

Deborah Silver, the instructor for the Split Shed Beiderwand workshop, will provide more detailed setup instructions for participants in early fall, but this workshop does require a specific type of warp yarn as well as an additional implement for table loom users as Deborah describes below:

The warp yarn is **8/4 cotton carpet warp**. Many companies carry it in lots of colors, but I recommend the Smokey Blue (color 06). It works well with most weft colors. You may wish to order it from Halcyon Yarn: Item #06012800, or Yarn Barn: Item WY-WARP84, color 33. Both of these companies have volume discounts, so you may wish to order once for the entire group. One ½ lb. cone is plenty for this workshop and costs less than \$10. **DO NOT** use linen or linen blends or other size cottons!

For **table looms** or any loom where a shaft cannot be held up in a half-raised position by treading: Split-shed weaving creates two mini-sheds by moving a layer of warp ends in-between the raised and lowered ends. On a floor loom, this is accomplished by depressing some treadles halfway. On a table loom, you will have to buy a very expensive piece of equipment. Just kidding! It's a stick of wood. Measure the height of your open shed at the reed when it is pushed back. You will need a piece of wood cut to half that height. (See diagram.) The wood needs to be between ½ - 1" deep and at least 12" wide (but shorter than the width of the reed). To make a split shed, you will raise both the upper and "split" shafts all the way. The wood is inserted into the shed against the reed. The split shafts are then lowered and are held up in position by the wood spacer. You may wish to practice this before the workshop to see whether placing the wood spacer either in front or behind the reed makes the sturdiest shed. The wood spacer is removed before beating.

Please see the attached diagram for a look at the table loom spacer.

