

## Mini Owl Pattern

## Note: Please read the Getting Started leaflet first. This describes setting the loom ready to weave etc.

The image below is the pattern for the owl. It is of smaller size about 4.5inch high and 3.5inch wide. This size was based on the sample yarns included with the Leesa T weaving loom.
If you are using yarn you already have (and therefore have more of it) you can adjust the pattern accordingly. If this it the case I suggest drawing up the pattern by hand on a sheet of paper. Start with a box for the final size then draw in lines for the color changes following a similar pattern as this original. The main thing to consider is the change of colour for the 'head' part. The fringe is at the bottom of the 'head' - where a neck would be if an owl had a neck!
Color A:2 rows

With your purchase of the Leesa T weaving loom you will receive 2 colors of yarn. These colors are random, but any combination of colors will look great with this owl pattern.

When you purchase this loom you will see one color will be threaded through a bit on the loom, as a sample of the weaving technique.
Have a look at this sample and see how the colored yarn is woven over a vertical thread (the warp thread) and then under the next one.

Also notice how the next row is threaded the opposite way to the row below and above it.

This is how plain weaving is done. You will be doing this plain weave to make the owl.

Now remove this weaving that is already done as for the owl we don't need to weave fully across the loom. Wind this yarn back on to the shed stick.

With the other color wind some on to the other shed stick (about 10 times around - we do not want it too bulky). Or thread some on the curved needle if you prefer to use that.

Decide on your color $A$ and $B$ for the pattern above. In this sample $A$ is red and $B$ is white.

START FROM THE BOTTOM of the pattern, and you will need to start the weaving a bit up from the edge of the loom - so that you have enough vertical (warp thread) to tie knots when you have finished. To help keep it straight you can thread a piece of cardboard through first. (See image next page).

The width of the owl will only use 12 of the warp threads (vertical thread already in place). You can work in the middle or on one side it is up to you, but only use 12 warp threads.
With color A - unwind some yarn from the shed stick - about 2-3 times the width of the owl, to use for you first 2 or so rows of weaving.

Shed stick with yarn wrapped around

Use either your curved needle or the shed stick for weaving the yarn.


Start at one side and feed the shed stick over, then under, then over etc each warp (vertical) thread. One you reach the other side pull the yarn through BUT leave about 3 inches out at the starting end (you will sew this into the back at the end).


Push down neatly with the comb and come back again, threading in the opposite way to the 1 st row you did. Push down neatly with the comb. At the turn around point at each end, make sure you do not pull it too tight - just keep it neat. If it is too tight it will make the shape of the weaving narrower instead of straight at the sides.

Stop at these 2 rows and and check what you have done. Is each strand showing opposite over the vertical yarn from the row below? If not, you will need to pull the color yarn back out and re-do it correctly.

Repeat until 10 rows of this color are completed. Leave a tail of $3^{\prime \prime}$ then cut off this color. If you want you can tie this tail in a single knot around the last warp (vertical) thread - just to keep it nicely in place. (Remember the tails of yarn will be sewn in later to tidy it up).


Using your color B-start weaving in the same way.
Remember to leave 3-4" tail AND to thread it the opposite way to the previous row.
2 rows of color B are required here for the pattern.
Now you have the hang of it, it is time to start refering to the patttern. It describes the color to use (A or B) and how many rows.


After the 14 rows of color A you are up to the 'neck' of the owl and we need to get ready to add the fringe (Rya Knots). Changing to color B, first weave 2 plain rows (as you have already been doing). This gives the fringe a base to sit on. Leave this color attached - you will continue on with it after the fringe is in.

## To make the fringe - the Rya Knot:

For this owl project we will use a simple rya knot - with just one strand of yarn per knot.

For a thicker fringe you can use 2-3 strands per knot - but I do not want you to run out of the sample yarn that was included in the kit - thus the simple version.

Cut pieces of yarn twice the length of the fringe you require. About 2.5". Each knot incorporates 2 warp (vertical) threads - therefore cut 7 strands (for the 7 knots).

Thread your cut fringe yarn using your fingers as shown in this diagram. Once you have threaded through as shown, adjust it so the 2 lengths of the fringe are the same length.

Tighten it slightly and pull down to the row beneath, tighten it fully when at this row.
Continue for each knot. The tightening of each knot also brings in the edges, forming an indent - making it more of a kneck shape.


You can trim the fringe with scissors to make it shorter if required or even then ends.

## If you need a video, there is one under Weaving Patterns on the website.

## Continue up the 'head'

Continue with color B for 20 rows after the Rya Knots you have just done.

Change to Color A for 2 rows. Shape the middle of the top of the head down into a 'V' shape. Just by pushing down with your comb in the middle. (You can shape it a bit more in the finishing steps).

You have finished the main shape of the owl. Congratulations.

## Finishing.

1. Cut the warp threads off the loom - keep them as long as possible.


Step 1

Step 2

2. Tie each set of 2 strands together in a double knot close to the weave to keep it in place.
3. On the top - take the 3 strands each side and knot them together at the base by the weaving. This will provide three strands ready for plaiting. Plait each side to make the hanging string and tie them to each other.

4. Sew each loose thread into the back of the weave with your straight needle.

When sewing be careful to just pick up a bit of the yarn on the back. Do not feed the needle through to the front side of the weaving. You want to keep your sewing just on the back.

## Sew the ones at the top of head between ears a bit tighter to create an indent - so ears each side stick up a bit.



TIP: Because the yarn is made up of several threads they can make it difficult to thread through the needle. To overcome this: fold the yarn tightly over the needle, pulling tight slip the yarn off the end of the needle that has the eye in it. Keeping the loop form with your fingers, thread this FOLDED OVER thread through the needle. See below.


TIP: If the thread you have to sew in is too short, work your needle into the weave BEFORE you thread it. Thread the yarn in while the needle is threaded through - pull through once the yarn is through the needle eye.
5. Continue around and sew all the loose threads into the back of the owl.
6. Tie some color A at top each corner - ears. (See image).

7. Add the eyes and beak. Either paper version glued on (or perhaps stitched in place) or use felt shapes. (The outer ring of the eye is about the size of a Quarter).

8. Find a twig in your garden or a park - for the owl to stand on.

Sew one of your colors as the feet - 2 loops around the twig for each foot.
Or if you have something yellow - use that.
9. Hang and admire.


