

SPRING MEANS NEW RUGS

by VEVA N. CARR

To the general public to mention weaving, means rugs, which undoubtedly also calls forth in the mind of the layman, yards and yards of rag carpet, but for those who are interested in the weaving craft, it leaves a little feeling of resentment to have someone say in response to a statement that Mrs. X is a weaver, "Do you have much sale for your rugs?"

However, with spring in the air, who could fail to be interested in new rugs and carpets, and delving into the subject of floor coverings can be a most fascinating occupation, especially in a season like this when the weather man has cheated most of the country out of its usual early spring gardening.

So, with the necessity of remaining indoors for a while longer, let's make some new carpets.

Carpets of solid color, being so popular at the present moment, can so easily be made the spring objective of our home work.



Illustration No. 1 shows a plain carpet of solid color made of cotton chenille, and woven in the Herringbone stringing (Draft a), with three strands of the material used for the weft, and a single strand of the same color and material used for the tabby shots.

The warp in this carpet is of No. 3 Perle Cotton set at fifteen threads to the inch, and the weaving is done on opposites, using treadles one and three throwing one shot on each.

This makes a soft, velvet-like carpet, and was carried out in a solid color by using the same shade for warp, pattern and tabby thread, the only variance being in the sheen of the warp threads as compared with the dull tones of the weft material.

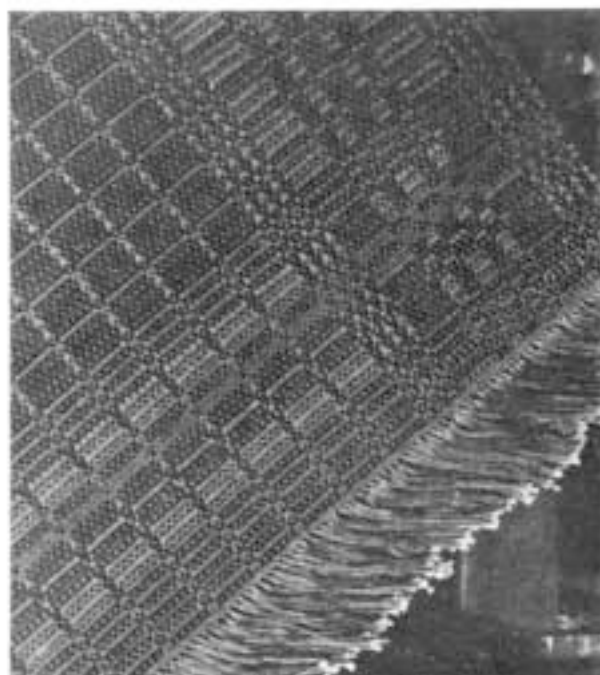
Illustration No. 2 (Draft b), shows a rug made from one of Mrs. Mary M. Atwater's designs, modified somewhat to fit the warp on the loom, and is a little two-block summer and winter draft worked out in shades of yellow green.

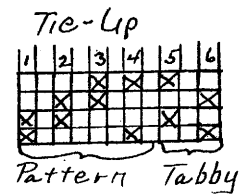
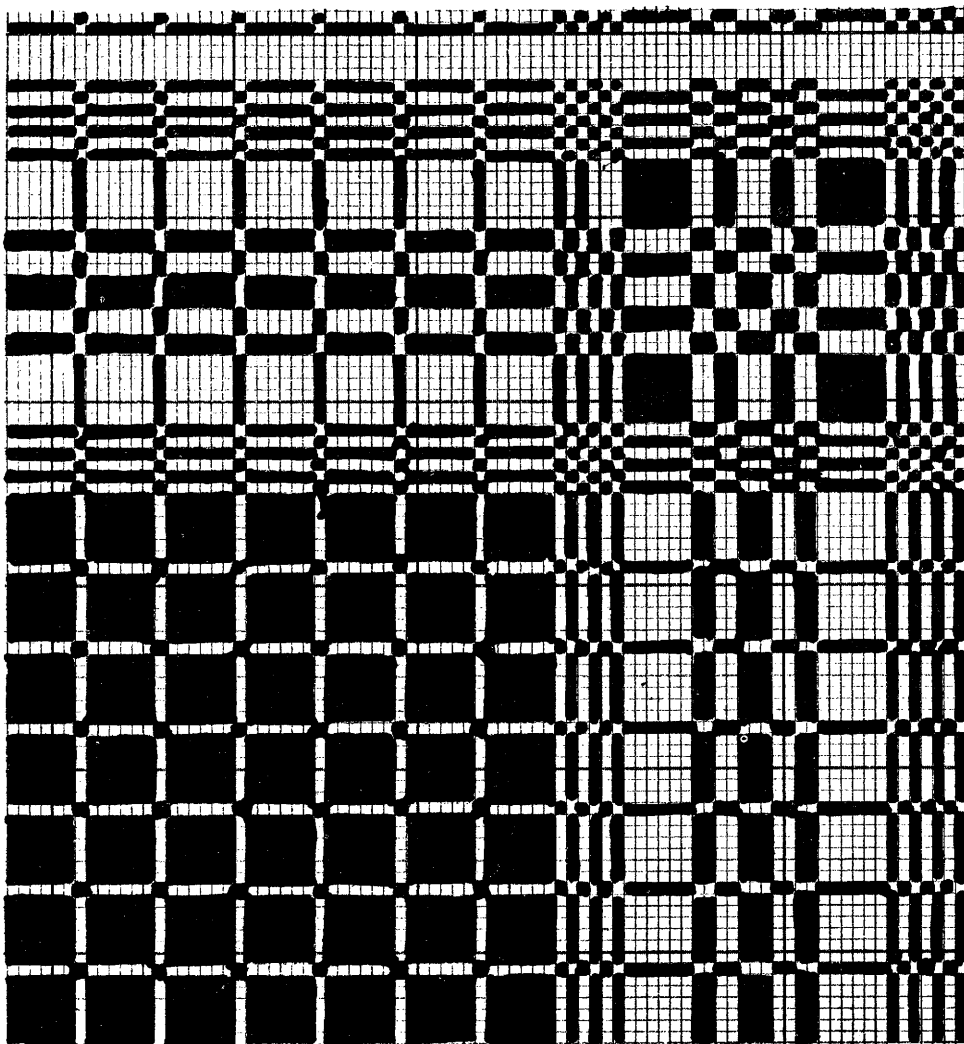
The warp, Bernat's taupe (color No. 1014) Perle cotton No. 3, was also set at fifteen to the inch, the pattern thread (Bernat's Rug Wool color No. 479) was used double, while their green rug wool (color No. 478) was used single for the tabby.

Because of the weight of the materials used in rugs, it is necessary to modify the usual process of the summer and winter weave, and instead of throwing two pairs of shots to each block, one pair of shots is sufficient.

Thus, throw a shot each on treadles 1 and 2 for the first block, and one shot each on treadles 3 and 4 for the second block, with a tabby between each pattern shot. The tabby, of course, will be handled as in a regular weave, for it makes no difference which is thrown first.

To start either the carpet or the rug, weave a few shots of the same material as the warp. If the ends are to be finished with a hem, weave enough with the warp material to turn under for that purpose, but if the rug is to be finished with a fringe, four or five shots of the warp is sufficient, after which allow enough warp ends to knot the fringe. It should, of course, end in the same manner.

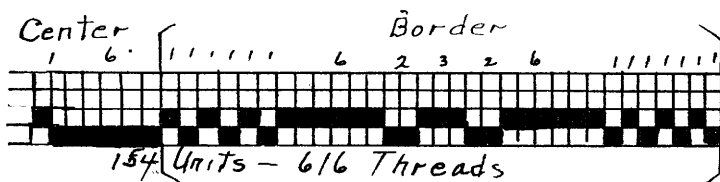




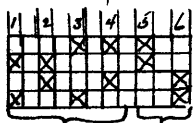
Draft (a)



Short Draft - Draft (b)



Tie-Up



Pattern Tabby



Detail (c)

The short draft (b) is given for convenience in threading, but the detail threading of the first two blocks as shown at (c), should make the procedure clear.

For a rug approximately forty inches wide, thread as follows:

Border, 36 units	144 threads
Center, 72 units (12 large blocks)	288 threads
Center, 10 units (10 small blocks)	40 threads
Border, 36 units	144 threads
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154 units	616 threads

It is well to use care in placing the shuttles in the same position after each shot in working with heavy materials, and the same method should be followed throughout the weaving to keep the edges uniform, otherwise it will be impossible to keep the edges even.