Structure: Plain weave with pick up and twills.

Equipment: Rigid-heddle loom with 2-heddle block, 10” weaving width; 2 5-dent rigid heddles; 2 pick-up sticks at least 12” long; 2 stick shuttles; 1 boat shuttle with 5 bobbins; tapestry needle; 12” wooden dowel; 13 yd sturdy pearl cotton or carpet warp for making heddles.

Yarns:
Warp: Cotton Fleece (80% cotton/20% merino wool; 215 yd/100 g skein, 980 yd/lb; Brown Sheep), CW385 Deep Sea Fog, 140 yd.
Pattern Weft: Cotton Fleece, CW385 Salmon Berry, 1 yd; CW400 New Age Teal, 7 yd; CW625 Terracotta Canyon, 3 yd; CW825 Truffle, 3 yd; CW450 Oriental Jade, 5 yd.

Note: The table topper in the video and in the picture was woven in a color that has been discontinued. Deep Sea Fog is a close alternative.

Warp Length: 100 ends 50” long (allows 7” for take up, 26” for loom waste; loom waste includes fringe).

Setts:
Warp: 10 epi.
Weft: 9 ppi.

Dimensions:
Width in the rigid heddle: 10”
Woven length: (measured under tension on the loom) 17”
Finished size after washing: 15½” × 9” plus 1¾” knotted fringe at each end.

Article
Take two heddles for a test drive with this choose-your-own-adventure table topper. It demonstrates what can happen when you make your weaving twice as nice!

Project Steps
Following are the instructions for making the Two Heddle Table Topper demonstrated in the video “Twice as Nice: Weaving With Two Heddles on a Rigid-Heddle Loom". For specific techniques, refer to the video.

Warping
Warp the loom following the information in the project specifications and using the warping method demonstrated in the video.

Weaving
1. Wind one stick shuttle with your ground weft (Deep Sea Fog) and one with scrap yarn.

2. Wind one bobbin with each of the pattern colors: Salmon Berry, New Age Teal, Terracotta Canyon, Truffle, and Oriental Jade. All of the pattern colors are used sparingly and will not require a full bobbin.

3. Weave 1” with scrap yarn to spread the warp.

4. The mat is shown with two finishing options, hemstitching and knotting. Begin weaving allowing for your finishing technique of choice.

Knotted Fringe: Leave a 6” tail and lay in your first pick using your ground weft. Change sheds. Tuck the tail back into this shed allowing it to exit the warp a few inches in. Lay in your second pick maintaining your weft angle and press into place. Trim tail to 2”. Continue to weave plain weave for a total of 13 picks.

Hemstitching: Leave a weft tail 4 times the width of your warp. Weave 13 picks and then thread the tail through a tapestry needle and work a row of hemstitching over your desired number of warp ends and weft picks at the beginning of the work. Needleweave the tail
back into the weaving, leaving a 2” tail.

5. Weave the patterns as follows and as demonstrated in the video. Weave 8 picks of plain weave between each pattern unless otherwise indicated. While weaving the pattern colors, carry the ground weft along the selvedge as demonstrated in the video. Patterns are written in order of appearance on the topper:

6. English Plain Weave

**Variation 1:** Use Salmon Berry.

1. Heddle 1 up.
2. Heddle 1 down.
3. Heddle 1 up.

**Variation 2:** Use New Age Teal.

1. Heddle 2 down.
2. Heddle 2 up.
3. Heddle 2 down.

7. Rosepath

Use Terracotta Canyon.

1. Heddle 1 up.
2. Heddle 2 up.
3. Heddle 1 down.
4. Heddle 2 down.
5. Heddle 1 down.
6. Heddle 2 up.
7. Heddle 1 up.

**Repeat Variation 1:** Use New Age Teal.

8. Weft Faced Pick-up
With both rigid heddles in the down position, pick up the warp ends in the slots in the following order: 1 up, 1 down.

**Variation 1:** Use Truffle.

1. Up.
2. Pick-up Stick.

**Variation 2:** Use Oriental Jade and Truffle.

2. Pick-up Stick – Use Oriental Jade. Capture the selvedge thread as the shuttle enters the warp.
4. Down – Use Truffle.
6. Pick-up Stick – Use Oriental Jade. Capture the selvedge thread as the shuttle enters the warp.

**Repeat Weft Floats Variation 1:** Use Truffle.

8. 1/3 Twill
With both rigid heddles in the down position and using Pick-up Stick A, pick up the warp ends in the slots in the following order: 1 down, 1 up.

Slide Pick-up Stick A to the back of the loom.

With both rigid heddles in the down position and using Pick-up Stick B, pick up the warp ends in the slots in the following order: 1 up, 1 down. Then place these ends on a heddle rod as demonstrated in the video.

**Straight Twill (slanting left):** Use New Age Teal.
1. Heddle 1 up.
2. Pick-up Stick A.
3. Heddle 2 up.
4. Pick-up Stick B.

Weave 4 picks of plain weave using ground weft.

**Herringbone Twill:** Use New Age Teal.
1. Heddle 1 up.
2. Pick-up Stick A.
3. Heddle 2 up.
4. Pick-up Stick B.
5. Heddle 2 up.
6. Pick-up Stick B.
7. Heddle 1 up.

Weave 6 picks of plain weave using ground weft.

**Straight Twill (slanting right):** Use New Age Teal.
1. Pick-up Stick B.
2. Heddle 2 up.
3. Pick-up Stick A.
4. Heddle 1 up.
9. Offset Warp Floats

With both rigid heddles in the down position, and using pick-up stick A, pick up the slot warp ends in the following order: 2 up, 2 down.

With both rigid heddles in the down position, and using pick-up stick B, pick up the slot warp ends in the following order: 2 down, 2 up. Then place these ends on a heddle rod.

Use Oriental Jade.

1. Down.
2. Up and Pick-up Stick A.
3. Down.
4. Up and Pick-up Stick A.
5. Down.
7. Down.
8. Up and Pick-up Stick B.
10. Up and Pick-up Stick B.
11. Down.
10. Finish the topper by weaving 8 picks of plain weave. Hemstitch if desired, or weave a footer using scrap yarn to keep the weft in place during knotting. Remove the fabric from the loom. If knotting, remove the scrap yarn from the unfinished end of the topper. Tie overhand knots to secure. If you wish the fringe to stay intact as seen on the knotted end of the topper, trim fringe to about 4” before washing. If you wish the fringe to ravel as seen on the hemstitched end, trim the fringe to its final length of 1¾”.

11. Machine wash using the gentle cycle with mild soap, only if you know your machine well and that it will not put undue stress on your fabric, otherwise hand wash. To hand wash, soak the fabric in lukewarm water with either a mild or no rinse detergent for 20 minutes. I often do this in the bathtub where I can lay the whole project out flat. Rinse gently. Roll the project in a towel and press to remove excess water; don’t wring.

12. Lay flat to dry on a clean towel. Trim fringe to desired length. Trim all tails flush with the cloth.

Enjoy!