

Radial Weavings



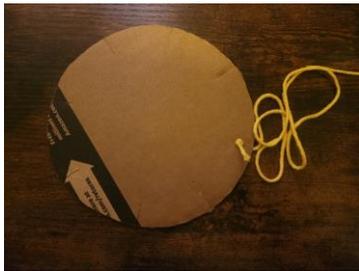
Mandalas are a form of art that uses radial symmetry and geometric shape. This work, *Mandala Cosmic Tapestry in the 9th Roving Moon Up-Close*, features complex crocheted patterns, colors, and textures. The artist, Xenobia Bailey is known for their textile works, especially crocheted mandalas. Bailey famously draws inspiration from funk music and Native American, African, Hindu, and Buddhist cultures when creating her work. Experiment with radial symmetry and textile techniques to create a radial weaving.

Xenobia Bailey (American, born 1955) *Mv:#9 (Mandala Cosmic Tapestry in the 9th Roving Moon Up-Close)* from the series *Paradise Under Reconstruction in the Aesthetic of Funk, Phase II*, 1999, Crochet, acrylic and cotton yarn, beads and cowrie shell. Purchase: The Reverend and Mrs. Van S. Merle-Smith, Jr. Endowment Fund, 2000. (2000.17.2)

Supplies Needed:

- Cardboard or paper plate
- A circle tracer or compass
- Yarn, string or fabric scraps
- Scissors

Follow these steps to make your radial weaving:



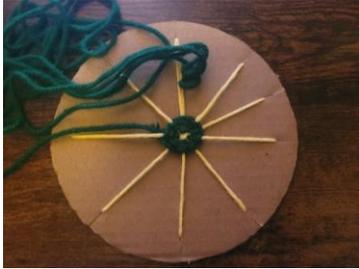
Step 1: Trace and cut out a cardboard circle. You can also use a paper plate or paper bowl. This will be your loom.

Step 2: Use your scissors to make an odd number of cuts into the edge of your loom. They should be evenly spaced out, like slices of pizza. Your cuts should be about an inch long.



Step 3: Tie a knot at the end of a long piece of string. Slide it through the back of one of the cuts in your cardboard. Thread your loom by running the long piece of yarn through all of the cuts in the loom. Tie a

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knot on the back of your loom once every notch is threaded. These are your “Warp” strings.

Step 4: On the front of your loom, start your radial weaving by tying a new piece of yarn to a warp string, close to the center. This is the “Weft”. Make a radial weaving by pulling your weft over your warp, then under. Repeat this pattern, going over and under in a circle to build your weaving.



Step 5: When you run out of weft material, tie another piece of material on. Try switching between different colors and textures. Leave about an inch of free space between the edge of the warp and your weaving. When you are finished, tie the weft to a warp string. Use a pair of scissors to cut each warp string. Tie a knot at the edge of the warp string through the weft to keep your weaving together.

