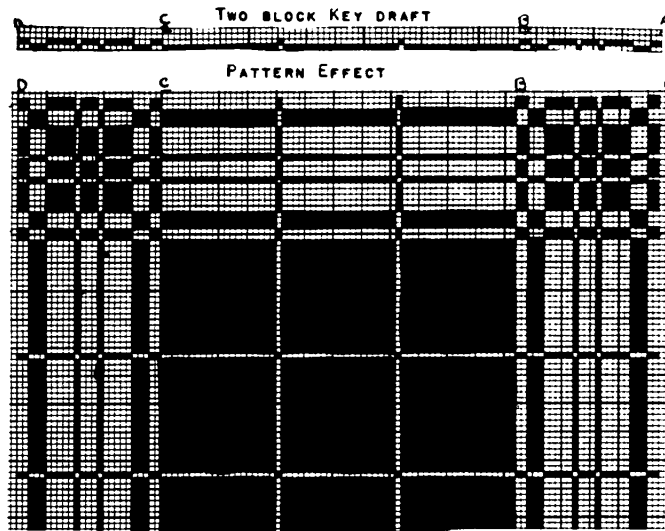


# Handweaving News



## WARP PATTERN RUGS.

There have been a number of requests for information concerning warp pattern rugs. So this month we are going to try and give a few suggestions for this sort of weaving.

The most common type of warp pattern rug is called by the name of "Log Cabin." These are made up of two pattern blocks, and can be woven on a two or a four harness loom. Use regular carpet warp for warp for these, in two colors. Sley 24 warp threads to the inch, or 1 dark thread and 1 light thread of warp in a dent of a 12 dent reed. If you wish, you can set this at 30 threads to the inch, or 2 in each dent of a 15 dent reed. This last makes the weft thread show very little, except on the edges of the weaving. To weave these, you use a shot of heavy weft, and then change the shed and use a shot of the fine weft. To change the pattern, use either two shots of the heavy weft, or two shots of the fine, changing the shed each time.

For Rugs, the heavy weft can be of Rug Roving or Home-craft soft cotton doubled, or of rags. The fine weft can be carpet warp, or any fine thread you wish to use, as this scarcely shows at all. Rags can be cut from 1" wide to 1½" depending on how heavy a rug is desired. Be sure and use fast color warps for this sort of weaving, as it is especially long wearing. These rugs cannot be woven on the portable Hearthside loom as the warp has to be set so very close together.

Planning a Rug. In this weave it is best to think in terms of inches for the sizes of the blocks. By this we mean that the whole width can be planned in inches, then reduced to the number of threads required to the inch. Thus a pattern block which had 48 threads would be 2" of width in the reed. Or if you used a 15 dent reed, it would take 60 warp threads to equal 2" of the reed.

Lengthwise Stripes of one color, either light or dark warp, for width desired, can be planned for an edge border. It is often well to plan a selvage of warp the same in color as weft to be used.

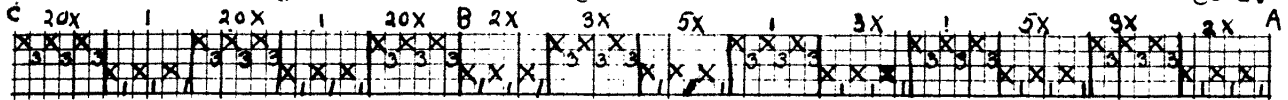
For sectional warping of the 6 harness floor loom, use 48 spools of warp, 24 dark and 24 light for each section of the warp beam, for the required width of the rug.

Key Draft At Figure No.1 we have a key draft for a two block pattern. Of course any two block pattern you wish to devise can be used in the same way.

From A to B on this key draft should be about 6" for a good proportion for a border for a rug 30" wide. Count the cross section paper squares and you will see that there are 25 units. We will sley this rug with 24 threads to an inch, so 6 X 24 is 144 threads. If we use 6 warp threads for each unit, we will have 150 warp threads for the 25 unit border. From B to C, the center, is 62 units, X 6 threads is

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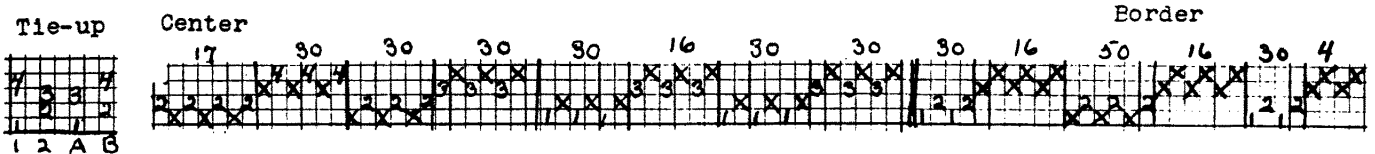
362. Repeat A to B for the end border, 150 threads, making a total of 662 warp threads. For a wider rug, the center units could be made larger, or 8 threads could be used for one unit of the key draft, instead of 6 as given above. We have explained this at some length, so you will know that any number of warp threads desired, can be used for one unit, and the proportions will be kept.

Threading Draft. Is very simple for a two block pattern. Here we have used two warp thread for each unit of the key draft. So write the pattern block 1, on harness 1,2,1,2,1,2. Use a dark warp on harness 1, and a light warp on harness 2. For the second pattern block, use dark on harness 3, and light on harness 4, 3,4,3,4, for each unit of the key draft. Figure No.2 shows the threading draft. The numbers above the units of 6 threads, indicate the number

of times each unit is repeated for the full threading draft. The X's on the draft are for light warp threads and the figures are for the dark warp threads.

Tie-up Treadle 2, tied to harness 1 & 4, of the regular 6 treadle tie-up, will weave one pattern block. And treadle 4, tied to harness 2 & 3, will weave the second pattern block. The order is Treadle 2, heavy weft; A fine weft; Treadle 2, heavy weft; B, fine weft. Weave as many times as desired. Then treadle A with fine weft. For the next block, Treadle 4 heavy weft, B fine weft; Treadle 4 heavy weft; A fine weft. Weave as many times as desired. Then treadle B with fine weft to change the pattern for the next pattern block on Treadle 2. A is of course a plain weave treadle, and B also, of the regular loom tie-up.

Figure No.3 Complete rug Pattern - Two large all over figures.



Here we have at Figure No.3 a plan which one of our Guild members adapted from a Swedish draft in this warp pattern technique. It has a solid lengthwise striped border on each edge. The numbers above each of the units of the threading draft stand for the number of warp threads to be used for that unit. Just one-half of the complete repeat for the rug is given in the threading draft. The finished rug measured about 24" wide. Warp was set at 30 threads to the inch. Heavy weft was of white rags, and fine weft of carpet warp. Note that the edge threads of the border are light. The warp used for this was dark brown and cream so the edge warp was of the light thread. For a wider rug, the edge border could be made wider and the blocks of the rest of the pattern also increased as desired.

Warp- For the two edge borders make a warp of 134 light threads and 158 dark threads. For the center of the rug, make 205 dark and 204 light threads, for a total of 701 warp threads

Thread 1 thread in each heddle eye, and sley 2 threads in each dent of a 15 dent reed. Thread the border as given, then A to C, the center. There are 17 threads in this center pattern block, then the pattern is threaded from B to A, and then the border for the other edge.

Tie-up for this is the same as for the two block pattern above.

To weave make a heading using A and B treadle alternately for about an inch. Use the fine weft for this.

Then Treadle 1 heavy weft - Treadle 2 fine, 3x.  
 " A " " - " B " , 3x.  
 " 2 " " - " 1 " , 3x.  
 " A " " - " B " , 3x.

This is the center, repeat back in the same order to finish the complete figures.

Then Treadle B heavy weft - Treadle A fine, 3x.  
 " 2 " " - " 1 " , 3x.  
 " B " " - " A " , 3x.

This is the center of the second figure. Repeat back in the same order for the complete figure. Alternate these two repeats from the beginning for the complete length desired.

Complete the rug with the plain weave heading as at the beginning. These rugs can be bound or fringed as you wish.

We have had some 6 harness loom rugs requested and some time during this year, these will appear for you. If anyone has been making some of these which they would like to pass on to others, we shall be very grateful for ideas.