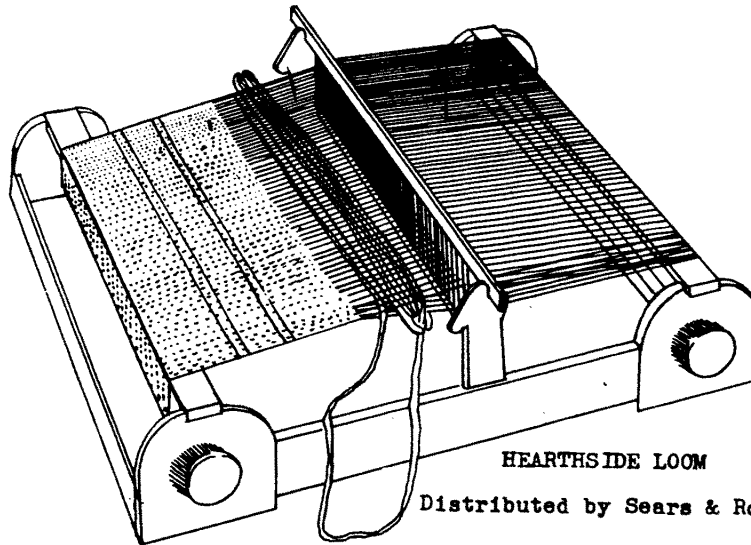


HANDWEAVING NEWS



HEARTHSTIDE LOOM

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Weaving on the Hearthside Loom.

A number of requests have come to me for more articles which can be woven on the Hearthside loom. So I am presenting this month some of the weaving which has been done recently on this loom, by my own students.

Weaving for Men in the Army or Navy. During the past few months it has been my privilege to teach some of the service men in one of the hospitals here in Detroit. I have found the boys to be especially interested in weaving wool scarves for their own use, and also belts. For these we have used the Hearthside Loom.

Wool Scarves - Make a warp of 90 threads. For this use either Germantown yarn or any yarn about the weight of that used for the knitting of socks. We have found the latter to be somewhat easier to use in the heddle. The Germantown sticks a little and roughs up more when the weaving is going on, but if the little flecks of wool are picked off as they occur on the heddle, Germantown yarn can be used. For boys in service, use khaki color to fit army regulations. For the navy, a good dark navy blue. For each scarf, allow about one and three-fourths yards of length for the warp. This allows the scarf to be about one and a half yards long when finished. Use Germantown yarn for the entire weft of the scarf. When weaving, take care and not beat the weft down too closely or the scarf will be too hard, as the yarn pulls together quite a little when removed from the loom. Also do not pull the weft yarn as it is put into the shed, let it lie in the shed on a long slant, then push it down carefully against the previous row of weft with a light beat. This is important. For if the weft is pulled in too much the scarf is made too narrow and if pulled in too much may actually break some of the edge warp threads, so watch this, let the weft lie loosely, pulling it in just enough so there are not loops on the selvage edges of the scarf.

Belts. Can be woven of carpet warp using the dark tan color. For these make a warp of 60 threads. For weft use the carpet warp double or even four strands can be used for a thicker belt. When tying this warp to the front cloth beam of the looms, pull the warp threads close together to a width of about an inch wide. The shuttle is used to push the weft close, each time the heddle changes the shed. The heddle is not used at all to beat the weft close, as the warp threads are too close together. For directions for belts of this sort in pattern, refer to the News for December 1938, which can be had for 45¢ each.

New metal Heddles. The Hearthside Loom is now sold with a new metal heddle. This is a decided improvement in the loom, which we are sure many of you will wish to know about. As the loom was originally designed, the metal heddle was to have been used, but due to war conditions when the loom was first sold, plastic had to be used instead.

How to Beat the weft close with the Hearthside Loom. This applies especially to the use of heavy rug filler or rags as weft. Raise the heddle, pass weft through the shed thus made, on a long slant as shown at Figure No.1. Do not stretch the weft or pull it, let it lie loosely in the shed. Draw it into the shed just enough to keep it from looping on the edge warp threads, but do not pull it in at all. Watch the edge warp threads to keep them straight from the heddle to the width of the weaving. If the warp is pulled in so the width is narrowed, you not only loose the width of the finished weaving, but it also makes it very difficult to beat the weft thread close enough. Lower the heddle for the next shed. Take hold of the shuttle with both hands at the edge of the weaving, and with it push the previous row of weft down close, then pull the shuttle through this shed with the weft again on a slant, push close with the heddle. Change shed, push close with the shuttle, and so on. A coarse comb can be used to push the weft close if desired, but is not needed if the above is followed carefully. If the weft is pushed down close to the previous row after the shed is changed, it will come closer than otherwise. If you are a beginner, do not be discouraged if you have to practise this to get the desired effect and to get straight edges.

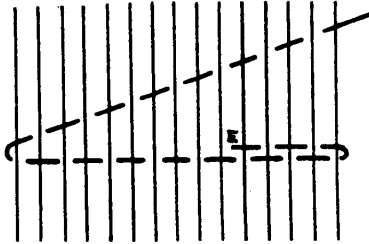


Figure No.1
How to put in weft Threads.

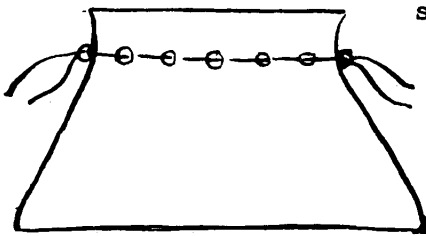


Figure No.3

Draw String Bag. Now that bag frames are difficult to obtain, we see many of the common type using a simple draw string cord. These bags can be very attractively woven on a striped warp. For these use Homecraft Soft Spun and Heavy Rug Filler for the weft, in the following manner,-

10 shots soft spun white or tan, 1 shot of heavy rug filler, same color. One shot soft spun, one of heavy, one of soft spun, one of heavy rug filler. Repeat this from the beginning until about 15 to 18 inches have been woven for one bag. Fold on the center stripe for the bottom of the bag, so that the selvage edges form the top of the bag. Stitch up the sides, and fold in the corners, stitch in the lining. Sew rings on outside and make a draw string cord to pull through them and the bag is finished.

Striped Warp Rug of Looped Stockings.

At Figure No.2 is shown a very good looking rug woven entirely with stocking weft on a variegated colored warp. This is an excellent way to use up left over small amounts of warp, and of course any color arrangement can be used. Warping order,- 12 tan, 5 blue, 3 gray, 5 red, 10 white, 8 blue, 5 gray, 8 red, 5 gray, 8 blue, 10 white, 5 red, 3 gray, *5 blue, 1 gray; then for the center stripe, repeat 2 white and 2 gray seven times for a total of 28 threads, then 1 white and 1 gray, then 5 blue at *, and from there in reverse back to the beginning of the warping order. The use of the 2 white and 2 gray in the center makes a very interesting stripe. Other colors could be used in the same way with very excellent effect. Weft is entirely of stockings looped. Men's and boys stockings make a good dark rug.

Figure No.2 Striped Rug.

