



The same threading and weaving method are used for all four scarves. The difference is in the yarns and the position of the weft in the 4 forward, 4 backward sequence that creates the varied looks. These scarves are delightfully drapable and easy to weave: the perfect project for a weekend vacation.

It's the sett that produces the unusual light hand of these tablet-woven scarves. Spreading the warp with a reed allows the twisted threads to produce the open texture of gauze and also makes the weft visible so that weft colors interact with the warp.



TABLET-WOVEN GAUZE SCARVES

BY

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'Spaced-Out Tablet Weaving,' *Weaver's*, issue 40, pp. 46-49, explains how to use a reed to control sett in tablet weaving. These scarves all use one structure—gauze weave—and one sett—6 tablets per inch. What makes them look so different from each other is the choice of color and value, the shape and size of the yarns, and the timing of the placement of the weft in the turning sequence of 4 Forward, 4 Backward.

Tablet-woven scarves

- **Equipment.** 60 tablets, a piece of 6-dent reed at least 10" long; stick shuttle; 2 strips of stiff cardboard about ½" x 12" to use as weft when starting to weave; 1 strip of matboard and 2 large binder clips to use as a temple. Refer to issue 40 for additional setup information.
- **Materials.** Warp: 180 yds in each hole. See specific materials for each scarf.
- Make a continuous warp 3 yds long with yarns as specified for each scarf.
- Cut the end of the warp and sley each dent with the 4 threads from 1 tablet.
- Tension the warp (you can use tension blocks, a tablet-weaving loom, table loom, or floor loom). If using a table or floor loom, remove the beater bar, and let the reed scrap hang on the warp. This makes it much easier to turn the tablets. Push the heddles to the sides so they are out of the way. On table looms, you might want to remove the shafts completely, as this is easy to do.
- Arrange the tablets so they are alternately threaded, with all A-B lines on top (dark threads on top of shed).
- Weave a warp-twined header of 8 picks, beginning with the 2 strips of cardboard and continuing with scrap yarn. To prevent twist buildup, turn 4F, 4B with a

weft after each turn. If desired, weave 4 picks in warp twining with the scarf weft; this will give a firmer border.

- Weave the scarf following the specific directions for each scarf. Gauze weave pulls in a lot; use matboard strip and binder clips as a temple. Push the reed against the fell, hold the strip under the fabric, and clip the edges. Advance the temple frequently.
- When you reach the end of the warp, cut the end and remove tablets. Remove scarf from the loom; remove cardboard strips.
- Handwash gently, wrap in a towel, and squeeze out excess water. Hang to dry on a drying rack if possible with the scarf spread out over several bars. If using a single bar, pad with a towel.
- Remove scrap yarn; ply the fringe; knot the ends and trim.

Ribbon scarf A (right, p. 64)

The weft dominates this scarf. Spots of color from the space-dyed ribbon weft shine like miniature stained glass windows against the black warp.

- **Materials.** Warp for all holes (180 yds each hole): 5/2 pearl cotton, black, 6 oz. Weft: Opera Print space-dyed nylon knitting ribbon (850 yds/lb, Katia, made in Spain, 93 yds per 50 gm ball), purple, orange, green, yellow, 1 ball (70 yds).
- With tablets alternately threaded, weave 4F, 4B with a weft after every 4 turns at 3-4 ppi.

Ribbon scarf B (inset, p. 64)

This scarf simply has more weft—it is inserted after every two turns.

- **Materials.** Warp for all holes (180 yds for each hole): 5/2 pearl cotton, black, 6 oz. Weft: Opera Print space-dyed nylon knitting ribbon; purple, orange, green,

yellow, 1 ball (93 yds).

- With tablets alternately threaded, weave 4F, 4B with a weft after every 2 turns at about 5 ppi.

Turquoise & purple scarf (center, p. 64)

Here, two rich colors with good value contrast are used in the warp. The medium value of the weft and the space-dyed yarn used as one of the dark warps both contribute to a subtle appearance.

- **Materials.** Warp for A & B (180 yds each hole): 5/2 pearl cotton, turquoise, 3 oz. C: 5/2 pearl cotton, purple, 1½ oz. D: rayon/cotton 'Waikiki,' (950 yds/lb, Crystal Palace), Delphinium (purple, blue violet, sea green), 4 oz. Weft: Waikiki Mer du Sud (green), 2 oz (70 yds).
- With tablets alternately threaded, beginning with dark threads on top, weave 4F, 4B, with a weft after every 4 turns at 3 ppi.

Black & white scarf (left, p. 64)

High value contrast in the warp makes this a dramatic scarf with two distinctly different sides. A white weft enhances the diamond pattern on one side, and breaks the pattern into rows on the other.

- **Materials.** Warp for A (180 yds each hole): 5/2 pearl cotton, black, 1½ oz; B: Byter cotton/polyester, black (1150 yds/lb, Omaghi Filati, made in Italy, 126 yds/50 gm ball), 2 balls; C: 5/2 pearl cotton, white, 1½ oz; D: rayon/cotton 'Waikiki,' (950 yds/lb, Crystal Palace), white, 4 oz. Weft: Waikiki, white, 2 oz (70 yds).
- With tablets alternately threaded, beginning with dark threads on top, weave 4F, 4B with a weft after every 4 turns at 3 ppi. ❧