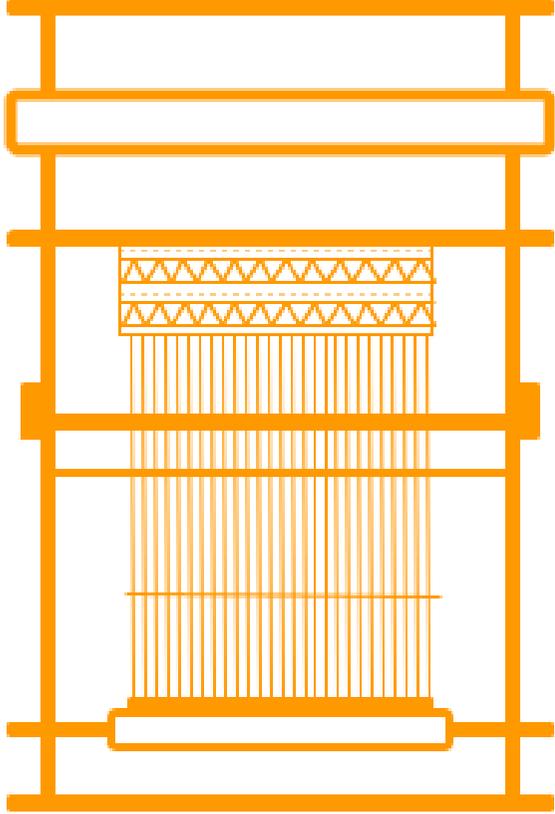


Save the loom

A working title



The research team

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[Small table loom from Lervad]





The project

Though the project slowly started up in 2018, it is still in its early phase. The main focus of the project is preserving, documenting and defining Danish loom types.

The project involves three parts:

- 1) A basic analysis of the concept of tools for weaving using the focus and perception of the weaver as a framework for delimiting the fundamental characteristics of the tool for weaving.
- 2) A registration of old looms in Danish museum collections.
- 3) A study of the Danish loom factory, Lervad, in the late 19th and 20th century.

What is a loom?

The project looks at the definition of the loom and seeks to unfold it by doing a functional analysis of the different loom types. This type of analysis involves classifying the fundamental characteristics of the tool for weaving such as how the sheds are controlled and how the weft is inserted. A functional definition of the characteristics of a loom is, however, inherently entwined with the definition for weaving. After all, in all its simplicity, the definition of a loom is: a tool for weaving, which leads one to the definition of weaving: to perpendicularly interlace weft and warp threads into cloth. Naturally, this terminological entanglement must be considered when creating a technological vocabulary.

Preserving, documenting and defining

Registration of old looms

By registering the old looms in the collections of Danish museums, we aim to gather an overview-knowledge of the old loom types in Denmark. We also wish to create a nationwide strategy for preserving looms. For the purpose of registering the looms, we have developed a registration form that encompasses all information relevant to register about each loom e. g. loom type, producer and technical functions.



[Woman working on a Lervad loom at home]

Lervad, a Danish loom factory

The Lervad company produced looms and other weaving equipment from 1895 to the 1980's. It was founded by Anders Lervad who started producing the first looms for handicraft students in Askov. Throughout the years, many different types of Lervad looms have been produced and exported. This includes looms for professional use, for ergotherapy and for evening school courses, and many of them are still in use today.

