

FASHION REPORT: Handwoven

SPORT COAT TWEEDS IN M's AND O's

The versatility of the *M's and O's* technique is one of the pleasant surprises for any weaver who starts working with it broadly. A woolen yarn for a tweed fabric might seem unlikely at first thought. However, experimentation shows that this can produce a sport jacket fabric which meets the rather unusual current fashion trends. Sport jackets being shown now are conservative, light weight but very firm in fabric, stripe or check patterns in two tones (light and dark oxford grey, tan and brown, navy blue and grey, light and dark green), smooth but unusual textures developed from smooth yarns.

Suggested yarns are Lily Mills Homespun Suiting yarn (Article 150-S) or the Handweaving Yarn Company Tweed (See THE LOOM-SIDE MARKET). Either of these should be set at twenty-four ends per inch and the fabric beaten firmly. (The special problems of weaving and fulling tweed yardages are taken up in detail in the WOOL Monograph Series listed in the LOOM-SIDE MARKET.)

Any of the simple *M's and O's* drafts may be used, and the three-thread rib unit system is particularly recommended and may be set at twenty-two and a half ends per inch (sleyed 2, 1, alternately in a 15-dent reed). Tweed fabrics should be woven by using the four *M's and O's* treadles in twill order: treadle 1, 2, 3, 4, repeated. The upper photograph shows this treadling with a light warp and a dark weft. In the second illustration, two shuttle, one with a dark weft and the other with weft like the warp, are alternated. The third illustration shows two light shots followed by two dark shots, throughout. Checks instead of stripes may be woven here by alternating the pairs until a dark square is built up, ending the square with two light shots. Then continue the treadling order starting with two light shots again, to shift the dark threads to the other pair of treadles, ending and starting each block with two shots of light.

