

# HANDWEAVING NEWS

Figure No.1 Key Draft No.1

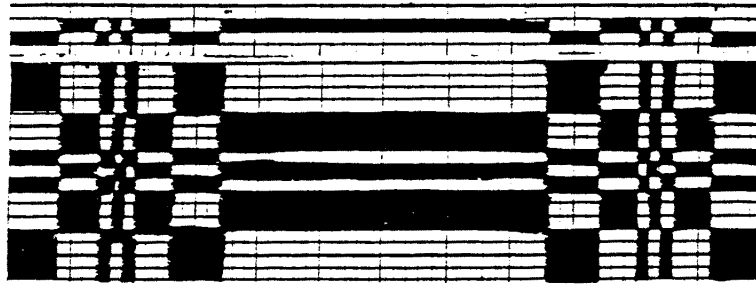
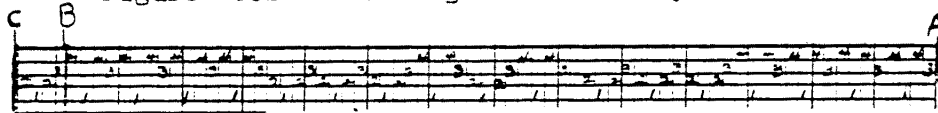


Figure No.2 Threading Draft for Key Draft No.1



Designing Two Block Patterns.

In August of 1938, the matter of designing two block patterns was discussed and this month in answer to several requests for four harness drafts, we will carry this same thing a bit further. Those of you who were subscribers in 1938, will have the August number to refer to, and if there are any of you who have not, this issue of the News is still available if you wish to have it.

At the top of this page is the key draft No.1 which is partly drawn down below. The wide center block can be as wide as desired to fit the number of warp threads being used. This is a particularly attractive draft for a luncheon set, and is best woven of 40/2 linen warp set 30 threads to the inch, with tabby of linen the same as the warp and blue linen special for the pattern shots. Each unit of the key draft represents four warp threads, and there are two pattern blocks. For one pattern block, thread each unit 3,4,1,4; and for the other pattern block, thread each unit 3,2,1,2. Repeat these units as indicated by the key draft. The threading for this draft gives the same effect as the "Summer and Winter" weaving usually used, and was worked out from an old Roumanian coverlet and first given to News subscribers in September of 1936. One advantage which this form of threading draft has over the usual Summer and Winter draft, is that the plain weave or tabby is the same as in the regular Colonial Over-shot weaving, namely 1&3 and 2&4, and the regular tie-up of the loom is also the same for the pattern shots.

To thread Draft No.1 for a warp of 420 threads; - proceed as follows, - Thread from A to B on the draft - or 68 threads for the border. Then from B to C, or 4 threads for the center repeated 71 times for a total of 284 threads; then thread from A to B or 68 more threads for the border on the opposite edge. To weave the regular "summer and winter" weave, "one and one" style, - bring down levers 1&2, throw a shot of blue pattern weft, then 1&3 plain weave, then 2&3 levers for a shot of blue, then 2&4 plain weave shot. Repeat this over and over until the pattern block is woven square. Then for the other pattern block, use levers 3&4 for a shot of blue pattern weft, then a shot of plain weave, then use levers 1&4 for another shot of blue, then an alternate shot of plain weave, repeat this until the pattern block is square.

The following variation of this pattern treadling was worked out by Miss Louise MacArthur one of my students, as is also the above pattern draft. This variation gives a very interesting and new texture which I am sure many of you will find interesting to use. Weave a plain tabby heading as desired for a hem. Then use lever 3&4 and throw a shot of blue weft, then use 1&3 for plain weave, repeat this 4x using only 1&3 tabby between the pattern shots. Then after 4 shots of the blue weft, use 2&4 tabby. Repeat enough times to square the block. For the second pattern block, use one blue pattern shot on levers 1&2, and tabby with 1&3 between. Repeat 4x then one shot of tabby 2&4, weave this until pattern block is squared.

Figure No. 3 Colonial Over-shot Threading Draft for Key Draft No. 2

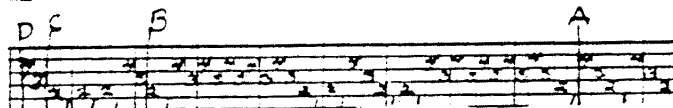


Figure No. 4 "Summer and Winter" Threading Draft for Key Draft No. 2

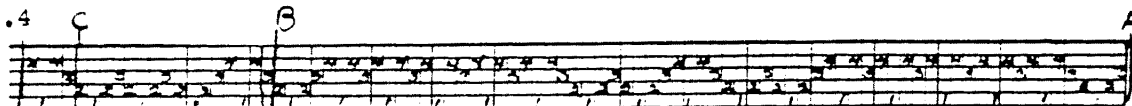
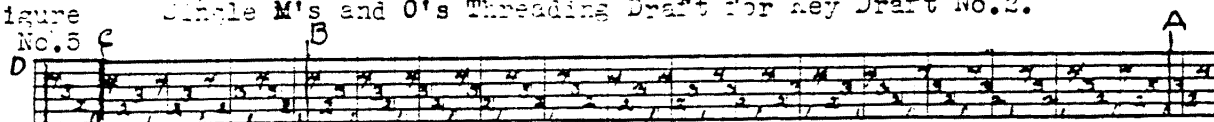


Figure No. 5 Single M's and O's Threading Draft for Key Draft No. 2.



Figures No. 3, 4, and 5 are all different arrangements of the Key Draft At No. 6 Warp can be either No. 20 mercerized cotton, with cotton weft in color, or 40/2 linen warp with linen weft. The M's and O's pattern as well as the "Summer and Winter" are excellent with white linen warp and pattern in dark natural linen. These threadings are very lovely for linens, and it is a pleasure to me to present these to other weavers thro the medium of the News, for I know they will be most useful and they are different.

Figure No. 4 is the same type of threading as Figure No. 2 Page 1. For a warp of 420 threads, thread first heddle double, edge 3, 4, 1, 4; from A to B once 68 threads; then B to C 16 threads repeated 17x for a total of 272 threads, C to D once; then A to B again, ending with last edge threads 4, 1, 4, 3. Thread last thread double in heddle for total of 420 threads. All of these patterns are woven on the regular tie-up for four harness Colonial over-shot.

Key Draft No. 2 Designed By Beatrice Carothers.  
Figure No. 6

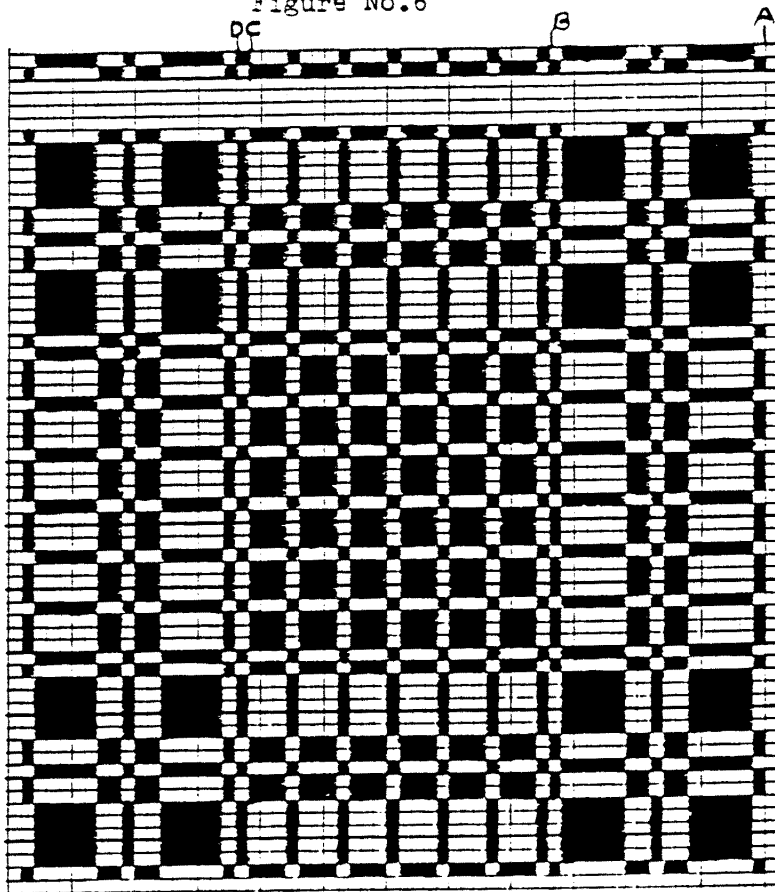


Figure No. 5 is what we have named Single M's and O's. We discovered it from reducing the regular old Colonial M's and O's threading to its lowest terms. It was introduced to News subscribers in August 1938, and as far as I know is an original use. This makes a most interesting texture especially for linens, and is a one shuttle weave with very short skips. There is no true plain weave on this threading draft. The nearest you can get to it, is to use 1&4, and 2&3 sheds. We have also found that it is best to thread the edge threads of the draft 1, 4, 2, 3, for a better edge. It is possible to make up your own key draft and plan out your threading draft from that. For one block of the pattern use as a unit 1, 3, 2, 4, and for the other block 1, 2, 3, 4. Repeat these as many times as there are units in each pattern block. If you are in doubt about this, refer to News for August 1938, for further explanation. For a warp of 420 threads, thread edge as given 1, 4, 2, 3, then from A to B or 68 threads, then B to C 17x repeated or 272 threads, then C to D or 4 threads, A to B 68 threads, ending with 3, 2, 4, 1. Thread first and last heddle double.

Figure No.7 Colonial Over-shot Threading for Key Draft No.3

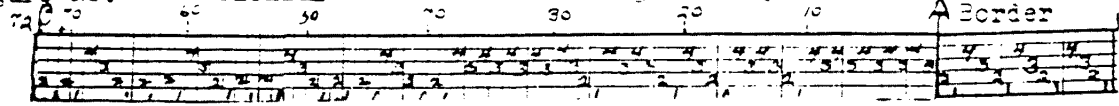
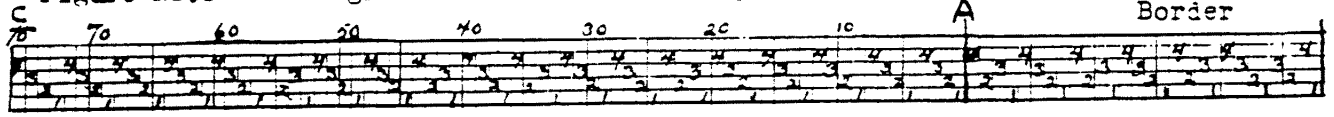


Figure No.8 Single M's and O's Threading for Key Draft No.3



For warp 420 threads.-  
 Border 7 inch x 4 = 28  
 A & B 144 x 2 = 288  
 A & C once = 70  
 End Border = 28  
 Total 420

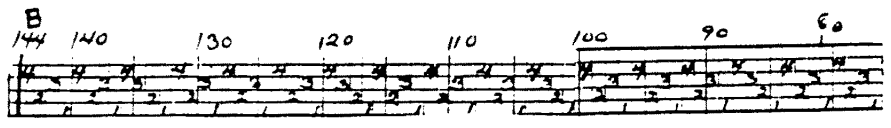
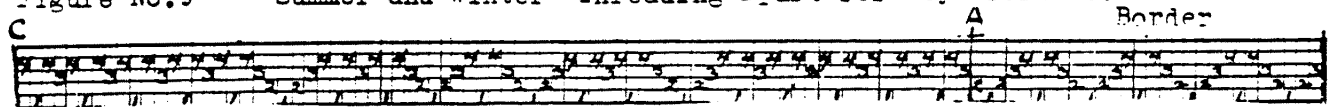
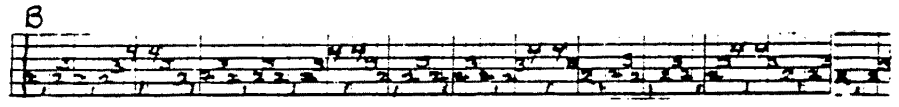


Figure No.9 "Summer and Winter" Threading Draft for Key Draft No.3

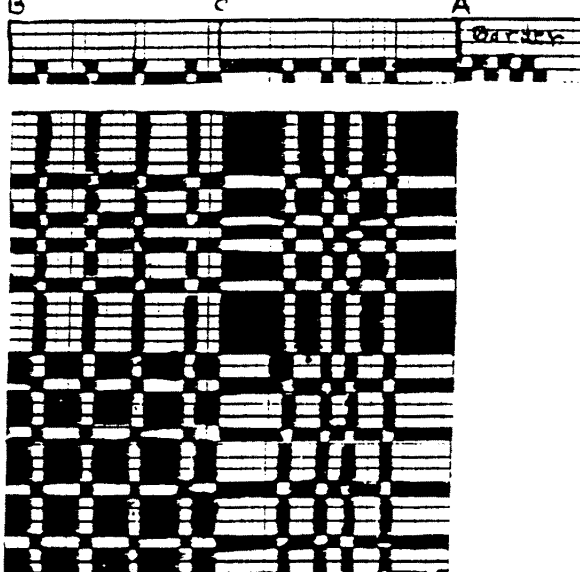


This draft may be arranged for 420 threads as in Figure No.8 as number of threads is the same.



At Figure No.10 is another two block key draft designed by Mrs. Lillian Cowley, one of my students. These designs are all simple and worked out by beginning students. Many more possibilities lie in this simple method of designing two block patterns, and their threading drafts. If you are one of those people who wish to do your own original threadings, I hope you will try out this method and see if you can do it. If you care to send me in threading drafts which you have written from your own two block pattern you have devised, I shall be glad to look them over and correct them for you or advise you about them. This offer only holds for regular subscribers to Handweaving News. In order to do this, you should also have a copy of the News for August of 1938, if you do not have a copy already. If you have any questions concerning this method of planning pattern drafts or anything is not quite clear in these directions, I will gladly answer your questions if you will include a 3¢ stamp with your request.

Figure No.10 Key Draft No.3  
 Designed by Lillian Cowley



Explanation of Weaving of the Single M's and O's pattern drafts.

To weave the single M's and O's patterns, use lever 1&2 for one shed of one pattern block, throw a shot of weft, then use 3&4 for the other shed and throw one shot of weft in this shed. There is no tabby weave between pattern shots. Repeat this alternately until the pattern block is square. To weave the second pattern block, use lever 1&3, throw one shot of weft, then use lever 2&4, throw a shot of weft. Repeat this until the second block is square. The number of times to repeat the alternation is difficult to estimate as it depends on the weight of thread used for the weft. But if you weave each pattern block square, your pattern should come out like the pattern blocks on your key draft. You will also find it easier to follow your key draft in your weaving, than to try and write up the treadling directions for each threading draft you use.