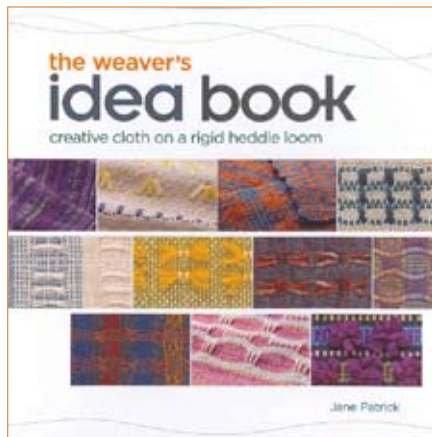
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### It's Here!

#### The Weaver's Idea Book

*The Weaver's Idea Book: Creative Cloth on a Rigid Heddle Loom* by Schacht's creative director Jane Patrick is big, beautiful, and chock-full of what you need to know to make the most of your rigid heddle loom. Included are some of the most often asked-for techniques: pick-up, doubleweave and two-heddle weaving. Also: plain weave ideas, tons of pick-up patterns with instructions as well as drafts for harness looms, and appealing projects with yarns that are currently available. With a whopping 240 pages in a hardcover, spiral-bound format, this



hefty book will inspire you to weave the cloth of your dreams! Get your copy today at your local spinning and weaving shop.

Retail price: \$29.95.

### Schacht Loves Rigid Heddle Weaving

Shown here are some of the great folk at Schacht who are responsible for making our rigid heddle looms (left to right): Cindy (that's Georgie at her feet), Shoua, Will, Martha, Bill, Maria, and Adan. In the background is the Schacht community garden in full bloom! A larger version of this picture can be seen at [blog.schachtspindle.com](http://blog.schachtspindle.com).



### Rigid Heddle Author Jane Patrick Featured on Knitting Daily TV

The new season of *Knitting Daily TV* kicks off with a Designer Spotlight featuring Jane Patrick. Along with highlighting Jane's work, the segment will show you how to use a pick-up stick to create easy patterns on the rigid heddle loom. To see a preview, visit [knittingdailytv.com](http://knittingdailytv.com) and click on "Series 500".

### Limited Edition Colorwood Shuttles Still Available

Check your local shop for our limited edition 11-inch regular and slim boat shuttles. Also available are belt shuttles (every rigid heddle weaver needs one of these). If your shop doesn't have them they can special order them for you.

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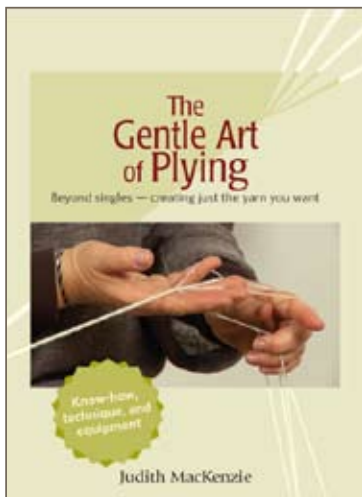


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## New Videos From Interweave Feature Schacht Wheels

Ever wonder if your spinning challenges result from your hands or your spinning wheel? Judith MacKenzie, a widely-respected teacher and author of *The Intentional Spinner*, helps you with one side of the equation with her *Popular Wheel Mechanics* video. She teaches you about basic styles of wheels and how to keep them tuned and worry-free.

Also from MacKenzie is *The Gentle Art of Plying* where she shows you how to create beautiful multiply yarns in a variety of techniques. Both videos feature Schacht wheels and equipment.



You can find out more about these videos at [interweave.com](http://interweave.com), click on the link for Spinning.

## Travel on the World Wide Web for Weavers

Back in the day (say the forties) the only place for a weaver to go to get information was at guild meeting, an annual regional conference, or at good old-fashioned sheep show. Then came along the magazines such as *Shuttlecraft*, *Handweaver and Craftsman*, *Shuttle, Spindle, and Dyepot*, and *Handwoven*. This meant that you could get weaving information delivered right to your door.

Enter the World Wide Web. Today, weaving help is at your fingertips 24/7, as are your weaving friends, mentors, and projects galore. Here are just a few places for a weaver to go on the digital highway.

**Handweaving.net** provides you with over 50,000 weaving drafts at your fingertips. You'll also find digital versions of many public domain books, old manuscripts, and even guild newsletters. This site is supported by sales of CDs and by donations.

**Ravelry.com** started as a social network site for knitters and spinners, but has now officially recognized weaving as a craft category. Join the Schacht Spinners, Wolf Pack, or Cricket Club groups to chat with other users of Schacht tools.

**Weavingtoday.com** is *Handwoven* magazine's social networking site. Read the editors' blogs, sign up for a free weekly e-newsletter that includes the popular Ask Madelyn column, and chat with other *Handwoven* readers.

**Weavezine.com** is a digital magazine chock full of projects. Also on this site you can find *WeaveCast*, a regular podcast devoted to the weaving life.

**Weavolution.com** is a social networking site exclusively dedicated to the handweaver.

**WeaveTech**, a Yahoo group, is perhaps one of the oldest digital gatherings of weavers. This active list has postings daily.

**Weavershand.com** is devoted to tablet weaving, inkle weaving, and many types of braiding.

**Violet Rose** is Jane Patrick's blog. As Creative Director of Schacht Spindle, Jane is always up to something. Look for regular posts on happenings here at Schacht and in the wider world of weaving. Visit [schachtspindle.com](http://schachtspindle.com) and click on "Blog."

**Yearning To Weave** is a monthly digital column written by Mellissa Ludden Hankens for Schacht about her ongoing explorations in weaving on rigid heddle and other types of looms. Visit [schachtspindle.com](http://schachtspindle.com) and click on "Yearning to Weave."

**The Handweavers Guild of America** website ([weavespindye.org](http://weavespindye.org)) is a good place to look for a weaving guild in your area.

Of course there are many, many more websites to explore - just remember to save some time for weaving!

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## Felted Bag and Bottle Cozy

This cute felted bag is perfect for carrying just the essentials. The matching bottle cozy adds a touch of fun to the ensemble. This project is also very economical – all your woven fabric is used.

The cloth was woven on a Schacht School Loom and the twisted cord was made with the Incredible Rope Machine.

### Materials

You'll need two skeins of worsted weight wool yarn, in two different colors. We used Brown Sheep Lamb's Pride (190 yards/skein), but you can use any worsted weight wool yarn that will felt nicely (no superwash yarn).

### Warping and Weaving

Warp the School Loom, starting with two ends of one color, then two ends of the second color. Alternate 2 ends of each color across the loom.



Fabric woven by Jane Patrick and Denise Renée; construction and design: Gail Matthews.

Weave a balanced plain weave at 5 picks per inch, alternating two picks of one color with two picks of the other color. Weave until you have woven the full length of the School Loom. When you finish, remove the piece from the loom and repeat the process to make a second piece of fabric.

Machine wash on the gentle cycle or handwash your fabric to felt it. If you machine wash, check frequently to see how much felting has happened. When your fabric pieces measure approximately 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", you're done. Roll in a towel to squeeze out the water and let the pieces dry flat.

### Make the Bag

Select the felted fabric with the nicest edges – this will be the bag flap. Take the other piece of fabric and cut a piece 7" x 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Save the remaining piece for your water bottle cozy.

Place your uncut fabric on a table, then layer the cut piece on top, matching the uncut ends together (see the diagram on the next page). Machine or hand-stitch around the edges, about 1/4" from the edge. Leave a small opening at the bottom of the bag.

Using one (or both) of your yarns, make a twisted cord about 70" long. Insert

PROJECT

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the uncut end of your cord into the small opening left in the stitching. Starting at the opening and working around the bag to the cut edge, handstitch the cord to the bag using ladder stitch (see diagram below). Measure about 30" to leave free for the strap, then handstitch from the opposite side around to the opening at the bottom.

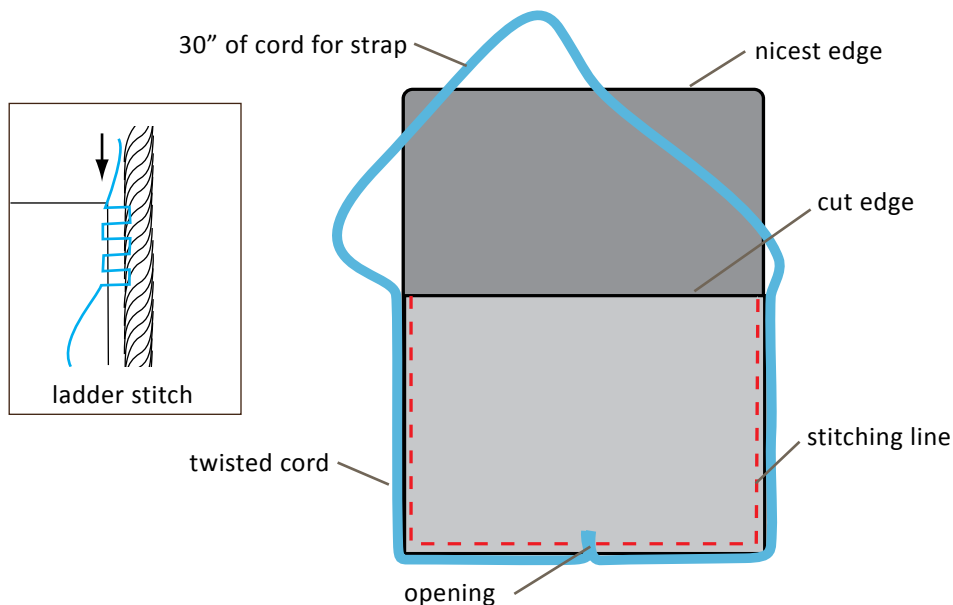
If you have more than a ½" or so of cord left, or if you have a bumpy knot in the end of the cord, mark the point where the cord will be cut with a pin or marking pen. Using regular sewing thread, stitch through the cord just before the mark, wrap the end tightly several times, and stitch through the cord again several times to ensure it won't unravel. Cut off the extra cord, then insert the end of the

cord into the opening. Complete stitching the cord to the bag. Stitch across the opening to close it up.

Embellish the bag flap with a large decorative button and tassel, several small buttons, or whatever you dream up.

### Make the Water Bottle Cozy

Take your leftover strip of felted fabric and overlap the edges to fit your bottle then hand or machine stitch. Embellish the top and bottom edges of the cozy by crocheting with one of your yarns. A single crochet stitch covers the cut edge and gives a nice finish. If you don't crochet, consider making more twisted cord to finish the edges, using a purchased ribbon as a binding, or leave plain.



If you're weaving on a Flip, here are some suggestions to get you started making this project.

The warp should be about 13" wide in a 5-dent reed. A two-yard-long warp should be ample, allowing for loom waste and some space between woven sections.

Warp: 66 ends, 2 yards long, 66 yards each of two colors.

Weft: 38 yards each of two colors for one woven section; 76 yards of each color for the two woven sections. Additional yarn for twisted cord.

Weave 18½", leave a space, weave another 18½".

PROJECT  
Felted Bag and Bottle Cozy