

## Ron Halterman's Studio in Burlington, VT

The workhorse of my home weaving studio is a 47" wide Glimakra Standard countermarch loom that came to me with 10 shafts and 10 treadles in 2015 and I expanded to 12 shafts and 12 treadles in 2019. It and needed accessories about fill one of the three rather small upstairs "bedrooms" in our 1890's house in Burlington. I started weaving with lessons at Webs in Massachusetts in 2011 and have taken week long lessons with Becky at Vavstuga in 2015 and 2019 and with Justin at Marshfield School of Weaving in 2022. In 2016 I took a doubleweave weekend workshop from Jennifer Moore and hosted Joanne Hall at my home studio in 2019. Having superb instruction has been great.



In addition to the loom, other equipment is used to prepare the threads for putting onto the loom. In the photo behind the loom, two items I built are a warping board with pegs to measure out warp threads and a bobbin/spool holder to nicely feed threads for measuring multiple warp threads simultaneously. A manual bobbin winder is attached at a convenient level for me on the back upper corner of the loom. A newer electronic bobbin winder is on the bobbin holder and is great for winding off separate spools from a large cone to enable faster multiple thread winding. I usually wind two threads at a time, often four threads, and occasionally more than four. I find using a temple to hold the width of weaving and an end-feed shuttle works well for me to get clean selvages and a consistent weight on the beat.

I mostly use a vertical reel to measure and prepare the warp. Although this size is sold as a table-mounted reel, I have it on the floor and sit next to it. Spinning it with one hand while just lowering or raising the other hand with the threads is much easier on my shoulders than using the warping board. In the photo I have four balls feeding through a cone holder to wind four threads each pass. If I need to convert skeins to balls, I use an umbrella swift and a larger ball winder (or the electric bobbin winder). I home dye a lot of the yarn I use in projects and also use the umbrella swift to prepare skeins for dyeing. I still have an eye open for a skein winder. Piles of undyed large cones of cotton are in the photo behind the ball winder.



Vertical reel (2.5 m circumference)  
(could be table mounted)  
and thread holder

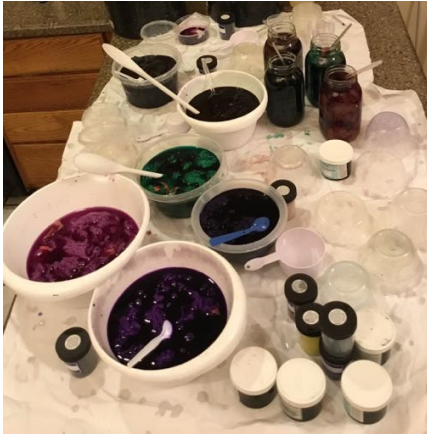


Umbrella swift  
(up to 100")



Large ball winder

Given my professional training as an organic chemist, I am quite comfortable calculating, measuring and home-dyeing yarn for my projects. Home dyeing is particularly useful in keeping in check the stash of yarns in various colors. I do have a good stash of white/natural yarns as substrates for dyeing. For projects such as rugs that eat up a lot of yarn, I do buy professionally dyed wool or heavy cotton yarns. The lefthand dyeing photo shows multiple baths of fiber-reactive procion dyes for cotton (I used 6 colors for a placemat project). The middle photo is silk in four colors and black merino wool drying after dyeing with wash-fast acid dyes (the resulting scarf is shown below). The right photo is space warp dyeing on long tables in the basement for the echo-weave VWG zoom workshop with Denise Kovnats in early 2022.



Some of my finished projects are shown here. Several other projects are listed on my Ravelry project pages under my username bishopcreek.

When I got 10 shafts on the counterchange I was able to convert an 8 shaft doubleweave "tile" pattern into a 3/1 diamond twill with mixing colors with 4 shafts in the tile sections while maintaining a 2 shaft plain weave on the back. The other 4 shafts were used for the black borders on the top and bottom layers.

The left photo is a deflected doubleweave scarf in silk and merino that I wove using a supplementary merino warp to account for different takeup while weaving. The middle photo is of two pillows woven in doubleweave (tubular) using a rosepath threading that enables very clean color separations within each pattern stripe, including "flamepoint" 4 thread patterns in each cotton pillow. Rosepath is also used for the wool rug shown on the right. All of these projects were made on the very versatile Glimakra standard counterchange loom.

