

Handweaving News

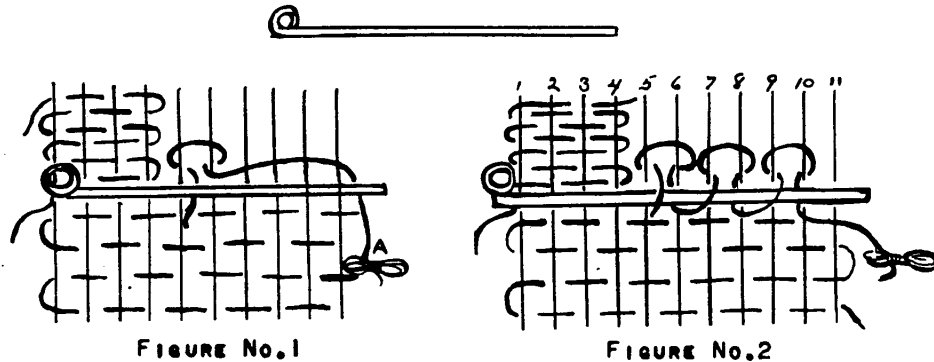


FIGURE No.1

FIGURE No.2

"FLOSSA" RUG KNOT

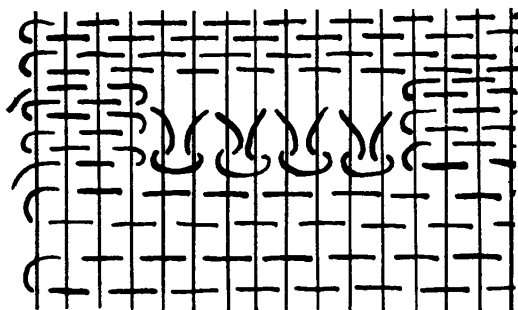
THIS IS A PILE TECHNIQUE CALLED "FLOSSA" IN SWEDISH. THERE ARE THREE DIFFERENT WAYS TO USE THIS KNOT. FLOSSA IS A SOLID MASS OF KNOTS, OF COURSE USING DIFFERENT COLORS FOR THE DESIGN AS THEY OCCUR. "HALF FLOSSA" HAS JUST THE DESIGN IN KNOTS ON A PLAIN WEAVE BACKGROUND. WHILE "RYA" IS THE SAME KNOT, GENERALLY WITH LONG LOOPS, AND MORE ROWS OF THE PLAIN WEAVE BACKGROUND BETWEEN EACH ROW OF THE KNOTS.

IN THE NEWS FOR APRIL 1940, A FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE TECHNIQUE WAS GIVEN. AND THIS IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN THE LESSON ON RUG KNOT, WHICH IS \$3.50 AND INCLUDES THE LOAN OF SAMPLES OF THE WEAVE FOR TWO WEEKS FOR STUDY. THE NEWS IS 45¢ EACH. THIS KNOT CAN BE USED ON ANY LOOM WHICH HAS THE PLAIN WEAVE SHED. SO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE ONLY THE SMALL PORTABLE HEARTH-SIDE LOOM. BAGS, SMALL RUGS, CHAIR SEATS OR STOOL TOPS ARE EASILY WOVEN ON THIS LOOM. FOR RUGS, USE HOME-CRAFT COTTON DOUBLE FOR THE KNOTS AND SINGLE FOR PLAIN WEAVE BACKGROUND. TAPESTRY WOOLS FOR BACKGROUND AND KNOTS WORK UP WELL TOO. IN ORDER TO BEAT DOWN CLOSELY, USE A COMB TO PUSH THE WEFT THREADS AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE. MRS. LOIS CORLISS OF SOUTH HAVEN, MICH RECENTLY GAVE ME A VERY HANDSOME PIECE WOVEN OF TAPESTRY WOOLS FOR A STOOL COVER.

DESIGN,— USE A SIMPLE MODERN ONE. EACH KNOT REQUIRES TWO WARP THREADS. DO NOT MAKE THE KNOTS RIGHT UP TO THE EDGES. LEAVE 4, 6, OR EVEN 8 WARP THREADS ON EACH EDGE. BUILD THIS UP WITH PLAIN WEAVE ON EACH EDGE AS IS NEEDED TO COMPENSATE FOR THE ROW OF KNOTS, AS AT FIGURE NO. 1 AND 2 ABOVE.

MATERIALS,— IF CARPET WARP IS USED FOR THE WARP, THREAD IT DOUBLE THROUGH THE HEDDLES. SLEY EVERY OTHER DENT OF A 12 DENT REED DOUBLE. WE FIND THIS WORKS VERY WELL. IN CHOOSING MATERIALS FOR THIS TYPE OF WEAVING, REMEMBER IT IS VERY PERMANENT, SO GET THOSE WHICH ARE THE BEST YOU CAN AFFORD. RUG WOOLS ARE BEST FOR WEFT FOR RUGS, BUT MAY BE HARD TO GET OR QUITE EXPENSIVE. AS SUBSTITUTES FOR THIS, WE HAVE FOUND COTTON

FIGURE No.3



RUG FILLER, HOME-CRAFT COTTON, CANDLEWICK COTTON, CAN BE USED. INTERESTING COLOR SCHEMES CAN BE MADE BY COMBINING SHADES OF THESE MATERIALS WITH MERCERIZED COTTON No. 3. RUGS CAREFULLY CUT AND DYED CAN BE USED FOR BACKGROUND IF DESIRED. BUT THEY SHOULD BE CAREFULLY PREPARED.

DETAILED DIRECTIONS FOR THE TECHNIQUE WERE GIVEN IN APRIL 1940 NEWS. TO THIS WE WISH TO ADD THE METHOD OF ADDING EXTRA ROWS OF BACKGROUND WEFT AS SHOWN IN FIGURE NO. 3, TO EVEN UP WITH THE ROWS OF KNOTS. THE NUMBER OF ROWS TO ADD WILL DEPEND ON HOW MUCH ROOM THE KNOTS TAKE UP. THIS DIAGRAM SHOWS SPACE ABOVE THE KNOTS. IN ACTUAL WEAVING OF COURSE THIS WOULD BE ENTIRELY FILLED.

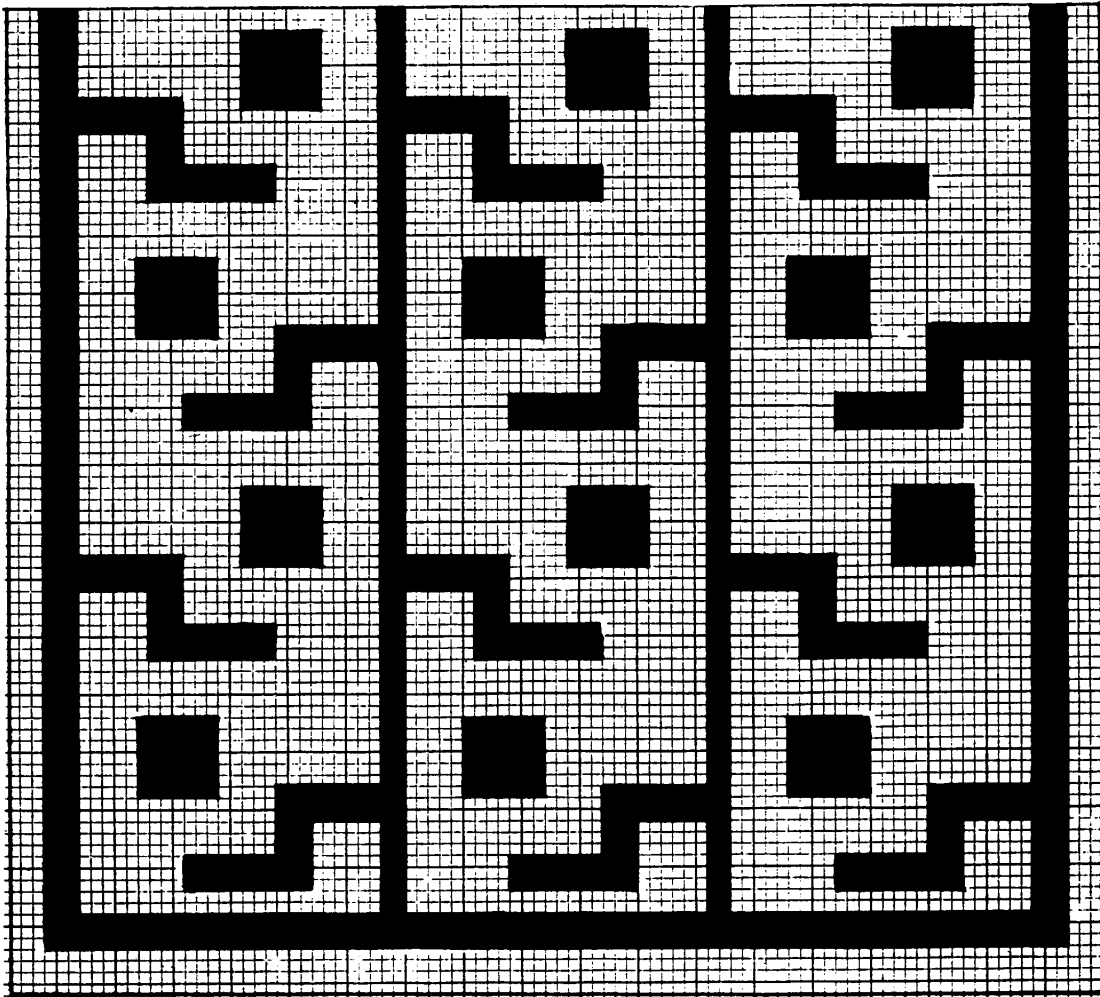
DESIGN FOR A "HALF FLOSSA" Rug.

THE DESIGN SHOWN BELOW WAS USED FOR A "HALF FLOSSA" RUG WHICH WAS BEGUN AT THE DETROIT HANDWEAVER'S GUILD AT INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE LAST FALL. IT WAS WOVEN ON A CARPET WARP, 390 WARP THREADS. THREADED DOUBLE THROUGH THE HEDDLES OF THE HARNESSES AND SLEYED EVERY OTHER DENT DOUBLE IN A 12 DENT REED. BACKGROUND WEFT, 3 SKEINS OF HEAVY CREAM COLORED RUG FILLER. WOUND WITH THIS ON THE SAME SHUTTLE WAS 3 STRANDS OF MERCERIZED COTTON No. 3, YELLOW-GREEN, AND 2 SHADES OF LIGHT GREEN. THE KNOTS WERE OF CREAM COLORED HOME-CRAFT COTTON YARN, USE THIS DOUBLE, AND WIND THE SAME COLORS OF GREEN MERCERIZED COTTON WITH IT AS IN THE BACKGROUND WEFT. FOUR BALLS OF THE HOME-CRAFT COTTON ARE NEEDED.

FINISHED WIDTH OF THIS RUG, ABOUT 30", LENGTH WOVEN 54" INCLUDES PLAIN WEAVE ON ENDS, BUT NOT THE FRINGES. THERE ARE 88 KNOTS FOR THE FULL WIDTH OF THE DESIGN WITH 9 DOUBLE THREADS SLEYED EVERY DENT IN THE REED ON EACH EDGE. OF COURSE THIS CAN BE WOVEN ON ANY PATTERN THREADING PROVIDED IT ALLOWS A PLAIN WEAVE SHED.

TO BEGIN THIS RUG, WEAWE 13 SHOTS OF PLAIN WEAVE WITH THE CREAM RUG FILLER. THEN 3 ROWS OF SOLID KNOTS AS SHOWN. PUT TWO ROWS OF PLAIN WEAVE BETWEEN EACH ROW OF KNOTS. IN WORKING OUT THIS DESIGN WE FOUND THAT 40 SQUARES OF THE PATTERN DESIGN VERTICALLY WILL EQUALS ABOUT 20" LENGTH OF WOVEN RUG. THIS IS A HELP TO KNOW IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO MAKE AND WEAWE A DESIGN OF YOUR OWN.

FOR A RUG ON THE FULL WIDTH OF THE HEARTHSIDE PORTABLE LOOM, ONE WOULD HAVE TO USE SINGLE CARPET WARP. FULL WIDTH OF THE 214 WARP THREADS, WOULD GIVE 107. TAKING 8 WARPS OFF EACH SIDE WOULD GIVE 91 KNOTS WIDE, 3 MORE THAN THIS PATTERN CALLS FOR. THIS LOOM IS SET A LITTLE CLOSER TOGETHER THAN SUGGESTED ABOVE, SO USE FINER BACKGROUND WEFT, AS SINGLE HOME-CRAFT COTTON WITH DOUBLE FOR THE KNOTS.



THE FLOSSA RUG

ACCESSORIES:

Flossa Rod - (2) 3/8" steel bars, riveted together at the ends,
2 inches longer than width of rug.

Razor Blade in Holder.

Hammer or Beater - 4 teeth to inch, available in Canada only.

Rug Shears - \$1.45 from Lee Wards, Elgin, Illinois.

SUPPLIES:

Cotton warp - 10-ply Butchers' cord, .95 lb., approx. 720 yds.
per lb. available at:
J.P. PLEIFFER & SON, 200 N. Paca, St., Baltimore, Md.

Linen warp: 1-1/2 Lea, \$1.15 lb., 450 Yds. per lb.
10/5 Line Natural, \$2.75 lb., 600 Yds. per lb.
Both available from:
FREDERICK J. FAWCETT, 129 South St., Boston 11, Mass.

Wool for Knots, Selvages and Borders: 8/2 Rug Yarn, made by
BRIGGS & LITTLE, in New Brunswick, available in
this country from:
TRANQUILLITY STUDIO, Cornwall Bridge, Conn., at
\$3.60 lb.

Persian 3-ply Worsted Rug Yarn, 933 Yds. per lb., available from:
PATERMAYAN, 312 East 95th St., New York 28, N.Y.
\$5.50 lb.
DEYRMANJIAN, 245 Fifth Ave., N.Y. 16, N.Y. at
\$5.00 lb.; over 5 lbs. \$4.50 lb.

Background weft: Wool-nylon Blend, \$1.50 lb. from:
Textile Products, Belmont, N.C.

REFERENCES:

HANDWEAVER & CRAFTSMAN, Winter 1957-1958
Article: Knotted & Tufted Rugs, by Dorothy Bryan.
LOOM MUSIC, April, 1951: The Flossa Rug
MONSTERBLAD, Folder #10: The Rya Rug
MANUAL OF SWEDISH HAND WEAVING, by Ulla Cyrus, 1956.

THE GHIORDES KNOT (Turkish) or FLOSSA KNOT:

