



Quick and cheap weaving tablets

by Elena of Valhalla

This is a set of tablets for a weaving technique widely used through history.

Instructions

1. Print the first page of this file on A4 paper, in as many copies as you need;
2. have the resulting sheets laminated;
3. cut the 15 squares (better with a knife than scissors)
4. punch holes in the four corners of each square, where the small circles are (these are 5mm in diameter, 6mm will work too);
5. cut the angles following the round lines;
6. here you have, begin weaving.

Notes

- I've done my set with 80g/m² paper and 75 micron laminating pouches: they work, but maybe using either a slightly heavier paper or sturdier pouches could be better.
- The tablet pattern is available as a png file called tablet.png that should have been available in the transparent copy package (if it is not, even if under another name, it could be a license violation) and is included in this file as the background of the above table; if you edit the png file you'll have to change such background in the format – table dialog.
- The set should be easily adapted to letter sized paper, or other sizes; in some cases you might have to change the number of rows or column in the table, remember to keep each cell 5 x 5 cm.
- You may have noticed that these things do not look vaguely period even from really far; on the other side they can be useful if you are into self-made fantasy clothing (no need for historical accuracy) or you want to give a quick try to tablet weaving and you don't have time, tools or skills to make a proper set.
- The red and blue half harrows are especially useful for patterns that involve 2 forward turns and 2 backward ones; keep the red one on the top when setting the cards and they'll point in the right direction.
- The cost of these tablets is about the price of the laminating part: if you have a laminating machine it can be around 0,20 - 0,30 euros for each 15 tablets sheet.

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