

The Weavers Guild of Greater Kansas receives inquiries from individuals who have inherited a loom or found one in a basement or barn. Many of these looms are disassembled and in need of restoration. If you have come into possession of an older loom and want to know how to proceed, we have developed these FAQs (frequently asked questions) for you.

Used Loom FAQ

Can I donate my used loom to the Weavers Guild?

Yes, but only if it is in working condition. First, you will need to submit photos and a description of the loom and we will contact you to discuss options. If the loom is of unknown age or in poor condition, we will likely not accept the donation. Send inquiries to our email address: <u>weaversguild@gmail.com</u>

Can I donate it to a museum?

Please contact any museum you wish; however, the Guild is unaware of any museum looking for used looms.

Can the Weavers Guild help me sell my loom and related fiber equipment?

Yes. Go to our <u>Selling Your Stash</u> page on our website and complete the online form. After we receive your information, it will be listed in the next <u>monthly newsletter</u>. We recommend that items be priced between 1/3 to 1/2 of new cost, depending on age and condition.

Another option is a Facebook listing. You can submit photos and a description on several independent Facebook groups, e.g., The Weavers Marketplace or Fiber Equipment for Sale, etc. The KC Weavers Guild Facebook page does not list equipment for sale.

I want to restore my used loom, where do I start?

1. Inspect the loom for warping and rust

A wood loom in storage for a long time may have been exposed to temperature and humidity fluctuations that can warp the wood and rust metal parts. These conditions affect the integrity of the loom and can present weaving challenges later on. Determining overall condition of the wood and metal parts will help determine if the loom is worthy of the time and money needed to get it in working condition.

2. Determine who made the loom

The next important thing you'll need to know is who made it. Look around for a stamp or metal placard that will indicate the manufacturer. You may find that the manufacturer is still making looms and you can contact them for parts and owner's manuals. If there is no manufacturer's label, it may be a hand-built loom. In this situation, parts will be difficult to acquire.

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3. Next steps

With the above information, you can begin assessing your needs, ordering parts and get started with restoration. A good cleaning and wood wax application is a great place to start.

Can someone from the Guild help me reassemble it?

The Guild has a mentor/mentee program for members. Our mentors are experienced weavers and available to assist new loom owners and weavers.

How do I join the Weavers Guild?

Visit the <u>Membership</u> page on our website to download an application and learn more about the Guild and the many benefits of membership.

Where do I go to learn how to weave?

Joining the Weavers Guild is a great beginning to your weaving education. As a member, you are able to meet other weavers, choose a mentor, participate in Guild workshops and learn more at monthly programs. The Weavers Guild hosts several workshops throughout the year that enhance our skills and inspire our imagination. More information can be found online at www.kcweaversguild.org

I have more questions, who do I contact?

- Email: Send questions to the Guild email address at: weaversguild@gmail.com
- Online: <u>www.kcweaversguild.org</u>