



The weaving loom? Who in their right mind would want to use a weaving loom? Actually, history has answered that question. Weaving is considered one of the (if not the) oldest surviving crafts[1]. To look a bit closer at this craft, we talk briefly about weaving on this page. On other pages we look at the weaving loom and the impact on society today.

# Weaving

***Weaving? Why would you talk about weaving separately to a weaving loom? They both go together. How could you weave without a loom?***

Put simply, the art of weaving was used a few years before the weaving loom was even invented. When I say a few years, I'm referring to a couple of thousand years.

Believe it or not, prior to material and textiles being used, the skill of weaving was utilised in building shelters, fencing, making baskets[1], and a lot more. As with the standard mannerism of weaving, one lot of material was placed horizontally; other material was intertwined vertically through the first material. At this time, the term weaving undoubtedly wouldn't have even been conceived.

***Exactly when did weaving start?***

No one can really answer this question. Put simply, no one really knows about a specific date, or possibly time, for sure. Evidence has been found suggesting the use of weaving was done in the Paleolithic era. This is the prehistoric era (or the old stone age) in which stone tools were invented and used[2]. More specifically, this is referring to the later years of this era.

This could well be argued; but, beyond any doubt, evidence regarding the use of weaving has been found in the Neolithic era. This age followed the Paleolithic era, and is referred to as the New Stone Age[3]. This time was around 10,200 BC to 2,000 BC[4]. As a result today, weaving is considered as one of the (if not the) oldest surviving crafts[1].

Weaving was wide spread in biblical times. In many situations, it was a family activity to create materials as they needed them[5]. As time went on, this task was taken away the family scenario and given to children and slaves to do[6].

The invention of the weaving loom changed the dynamics of this situation even more (actually quite a bit more) and, took these tasks away from the home and into more industrial settings.

## ***References***

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<http://theweavingloom.weebly.com/>