

January, February, March 2012 Navajo Weaving Classes

By Navajo Weaver, Lynda Teller Pete, Fifth Generation Weaver

According to Navajo oral tradition two holy people, Spider Woman and Spider Man, introduced weaving to the Navajo. Spider Man constructed the first loom, which was composed of sunshine, lightning, and rain; and Spider Woman taught the people how to weave on it. Spider Woman was discovered by the Holy Twins, the culture heroes of the Navajo Creation Story, in a small opening in the earth surrounded by an array of beautiful weavings. Entering her dwelling, the Holy Twins descended a ladder made of yarn, whereupon Spider Woman offered them knowledge of the world of weaving.

These Navajo Weaving workshops are open to beginners and experienced Navajo style weavers alike in Denver, Colorado. Students will have the opportunity to learn the art of weaving from Navajo Weaver, Lynda Teller Pete. While instructing and demonstrating, Lynda will share personal stories and experiences, allowing participants the chance to gain fascinating insights into the world of Navajo weaving. Classes available for those that want to start at the beginning with warping and learning to weave the "Navajo Way" on an upright loom, while experienced weavers work to refine their techniques and explore ideas for more complex designs. Navajo upright vertical looms will be fully warped and set up. Students will receive individualized instruction in areas of their choosing. Navajo history, culture, spirituality and weaving taboos will also be discussed along the way. All classes will accommodate both beginning and intermediate students.

Weekend Weaving and Warping Classes – Central Denver

2142 Irving Street Denver, CO 80211 Phone: (303) 561-1582 Web: www.navajorugweavers.com

January, February 2012 Class – 4 Days of Class in one week

Tuesday, January 31, 2012 10 am – 4 pm
Wednesday, February 1, 2012 10 am – 4 pm
Thursday, February 2, 2012 10 am – 4 pm
Friday, February 3, 2012 10 am – 4 pm

March 2012 Class - 4 Days of Class on separate weekends

Saturday, March 3, 2012 10 am – 4 pm
Sunday, March 4, 2012 10 am – 4 pm
Saturday, March 24, 2012 10 am – 4 pm
Sunday, March 25, 2012 10 am – 4 pm

March 2012 Class – 4 Days of Class in one week

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 10 am – 4 pm
Wednesday, March 7, 2012 10 am – 4 pm
Thursday, March 8, 2012 10 am – 4 pm
Friday, March 9, 2012 10 am – 4 pm

Please call to confirm a spot in the upcoming 2012 classes and for class fees. We look forward to sharing our weaving knowledge with you and we promise you will have a great time!! Thank you.

Lynda Teller Pete, 2142 Irving Street Denver, CO 80211 **303 561-1582**
lynda@navajorugweavers.com www.navajorugweavers.com

Navajo Weaving Class

Beginning Students – Pre-Warped 12.5" wide X 16.5" high loom:

Fees are for beginning weaving instructions. The loom will be fully warped and set up. This fee is also for the rental of the loom, tabletop attachment, clamps, heddle, and shed rods, preparation of warp and selvage cords and rental of all weaving tools during the scheduled class time. A striped pattern is recommended for Beginning Weavers. Beginning students will use bulky weight wool, 1 ply, preferably from the Brown Sheep wool company. You may take the loom home to weave. Upon completion of class, please return loom and weaving tools.

Intermediate Students – Pre-Warped 12.5" wide X 16.5" high loom:

Fees are for advanced weaving instructions and other advanced weaving techniques. The loom will be fully warped and set up. This fee is also for the rental of the loom, tabletop attachment, clamps, heddle, and shed rods, preparation of warp and selvage cords and rental of all weaving tools during the scheduled class time. Intermediate Weaving students will learn the braided selvage cord edge, complex designs and design development. Intermediate Weavers may use worsted weight, or the sport weight, 1 ply wool. You may take the loom home to weave. Upon completion of class, please return loom and weaving tools.

\$100 Non-refundable deposit required by:

January 27, 2012 for the one week class on January 31, February 1, 2, 3, 2012 class
February 29, 2012 for the 2 separate weekend class on March 3, 4, 24, 25, 2012 class
March 2, 2012 for the one week class on March 6, 7, 8, 9, 2012 class

Make check payable to:

Lynda Pete

2142 Irving Street
Denver, CO 80211

There will also be extra pre-warped rugs, looms, weaving tools and wool available for sale during class. Classroom looms with a tabletop attachment is available for purchase for \$125.00

Class fee includes preparation of warp, selvage cords and the use of the following materials:

Wool Warp, Wool Salvage cord, Nylon thread for Heddle dowel

String, scotch tape, graph paper, pencils, scissors, and rulers, sandpaper, emery boards

3 - ½" wood dowels and 2 - ¼" wood dowels for the heddle and shed pulleys

Wire – 18 gauge, wire cutters, and pliers

Wood Batten and finishing batten, wire battens used during the finishing process

Comb and finishing comb

Sacking needle, long wire needle, medium and short wire needles

Weaving loom, tabletop attachments and clamps

You may bring a container from home to hold your wool and tools.

You may bring a pad for your chair, clamp on light to see your work better and a small clamp on fan to blow the wool fibers away as you work. A back support pillow is recommended for those that have back issues.

Warping Class

A one day Warping class is available for students that want to learn the intensive warping process. Warping may take 4 to 6 hours depending on the size. from 10 am to 4 pm. Deposit for warping is \$25.00
9 am to 4 pm

Warp a 16.5 high by 12.5 wide rug using your loom that you purchased in class. If you would like to warp a different size, please let me know in advance so the materials are ready for your project.

****Drill holes in the sides for the warping dowels if you are bringing your own loom.**

The fee includes warping instructions, preparation of warp, selvage cords and the use of the following materials:

String, scotch tape, graph paper, pencils, scissors, rulers, emery boards

2 - 1" wood dowels for warping, sharpie pen

2 - ½" wood dowels and 2 - ¼" wood dowels for the heddle and shed pulleys, sandpaper

4 bolts, 4 butterfly wing nuts, 4 conduits ,1 metal tension rod, 2 or 3 metal turnbuckles

Wire – 18 gauge, wire cutters, and pliers, Nylon thread for the heddle dowel

1 warp ball to warp 16.5" X 12.5" rug (email if you are warping a project larger or smaller than this size, so I have the warp available), Selvage cord

Wool

Worsted Weight Wool – (*Advanced Students may use Sport Weight wool*). Brown Sheep Company wool will be used in class. It's easier to weave if you have the same weight of wool, so stick to all worsted weight (One Ply) for beginning students. Choose a combination of light and dark wool for best visual effects. There will be a selection of wool in full skeins at \$7.00 each and small balls of wool for color accents, \$3, and \$4 each available in class.

Looms

Looms are built by Belvin Pete. Belvin is also from a Navajo weaving family from Dziłth-na-o-dith-hle, NM, Navajo Nation and was given the task of making weaving tools as a youth. Belvin is a Mechanical Engineer by trade and has designed some unique looms for Lynda and her weaving family. The basic classroom loom is designed for students to warp and weave on the same loom. Belvin has created a tabletop attachment so that students do not have to sit on the floor or adjust the height of their chairs. The loom can be adjusted to eye level and to alleviate back and neck pain. The attachment may be taken off and both pieces can then be easily transported or stored if there is a shortage of space in one's home. The loom and attachments are very versatile, portable, strong and durable but is still a traditional Navajo upright vertical loom. All warping and weaving dowels are included, and upon request, metal turnbuckles and clamps. The looms and attachments are available for purchase. Belvin does have a variety of easels, some with a detachable shelf for wool and weaving tools. Custom looms can be made in a variety of woods and finishes. Looms that can be disassembled for traveling may also be ordered