

Kromski Harp Rigid Heddle Loom

Assembly Instructions

You are about to embark on a type of weaving that has been practiced for thousands of years - weaving with a rigid heddle loom. With the Kromski Harp, you will be able to create interesting and varied projects that will spark your continued interest in the art of weaving. If this is your first loom you will find your efforts quickly rewarded; if you are an experienced weaver, you will find that your Harp can take you to a new horizon of weaving. Have fun. *Color pictures and instructions are on-line at: www.newvoyager.com/rigiduse.html*



Assembly - putting your loom together is easy. Some parts have been assembled already; others just require a screwdriver. We ask you to refer to the parts drawing to identify the various parts and see where they are positioned on the loom. Proceed with the following steps and also refer to the process on the New Voyager video that comes with your loom; it will be a great help.

1. Place the two side frames on a work surface. You identify the rear of each side by looking at the hinge; the hinge swings from the rear section of each side; the hinges will be on the outside of the loom.
2. Locate the two plastic paws and two pan head screws in the parts bag. With the screw through the hole in the paw, attach the paws, front and rear, to the right frame. You will be using the holes on the right frame that are closest to both ends. The paw has a head that looks like Woody Woodpecker; make sure the beak points to the ends of the frame (these will engage the ratchet on the beams).
3. Place the front and rear beams into the large holes at the front and back of each side frame with the plastic ratchet to the right. These beams look alike but they are different. Examine the plastic ratchet on each beam. The teeth have an angle; the front beam's teeth must point towards the back, the back beam's teeth must point towards the front. Test by making sure the plastic paws securely engage the ratchet on each beam. Do not attach any further parts to the beams at this time.
4. Place the two cross supports between the side frames, leg side down. You will find a number on both ends of each support; match these numbers to corresponding numbers you will find on the inside of each side frame. Attach the cross supports to the side frame using the wood screws (8) in your parts bag. Get all eight screws started before you tighten all of them. (Numbers on the loom may not correspond with the locations as shown on the parts picture; match numbers as they are on the loom pieces)
5. Attach the 4 handles to the ends of the front and rear beams using the screw that is already located in each handle. Line up the screw hole in the handle with the marked hole on the end of the beams. Tighten firmly.
6. Mount a heddle holder on the inside of each side frame using a bolt, washer and wing nut, making sure the small wooded peg on the outside of the holder lines up with a hole that is drilled on the side frame. The bolt should be inserted from the inside and the washer and wing nut should be on the outside

of the frame. There are two mounting positions for heddle holders on each side frame; use the forward position when you mount your holders.

Optional - the Harp can accommodate two sets of heddle holders; holes for the second set are already positioned on the side frame. Make sure if you are using just one set to position the holders in the front position.

7. Using beam dowels - to secure your warp to the front and rear beams you will be using the two supplied beam dowels (there are various methods for warping a loom; if you are more comfortable with some alternative methods, feel free to use them; or experiment). Proceed as follows:

Rear beam - your loom includes a number of braided strings. Gather all of these strings. Begin by trimming each string so that all strings are exactly the same length.

Light a candle. Holding an end in each hand, bring the ends into the flame for a short period so that the ends begin to melt (should an end catch on fire just shake to extinguish). While the two ends are melted, line them up and butt them together in a manner that causes a small bubble to “bulge up” where the two ends have been pushed together.

CAUTION - this joint will be hot. Hold for several seconds, allowing the joint to begin to cool. Repeat with the remaining strings. You can test the strength of the joint by trying to pull it apart (after it cools). It should be difficult to break.

Thread half the loop of strings through the holes that are located along the length of the rear beam. Do them all the same way. Thread the end of the string loop through the front of the loop as it protrudes through the hole in the beam. All the loops should be positioned identically along the beam. See section on warping your loom with the Warp Helper for further instructions.

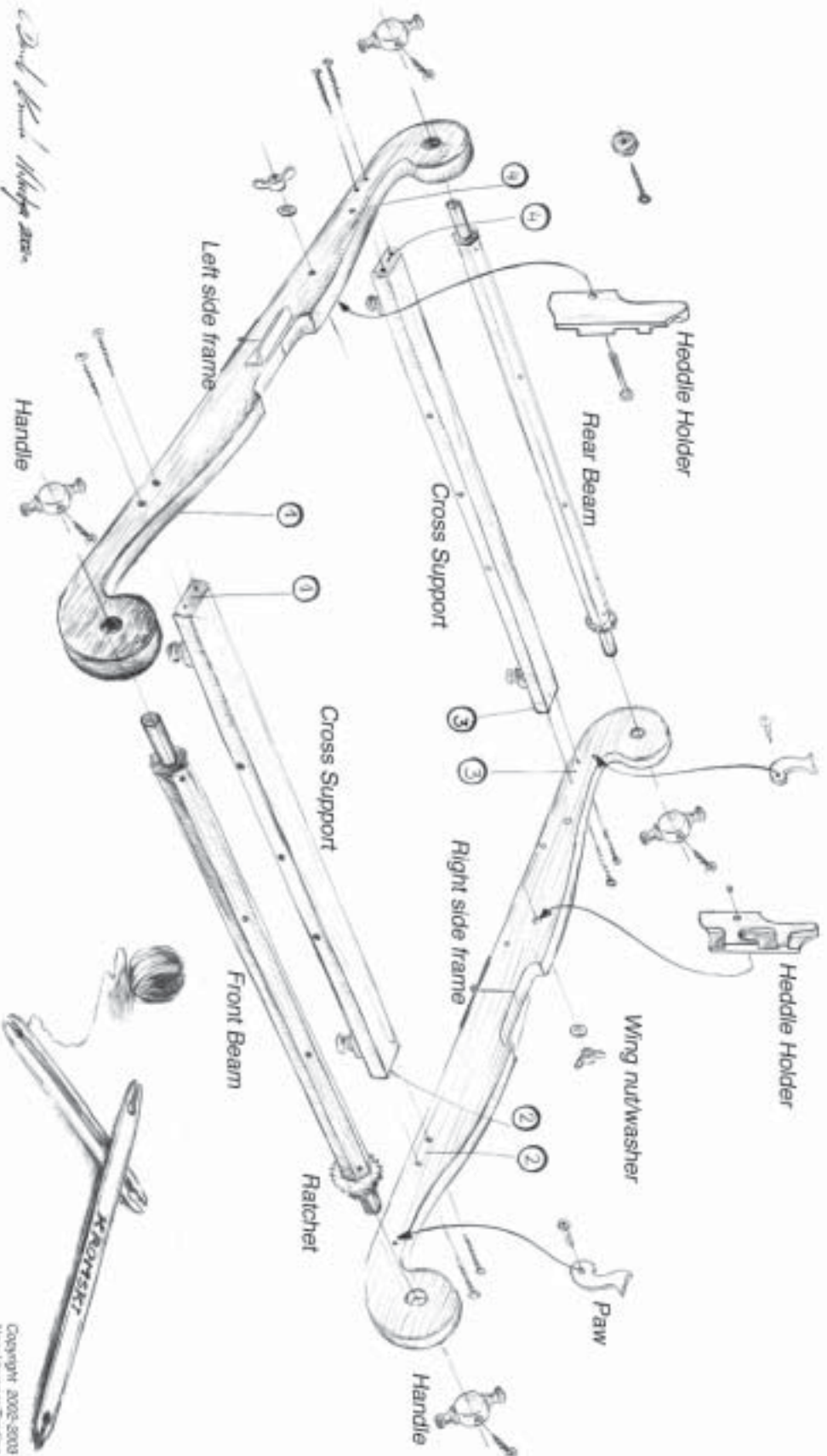
Front beam - repeat the above instructions for the front beam. When you get to the point of tying the warp to the front you will create an overhand loop with each string and slide the dowel through each along the length of the dowel (this will be identical to the rear beam).

You Kromski Harp is now ready for your first weaving project.



Kromski Harp

Parts and Assembly



David Kromski Harp Makers since 1870

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