

weft-faced

by Paul O'Connor

DRAFTING FOR WEFT-FACED WEAVING

II. Three-Harness Weaves.

In this article, I will discuss the appearance of weft-faced weaves when three harnesses are used. The first section will deal with a straight draw twill threading and the second section with a point twill threading, sometimes referred to as Krokbragd.

A. Straight draw twill on three harnesses.

Figure one gives the threading, tieup and drawdown for a three harness twill. The drawdown is shown with the weft shots in black and the warp in white, as it would appear in a balanced weave. For weft-faced fabrics I use a diamond grid to allow me to anticipate the patterns.

So let us start with the basic grid and see how to fill it in for each weft shot. Figure 2 numbers a main diagonal with successive

weft shots. Figure 3 shows how to locate shot #1 across the grid (diagonally down to the right from the weft shot of the number of harnesses being used, in this example 3) and which weft shot appears directly above #1 weft shots (equal to 1 + number of harnesses being used, in this example = 4). From these guides the entire grid can be numbered and this is shown in Figure 4. Note that the diamond grid seems slightly skewed upwards to the right. Don't worry about that; it is a consequence that the system is not perfect in its representations of the final weaving. Also note that the numbers in the grid refer only to the weft shot number and not to the number of warp threads the weft crosses.

In figures 5 - 11, patterns are drawn to show the appearance as the two colors are brought closer and closer together. Isolated spots come together to form vertical lines (figure 7) and a strong twill line (figure 8) that slopes up to the left. Figure 9 is just the negative image of figure 7. Horizontal but slightly wavy lines are shown in figures 10 and 11 which result from the two weave patterns AAA BBB and AAAA BBBB. Finally, in figure 12 one three-color pattern is shown, vertical lines of the three colors. Many other arrangements of three colors or combinations of any of the patterns shown can be made. Have fun.

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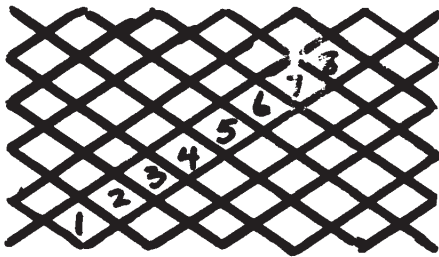


Figure 1

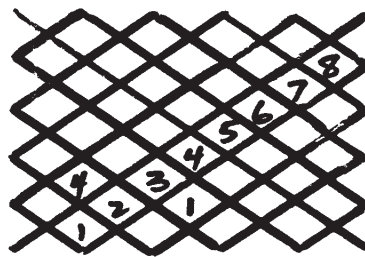


Figure 2

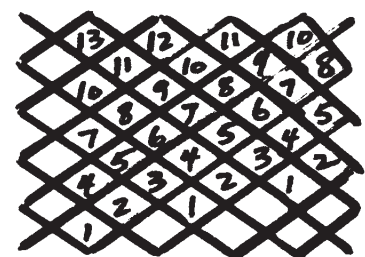
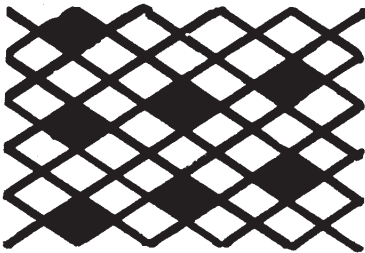
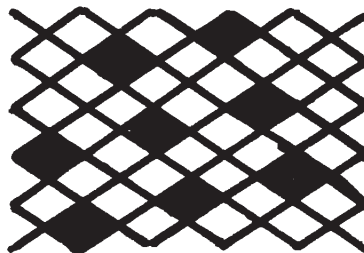


Figure 3



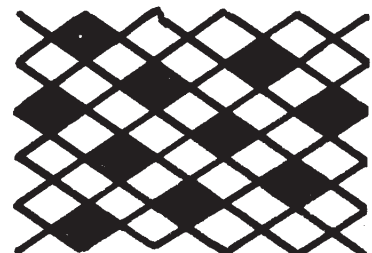
AB₅

Figure 4



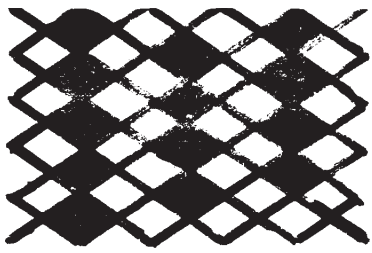
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Figure 5



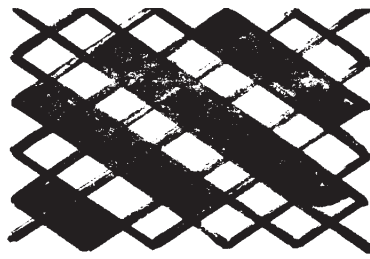
AB₃

Figure 6



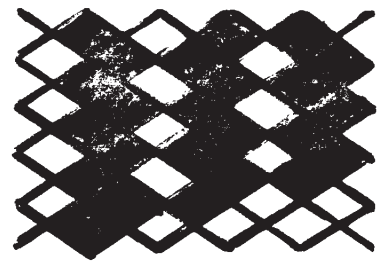
AB₂

Figure 7



AB

Figure 8



A₂B

Figure 9

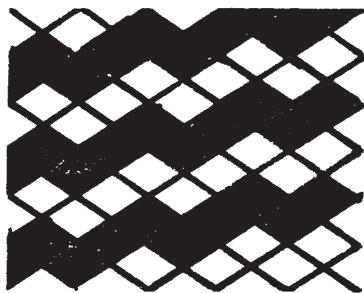


Figure 10 A₃B₃

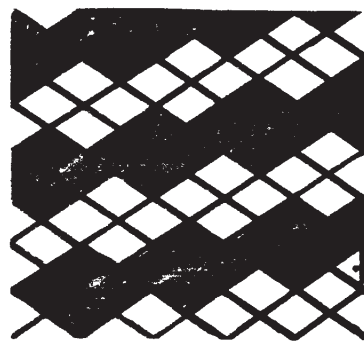


Figure 11 A₂B₂

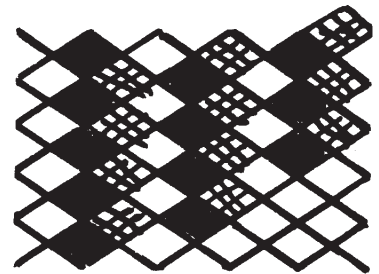


Figure 12 ABC

B. Point twill or Krokbragd on three harnesses.

Figure 13 shows the threading, tieup and drawdown for a point twill. As we will see later the other side of the fabric is quite different in appearance. Perhaps the easiest way to understand what happens is to think of weaving three blocks; block A weaves on the thread through the heddles of harness 1, block B on the threads through the heddles on harness 2, and block C weaves on the threads through the heddles on harness 3. Notice that the threads on harness 2 give half of a tabby weave (these threads will be covered on the back of the fabric and give rise to the different appearance of the back).

Figure 14 shows the typical motifs that result when three or more colors are used in weaving Krokbragd. The treadling is always the same: treadle 1, treadle 2, and treadle 3 and it is the rotation of

the colors that give the motifs. You can think of each treadle weaving a different block, A, B or C, and this is shown under the tieups. The three colors are represented as 1, 2, and 3 and are indicated next to the drawdown.

At the same time that these patterns are woven on the top of the fabric a very different design develops on the back side. When blocks A and C are woven, there is a three thread weft float that cover the wefts woven on block B, the tabby weft. Figure 15 shows the same weaving rotation of colors as in figure 13 but none of the threads for block B show. There is an excellent article on Krokbragd in the March '81 issue of Handwoven and the cover picture illustrates how the Krokbragd motifs can be combined in various ways.

(Continued on page 8)

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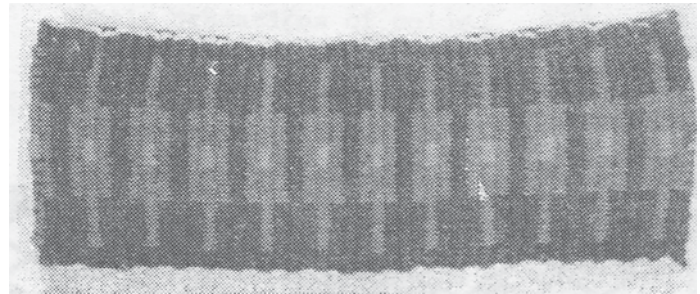
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Front of Fabric

Photo by Jay Magoffin

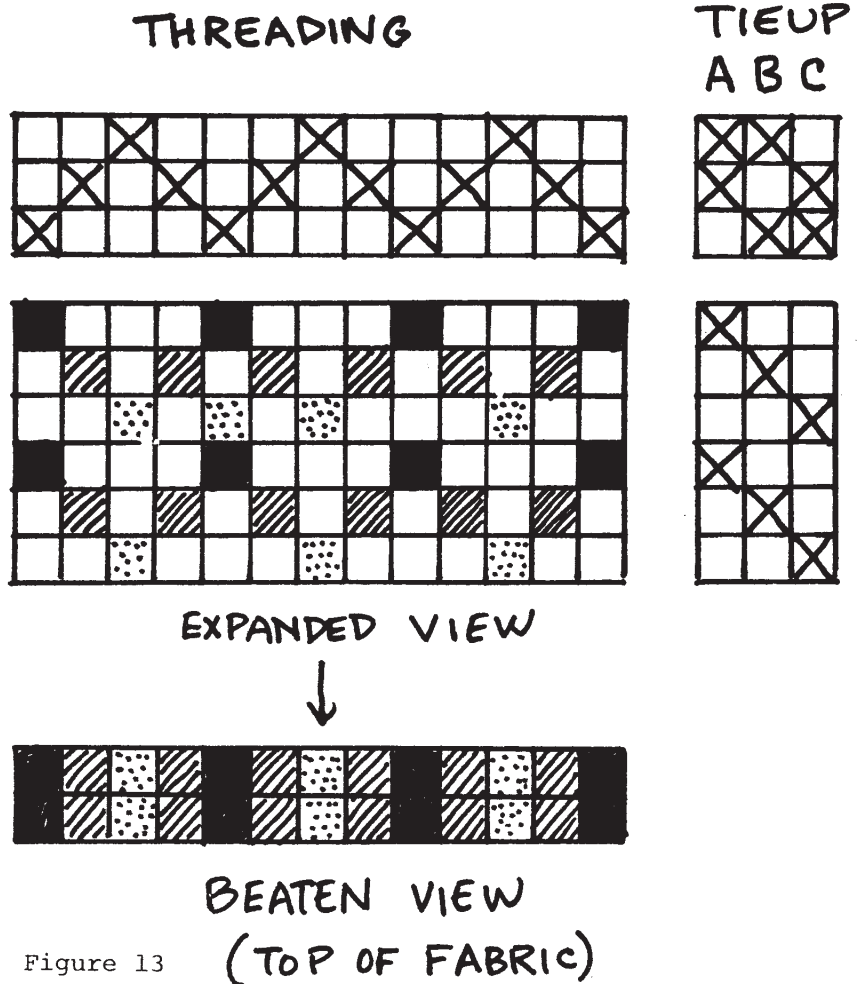
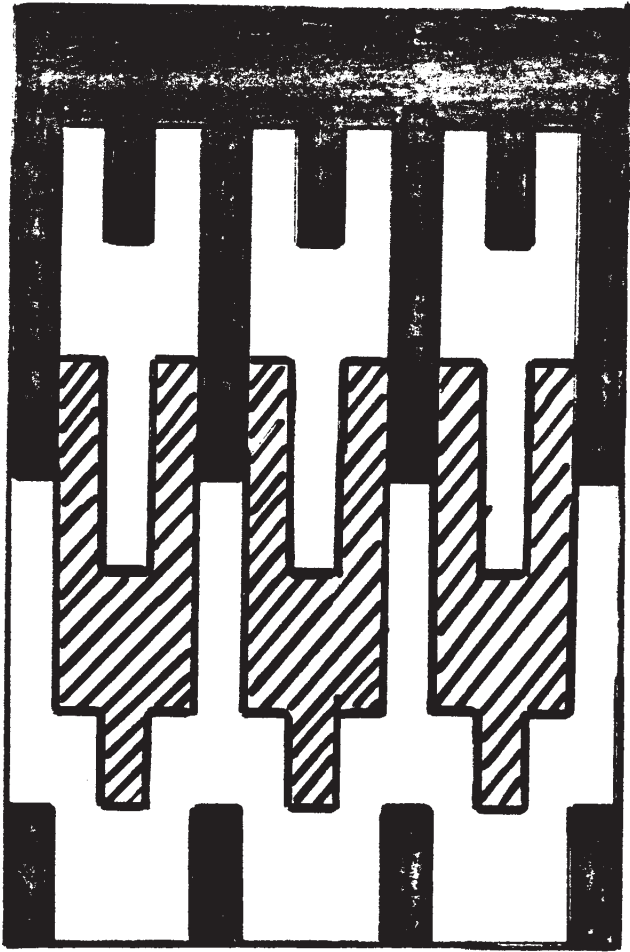


Figure 13

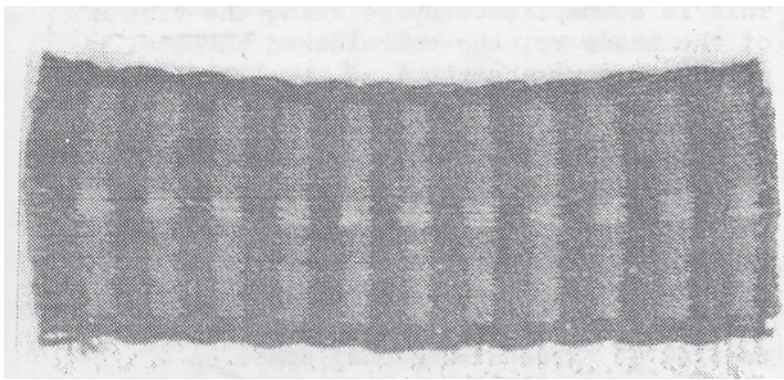
Figure 14 Top of Fabric



A	B	C
1	1	1
1	2	1
1	2	2
1	3	2
2	3	2
2	3	3
2	2	3
1	2	2

(COLORS)

Krokbragd Patterns



Reverse Side of Fabric

Photo by Jay Magoffin

Back of Fabric

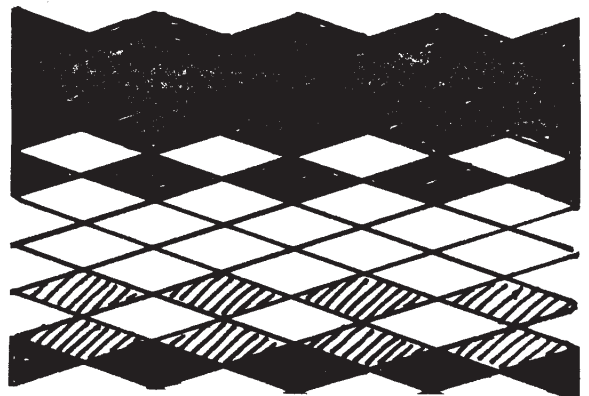


Figure 15