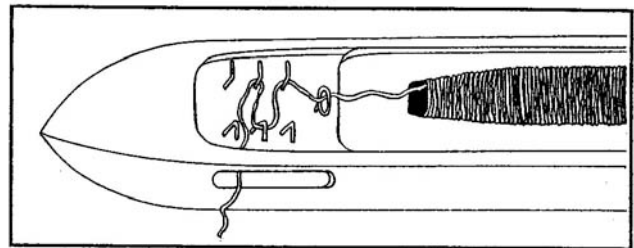

◆ YARN TENSIONING & BOBBIN-FILLING ◆

BLUSTER BAY END-FEED BOAT SHUTTLES

End-feed boat shuttles use a special bobbin (sometimes called a pirn) that does not spin on its spindle. Instead, the yarn is released off the end of the bobbin, through a tensioning device, and then out the side of the shuttle. This design allows for consistent weft tension no matter how much yarn is on the bobbin. The result is faster weaving with smooth selvages.

To thread your Bluster Bay end-feed shuttle:

1. Feed the weft yarn through the screw eye at the end of the bobbin shaft. It may be easier to do this *before* you slip the full bobbin onto the shaft.
2. Pull the end of the yarn out the slot on the side of the shuttle.
3. To adjust the tension, hook the yarn around as many brass hooks as necessary. A small crochet hook may be of aid.



When tensioned correctly, the weft should unwind freely as the shuttle is thrown. It should neither pull too tightly nor leave loops of weft at the selvages. The number of tensioning hooks you use will vary with every weft yarn. Bulky, fuzzy yarn may need no tensioning. Very fine linen, silk or Mylar filament may need to be looped around all of the hooks.



To unwind smoothly, end-feed bobbins must be wound correctly. Many types of bobbin-winders may be used to fill end-feed bobbins, including hand-operated winders designed for side-delivery bobbins or paper quills. However, the shafts on some winders may need to be built up with masking tape, duct tape or surgical tubing to provide a snug fit for end-feed bobbins.

When filling the bobbin, always keep your tension *very* firm. The full bobbin should feel hard. Begin winding yarn at the wide end of the bobbin, initially covering about one inch. Gradually wind on more yarn, carefully following the cone shape of the bobbin. Move down the bobbin about one-half inch with each new layer of yarn. Each layer should cover no more than about two inches. Keep in mind that the weft will unwind off the small end of the bobbin. Never wind too far forward or back over the area already filled. With practice, winding an end-feed bobbin is no more difficult than filling a conventional, side-feed bobbin.

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