TempoTreadle

Enjoy stress free weaving with TempoTreadle!

Have any of the following have happened to you:
- Noticed a treadling error inches into your weaving
- Gotten lost in a treadling or threading sequence
- Picked up the wrong color in weaving or threading
- Woven past the point you should have stopped

If so, perhaps you'd be interested in TempoTreadle!

The name, TempoTreadle, reflects the intention that a weaver's natural rhythm not be interrupted. The tempo of treadling through the sequences should remain natural, but with the added assurance that the weaver can relax, knowing they'll be prompted by an audible tone to avoid errors.

Automatic Tracking and Error Checking

Unlike other treadle tracking software, there is nothing to touch to advance the pick; the TempoTreadle system knows whether you pressed the correct treadles (or levers). Normally you don't watch the display while weaving, but if you do want to check the display screen you'll see the previous, current and next treadling sequence, pick color, what treadles are pressed (if any), pick counters and total time weaving.

Flexibility – Different Looms and Settings

We've successfully installed TempoTreadle on many different looms. When presented with looms we haven't yet tried, we ask for pictures and measurements and determine TempoTreadle can work on your loom.

For a Floor Loom, you typically will set up TempoTreadle to sound an error alert if you make a treadling mistake. Optionally you may also choose to hear "ok" tones once a good pick is recognized and advances to the next sequence.

Table looms are typically setup so that you hear an "ok" tone once you have all the levers correctly set for the current pick, allowing the flexibility of not having return to a closed shed.

There are settings to accommodate most any type of loom or preferences you may have, including remapping treadles numbers.

If you have more than one loom, you can easily share the System Unit. TempoTreadle will remember your preferences as well as progress for any number of projects that you have underway.

Helpful Features – Threading, Length, more...

A threading application steps you through your Threading sequence (already available in your WIF) and supports threading from the right, left or from the center. Set the thread groups to a number that makes sense for you; A simple touch marks those warp ends threaded and advances to the next group of threads. Warp color is shown for each warp end.

Length woven is automatically calculated, provided you put in a sample length (and let TempoTreadle calculate PPI) or put in your own value for PPI.

When weaving with more than one color, you can easily tell TempoTreadle to remind you when a color change is coming up. If you don't want the tabby treadles to cause a color change, simply turn the alert off for those treadles.

TempoTreadle is extremely useful for highly complex and long treadling sequences, but even a plain weave project can benefit from using the system. For example, if you had a warp for plain weave napkins, you may want to set color change alerts or be notified when it's time to end a napkin.

If you have been interested in the benefits from a computer or compu-dobby type loom, but prefer to treadle a traditional loom or avoid the cost of a computer loom, then this system should be a very nice option for you. It's a little technology that goes a long way towards enhancing your traditional weaving to be more enjoyable and efficient.

How TempoTreadle Works

Sensors, placed near treadles or levers, detect the opening of a shed as magnets come into proximity of the sensor. A cable goes to the System Unit (display) and our custom written TempoTreadle software uses that information along with your weaving design. Magnets, brackets and anything needed for setup is provided with the Sensor Array for your loom.

Weaving designs are transferred from your PC or Mac to TempoTreadle via a Micro-SD card. You will need to use your own weaving software, or have access to weaving designs files (WIFs) for use with TempoTreadle.

The TempoTreadle Weaving System is comprised of:

- A <u>System Unit</u> holding the color touch screen, custom TempoTreadle software and micro-SD card reader for your weaving designs. System units come with a caddy that is fitted to your loom's castle, allowing the unit to be placed on the loom without any modification to your loom or adhesives.
- A <u>Sensor Array</u> holding the electronics that fit under your treadles or behind table loom levers, detecting when treadles and levers are engaged. Depending on the model of the loom, the Sensor Array is usually clamped or attached with Velcro to the loom such that it is inconspicuous and out of the way.
- <u>Magnets</u> are supplied in 3D-printed cases that fit under treadles or on levers.

The low-power requirements enable the system to be powered by a common USB battery pack (useful for workshops), and optionally plugged into a power outlet.

Success Stories

From a weaver with a 14-treadle Macomber Loom:
… I cut off the patterned portion of the placemat warps last night….woo hoo!! They are beautiful and I certainly could not have treadled that 1035 pick pattern accurately without my trusty TT!!

Posted on Ravelry after a workshop with her Louet Jane:
I just wanted to tell everyone how well TempoTreadle worked on my Jane this weekend at a workshop. It was a two-day shadow weave workshop, with a draft that was 600+ picks. I not only was able to weave error free, but I actually was the second person to finish which is amazing because table looms aren't known to be the speediest of things. I turned off the system unit to attend a couple of class sessions, to leave Saturday evening, and to shop a bit, and every time I returned, it went back to the exact right spot. I find that amazing. And so helpful! I am sure that I would still be weaving my gamp if it weren't for TT. But instead of it, I am going to wind a new warp and start on another project.

Another Ravelry Post:
*I am **much** faster - if I have to go from treadle 2 to treadle 6 - I can test the assumption that muscle memory gives me the right one - the TempoTreadle tells me if I am right or not. And I've found that I am correct ~ 95% of the time. So I am faster, without sacrificing accuracy.*

From a Weaver using a Schacht Baby Wolf Loom:
I'm hooked! I'll never weave without it!

About Us

We've combined our love of weaving with life-long experience in software development and electronics to produce TempoTreadle.

In 2014 I caught "new loom fever" and strongly considered purchasing a new Computer Loom. I was drawn to the capabilities, and especially the ease of weaving complex treadling sequences without error. As I thought about the computer loom, I realized that a big part of my pleasure in weaving is the active treadling, thus the idea for TempoTreadle was launched.

We produced quite a few prototypes with different sensors while learning about 3D printing and embedded computing platforms. We have arrived at a combination of hardware and software for a system that exceeded our goals! We are now sharing TempoTreadle with the weaving community and hope to attract more people to the craft.

In 2015 we started LoftyFiber's online store, www.loftyfiber.com, sharing quality yarn and equipment for the Fiber Arts. We sell TempoTreadle through the LoftyFiber online store, our studio in New Hampshire, as well as at certain weaving conferences and shows. We strive to provide excellent prices and are passionate about customer service.

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