

# WeavePoint

User's Guide for WeavePoint w/ARM Patronic loom control interface

## Connecting to the loom

Connection is via the RS232 serial port, also known as a COM port. This port is not included as standard on computers, normally a Serial-to-USB adapter is needed. The adapter consists of two parts:

- 1) A physical adapter which plugs into a USB port at the computer at one end, and has a COM port at the other end.
- 2) A software driver that needs to be installed.

When the adapter is connected and the driver installed, the computer will have a COM port. Because a computer can have more than one COM port, each COM port will have a number. Maybe your computer will have only one COM port, but you need to find the number, to establish communications with the loom. The COM port number is entered in the Weave/Options dialog.

The easiest way to find the COM port number, is to open Weave/Options and click the Find COM Ports button. If only one COM port is found, this should be the port to use. If there are more than one COM port found, you may need to try them out until you find the one that is associated with the adapter.

Note that COM ports will often start at a number higher than one. Also note that if you disconnect and reconnect the adapter, Windows may think it has a new port and increase the port number. Then you need to use Find COM Ports again.

If you need to double check the port number, you can also do this in Windows Control Panel.

Note that you need a correct type of cable between the computer and the loom. Even if a cable fits at both ends, it does not necessarily have the required internal connections. Therefore, always use the cable that was supplied with the loom. See also your loom manual about how to connect to a computer.

## Weave

There are two types of the ARM loom control: The Patronic and the Roewag/Designer. You need to use the correct WeavePoint version for your loom control. Note that some ARM Designer looms use the Selectron box like the Patronic - then you must use the Patronic program version, even if your loom is called Designer.

Always turn on power on the Patronic Selecontrol PMC controller box before starting loom control or pattern transfer in the WeavePoint program.

## **Options (Optionen)**

Select the COM Port (Schnittstelle) on your PC where you connect the serial cable to the controller on the loom. You can click the «Find COM Ports» button to find available COM ports.

Select your Selectron type, PMC or MAS.

The Selectron PMC can be operated in the standard mode or with the faster 9600 baud rate. The standard setting is 4800 baud, but if you think you cannot weave fast enough with this setting, you can try to change the WeavePoint setting and the dip switches to 9600. Note that the dip switches set the baud rate on the Selectron PMC. If the dip switch setting does not match your setting in WeavePoint, it will not work. The dip switches must also be set to 7 bit/even parity for both standard and 9600. With Selectron MAS, the dip switches are not used to set baud rate.

**Disable screen saver** (Bildshoner deaktivieren): Check this to prevent the screen saver from starting while weaving.

**Sound at Color Change** (Laut am Farbwechsel): You can be notified to change weft color while weaving, by a sound signal each time the color changes. The sound used is the standard Windows exclamation sound. Note that the sound type can be set in Windows Control Panel Sounds to any sound you like. The volume is set on your loudspeakers or in Windows.

**Use grid color settings** (Benutze die Gitter Farb Setzung)

When this is checked, the present grid color setting in Options/Options will be used also for the liftplan grid in the loom control window (vertical lines).

## **Weaving Control Modes**

Direct mode means that the PC sends one pick at the time to the loom while you are weaving, and you can follow the pattern on the PC monitor.

Indirect mode means that you transfer all picks to the controller before you start weaving. The PC will then not be used while weaving.

When in Direct mode, the letter P will move across the controller display. Make sure that the Selecontrol box is set to Weave (Weben) before selecting Direct.

Note that it's possible to weave faster in indirect mode than in direct mode.

## **Loom Control (Direkt)**

Start by selecting Weave in the main menu. In Options, select the com port and other options as needed.

Select the picks to weave in the loom control dialog. You only need to select one repeat. The selected range will repeat automatically when weaving.

When weaving, the pattern will be displayed on the screen in an enlarged, scrolling grid. This makes it easy to follow the pattern on the screen, even from a distance. The color field below the scrolling grid shows the color of the yarn for the current pick.

On the left of the screen, the pattern is repeated as fabric. A horizontal line indicates the present pick.

The status bar at the bottom of the screen shows the selected Repeat to weave, the Total number of picks sent to the loom since you started the present weaving session and the Last, Present and Next pick.

### **Arrow buttons**

The arrow buttons at the left on the toolbar may be used to change the next pick to weave. The next pick number is displayed in the middle between the two sets of buttons and also in the status bar at the bottom of the screen. The four buttons represent page up, page down, up and down. You can also press the up and down and the page up and page down keys on the keyboard. Page up and page down will move one "page", which is 32 picks.

Note that when using the arrow buttons, the screen will not update until the next time you press the treadle or pedal and the next pick is sent to the loom.

### **Back button**

Click this (or press Z on the keyboard) to open the same shed again. Use this to unweave the last pick woven or to open the previous shed. One pick will be deducted from the Total picks number. Note that with most looms, the shed should be closed for this command to work correctly.

### **Reverse**

Change Reverse/Forward weaving direction. You may also press R on the keyboard. When weaving in Reverse, "Reverse" will appear on the status bar at the bottom of the screen. When weaving forward, the area on the status bar is blank. Note that with most looms, the shed should be closed for this command to work correctly.

### **Go to**

Click this (or press the G key) to enter the pick you wish to weave. The pattern and weaving direction will go forward from that pick and tabby weaving is turned off. Note that with most looms, the shed should be closed for this command to work correctly.

### **Tabby**

Change to tabby weaving. Click Tabby again to stop tabby weaving and go back

to the pattern. The pattern will resume from where you switched to weave tabby. You may also press T on the keyboard. When weaving tabby, the two tabby picks are called A and B in the status bar. Tabby picks are counted separately from pattern picks. When starting to weave tabby, the Total number in the status bar will start on zero. When you return to weaving the pattern, the pattern will continue counting the number of picks from before you switched to weaving tabby. When weaving tabby, "Tabby" will appear on the status bar at the bottom of the screen. Note that some commands do not work in tabby mode.

### **Edit Tabby**

You may edit the two tabby picks. The picks may be either set to weave tabby (plain weave) or any combination of two picks that you desire. One pick will be labeled "A" and the other "B". You may weave beginning with either pick and the two picks will alternate while in Tabby mode. The tabby configuration will be saved along with the pattern draft when the draft is saved.

### **Save**

Save your present pattern and weaving position. When saved, you may later choose Resume to continue weaving the same pattern. The present position, repeat range, weaving direction and tabby pattern will be stored.

Note that the present pattern will be saved to disk with its present name as an ordinary WeavePoint pattern. You can open and edit this pattern also when not weaving. Any changes you make to the pattern will be used when you resume.

### **Close**

Click Close to quit loom control.

Note: For weaving a pattern with weft borders with loom control, you can select Start Pick to be the first pick above the border.

### **Resume**

When weaving, before closing the Loom Control window you can click Save to store the present pattern and weaving position. Later you can then just click Resume to open the same pattern and resume weaving where you left off last time.

## **Indirect (Indirekt)**

Transfers the present pattern to the ARM Selecontrol loom controller. The controller can hold a maximum of 221 picks. Note that because here the pattern is already transferred to the Selecontrol box before weaving starts, Indirect mode allows faster weaving than Direct mode.

Select the number of picks (repeat) to transfer (starting from pick 1).

You can also select the start address for where to store the pattern in the controller. The controller address (pick) range is 0-220, totalling 221 picks. To store just one pattern, select 0 to store a pattern up to 221 picks. You can set a higher address to store another pattern. For example, you can store a 16 pick pattern repeat starting at address 0. The 16 picks will then be stored at address 0-15. Pick adress 16 will be used for a blank pick to mark end of repeat in the controller. Then you can store a new pattern starting from pick adress 17, etc.

The PC will show transfer progress on the screen. When the pattern is transferred, you no longer need the PC connected to Weave (but you can leave it connected, if you like).

To weave the transferrred pattern, first select Enter (Eingabe) on the controller and select the pick you want to start on (if necessary). This is normally pick 0. Note that the first pick on the controller display is pick 0, so that pick 0 on the controller will be equal to pick 1 in the WeavePoint program, if stored from adress 0. Then select Weave (Weben) to weave.

## **Error Recovery**

What is started first, can be important. Try to turn on power on the loom before you start loom control in WeavePoint.

If errors occur, check that the cable is properly connected at both ends. And check that you have selected the correct COM port - being the port where the loom cable is connected to your PC. Also, close and restart WeavePoint.