

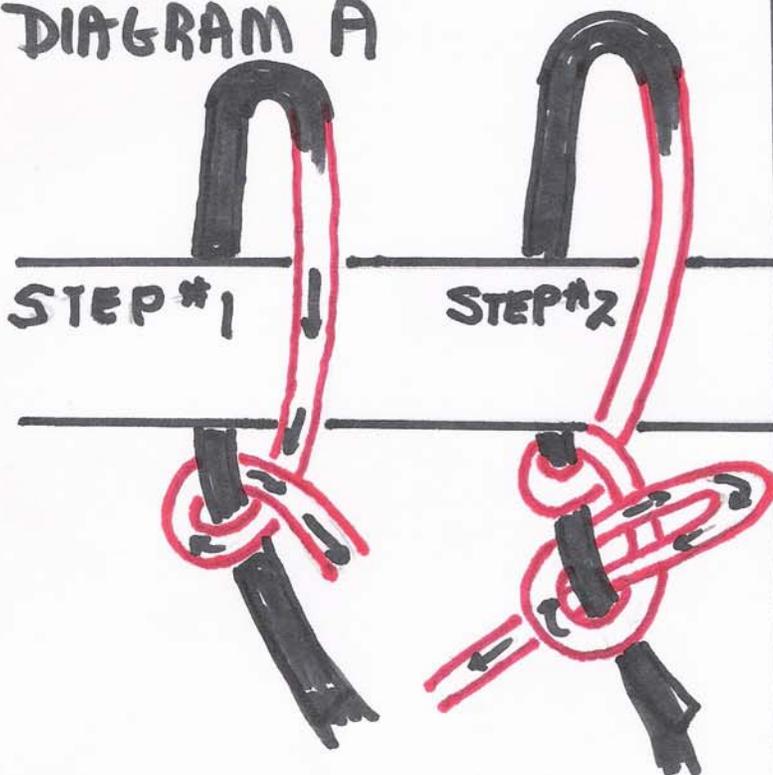
A Method for 4 Selvedge Warping

1. Tie the scaffolding bar very tightly in place (the desired height of weaving is between bottom of scaffold bar and top of bottom beam of loom). I use two strong warp threads to tie scaffold to top of loom and then to bottom of loom, as the pressure will in be in different directions as the warping is continued. Use the half hitch so tension can be easily adjusted (diagram A). Then put on the supplemental warp (diagram D), which is the warp that will allow us to have a shed all the way to the top of the loom. This should be a minimum of 15” or more.
2. Attach the weaving warp to the bottom supplemental warp with a removable knot (diagram B). The supplemental warp in this case can be heavier than the weaving warp as we also use it as a spacer between the loops. Place the supplemental warp to the back of the beam and the weaving warp to the front. To lock these in the proper location proceed as in diagram E. This will center the first weaving warp on the bottom beam and make it easier to start the weaving. You will be putting on the weaving warp and interlocking it with the supplemental warp at the top and then with the wrapping warp at the bottom. On the bottom, extra wraps are required to make the spacing. Finish the warp by locking it in the same manner as you began (diagram E).
3. Remove scaffold bar after checking to ensure all 3 warps are connected to each other at all junctions. They should be connected under the scaffold bar and on top of the bottom beam. Now you must put in shed sticks using each connected loop as if they were one warp. (You will need 2 shed sticks to maintain an even tension, and tension is the issue in this type of arrangement). (Diagram F)
4. Begin weaving. If the shed sticks are correct you will be weaving over 2, under 2, (or over one loop, under one loop) with the shed open all the way to the top of the loom.
5. Weave up to where the loops meet until when you press down very tightly on the weft only the very tip of the weaving warp loop shows. The final weft pass should be a finer weft (but strong) and with a needle pass it through the top of the loops of the weaving warp. (Diagram G). I often use a fine strong linen thread for this final weft through the loops.

6. Untie the knot used to connect the bottom supplemental warp to the weaving warp (both beginning and end warps). These warps of the weaving will be threaded back into the work after removal (do not cut!!).
7. Now you may cut off the top and bottom supplemental warps just an inch or so from the actual finished tapestry (remember not to cut thru that 1st and last warp). Pull out the supplemental loops from the weaving and needle that 1st and last warp and the end of the last weft(s) into adjacent spaces. (You can also remove the supplemental warp without cutting (if you have enough patience) and reuse it)
8. Please note that the control of tension in the use of this technique is crucial and it is recommended that you start with a small weaving, perhaps bookmark size, and progress up in size slowly until you have become accustomed to dealing with the fact that if you pull too hard on one warp, because all warp are connected, it can throw off the evenness of the top connecting loops.
9. Also note that although we are using a warp doubled you cannot just cut the warp sett in half. For instance, if you are using a warp that is good for 12 e.p.i. and double it, you would think that it is a 6 e.p.i. sett. But in fact it will be more like an 8 e.p.i. because the warps will twist on themselves and sometimes lie behind each other, causing a greater space in-between. Ideally you want the space between the warp to be just a bit bigger than the warp itself for a tradition sett. Happy warping and good weaving.

Susan Martin Maffei
2008

HALF HITCH DIAGRAM A



HITCH OR BO DIAGRAM B

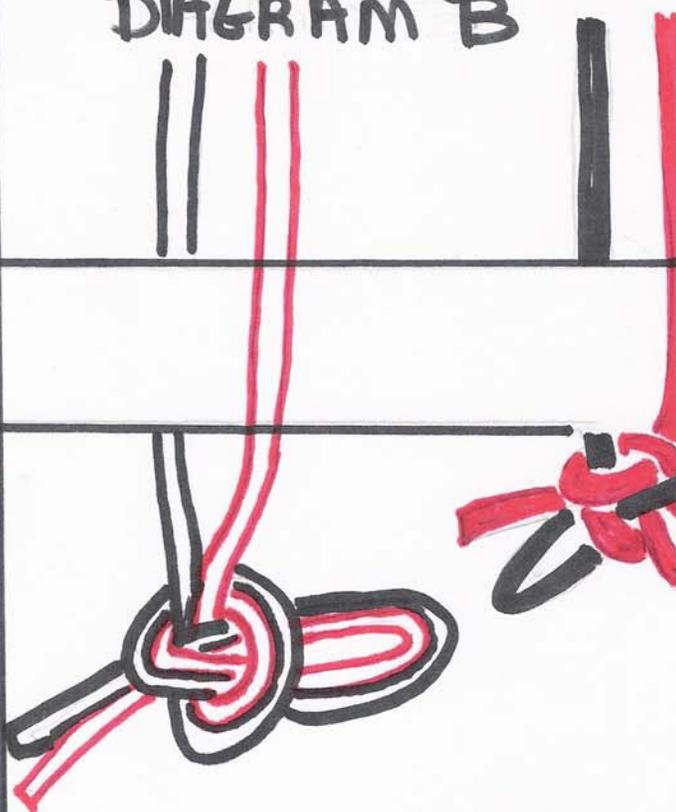


DIAGRAM C

SUGGESTED METHOD TO LOCK FIRST WARP
IN CENTER OF BOTTOM BEAM

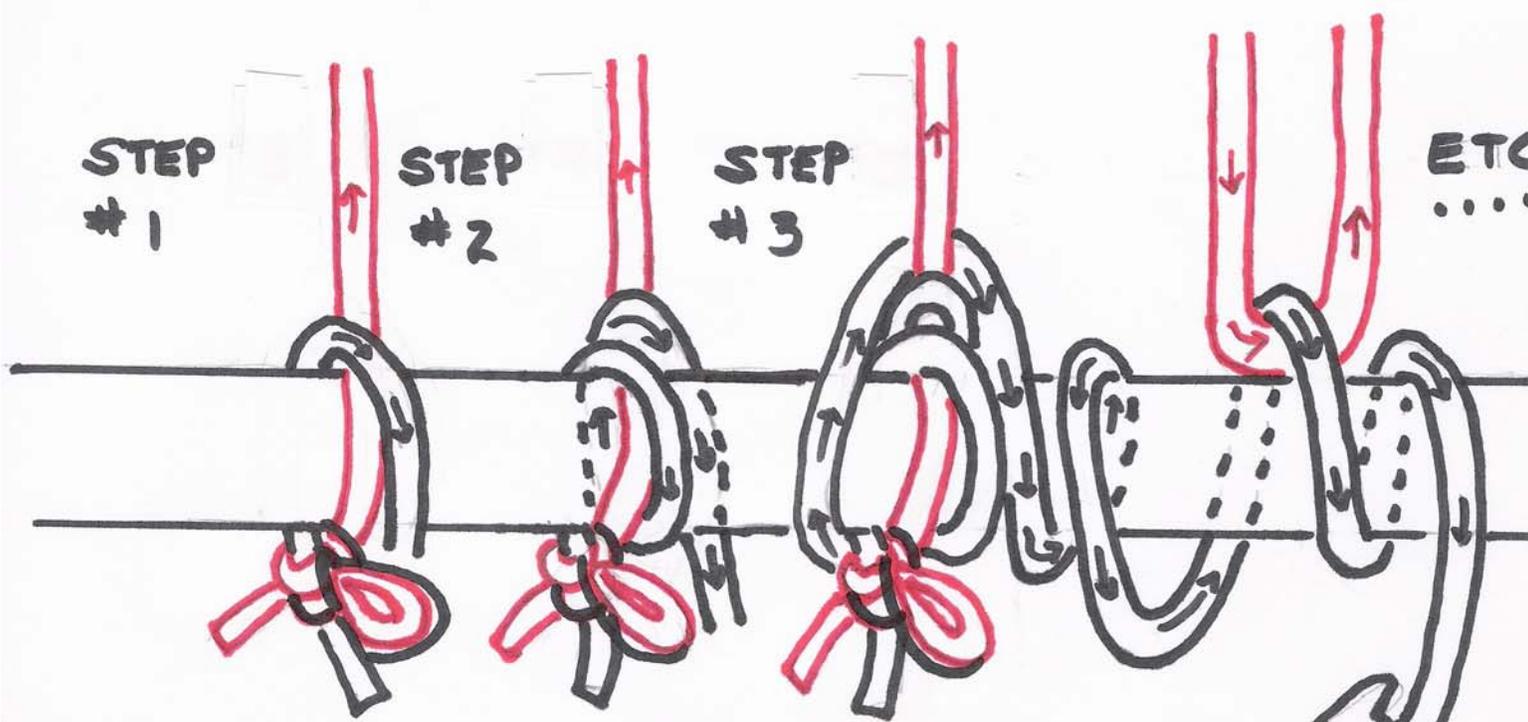


DIAGRAM D

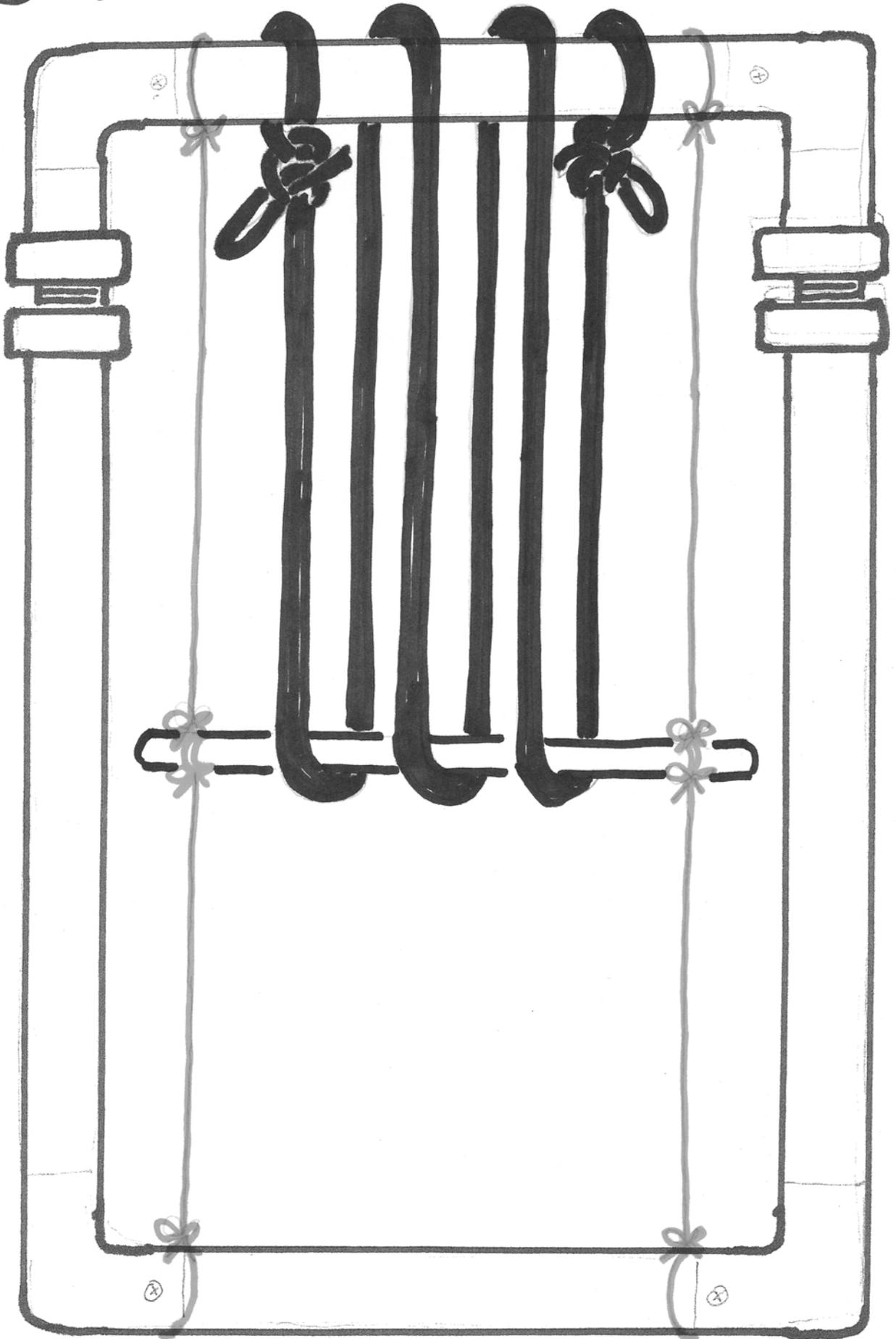


DIAGRAM E

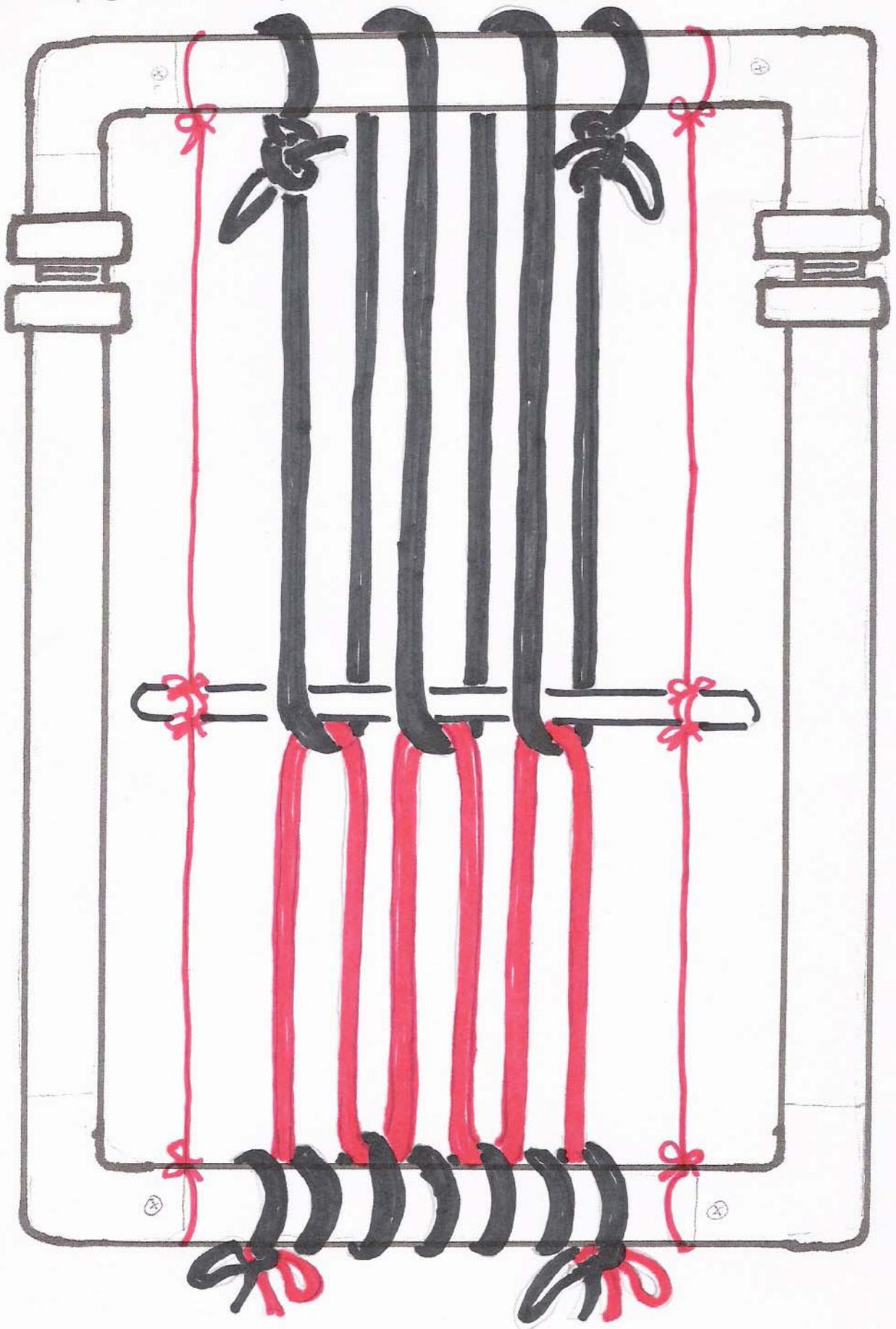


DIAGRAM F

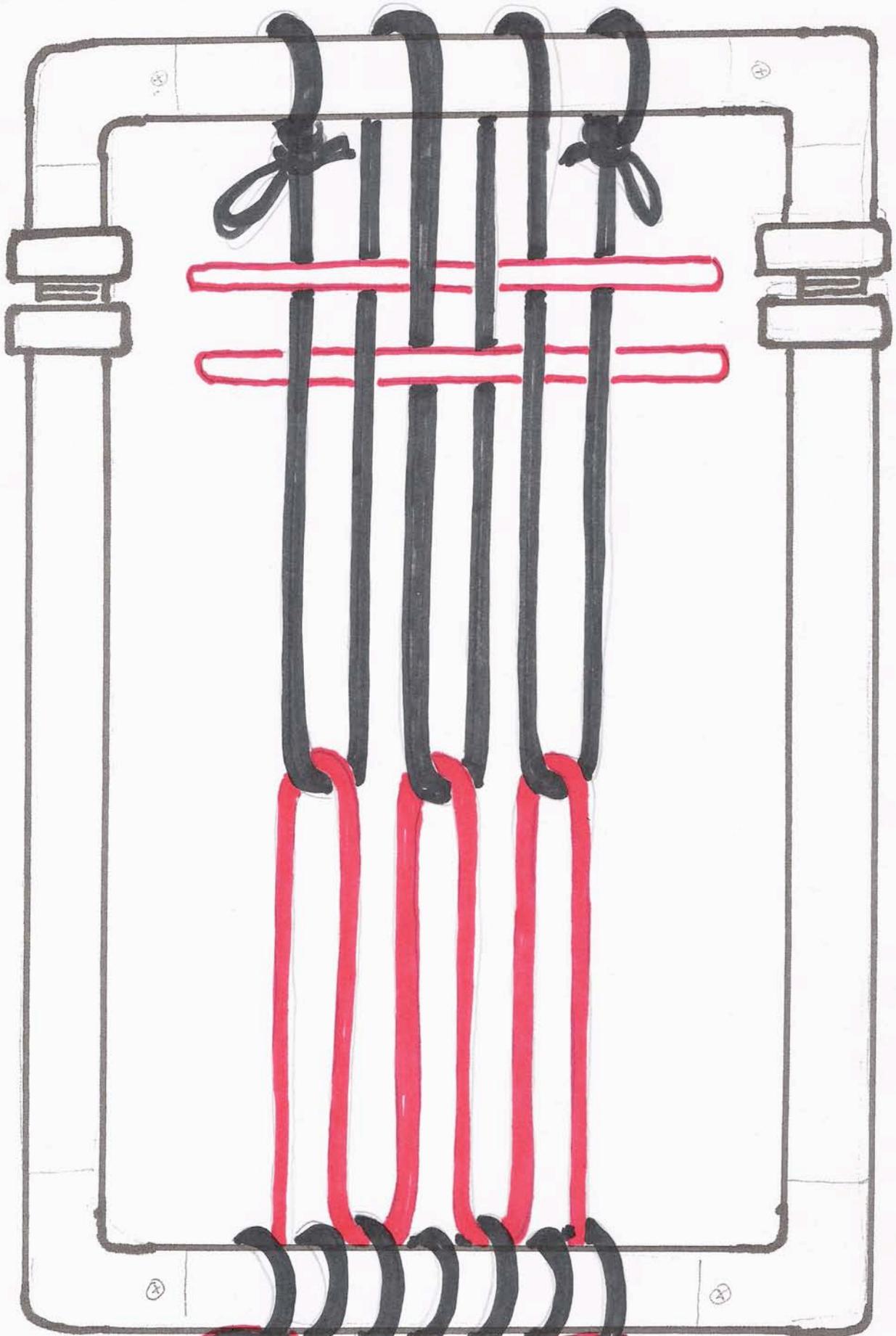


DIAGRAM G

