

PRACTICAL WEAVING SUGGESTIONS

VOL. 1-61



No-Tabby Weave and Tufted Rugs

Mary Meigs Atwater

Weaving in this country would not enjoy the popularity it does today were it not for the pioneering spirit and efforts of the late Mary Meigs Atwater and we, along with thousands of weavers, shall be forever grateful for her great contribution to the craft.

Soon after Lily Mills began the manufacture of yarns for handweaving, Mrs. Atwater became intensely interested in our new venture and graciously offered her services in its development. The no-tabby weave and tufted rugs, reproduced in this issue of Practical Weaving Suggestions, were designed especially for us using our Rug Weave Yarn, Art. 814 - a soft cotton yarn, perfect for the no-tabby weave. Although the no-tabby weave dates

back to early Scandinavian and Italian weaving, its use for rug weaving had never been explored until Mrs. Atwater introduced it. The tufted borders of old fashioned Swedish and Italian bedspreads and towels inspired her to create the tufted rugs, which have unlimited pattern possibilities and, if beaten firmly, are extremely durable and handsome.

Since these designs were first published, more than twenty years ago, we have had numerous requests for copies of the instructions and drafts and we are deeply indebted to Helen Freas, weaving instructor at Penland School of Handicrafts, whose able assistance made it possible for us to offer them to you again -

NO ... TABBY WEAVE RUGS

Materials:

Warp: Lily Art. 414 - Carpet Warp - Beige.
3 rugs require 3 tubes.

Weft: Lily Art. 814 - Rug Weave Yarn -
in colors and quantities suggested for
each rug.

Sett: 15 threads to the inch.

The warp does not show at all in the finished rugs, but if gay colored fringes are desired, set the warp in stripes of bright colors rather than all beige. Thread the simple pattern shown on the diagram, drawing three warp-ends through each heddle adding 3 warp ends through No. 1 to last repeat. 363 warp ends will give 5 pattern repeats. If sleyed through a 10-dent reed, draw the three threads from one heddle through the same dent of the reed, skip a dent and repeat. If a 15-dent reed is used, draw three threads through one dent, skip two dents, and repeat.

Stretch the warp tighter than for ordinary weaving.

In weaving, treadle the four pattern sheds in succession as in weaving plain twill. That is to say, if the standard tie-up is used, as shown at (a) and (b) on the diagram, treadle 1, 2, 3, 4, and repeat. If the tie-up at (c) is used, treadle 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, 1-4, and repeat. This treading is followed for the entire rug,

and all three rugs shown are treadled in exactly the same manner, the patterns being produced by changes of color.

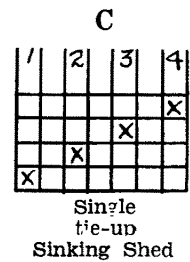
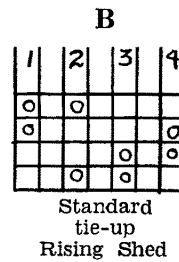
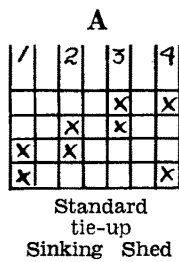
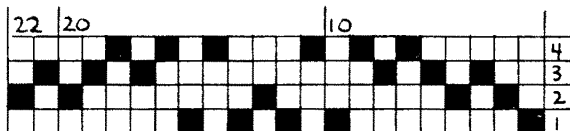
There is no limit to the patterns and effects one may produce on this simple threading in this manner, and the three designs illustrated may be taken simply as indications of some of the fascinating possibilities.

In the weaving directions as given in detail for each of the three rugs the succession of four shots, 1, 2, 3, 4, is taken as a single "pass" of the weave.

This weave should be very firmly beaten so that the warp is completely covered. Special care must be taken to avoid narrowing-in of the fabric. Unless the web is kept out to the full width of the warp as it comes through the reed, it will be impossible to beat the weft together properly. In order to prevent piling up of weft on the edges, start new color on first one side and then the other.

Note: Rugs in this weave tend to draw in after being taken from the loom, and when washed, shrink a great deal in width. Allowance must be made for this shrinkage when setting up the loom.

THREADING



RUG A ... Boy and Girl Figures

Materials:

Warp: Lily Art. 414 - Carpet Warp - Beige.

Weft: Lily Art. 814 - Rug Weave Yarn.

3 skeins Black 2 (b)
2 skeins Red 95 (r)
1 skein Orange 20 (o)
1 skein Hunter Green 58 (hg)
1 skein Delft Blue 28 (db)
3 skeins Beige 90 (be)
1 skein Natural 4 (n)
1 skein Dark Green 59 (dg)

Makes rug approximately 19" x 36"

Directions:

Bottom Border: Eight passes, all shots (b); two passes, 1 (r), 2, 3, 4 (b); 2 passes, 1 (r), 2, 3 (b), 4 (r); two passes, 1 (o), 2 (b), 3, 4 (r); two passes, 1 (r), 2, 3 (b), 4 (r); two passes, 1 (r), 2, 3, 4 (b); two passes, all shots (b); one pass, all shots (r); one pass, all shots (b); one pass, all shots (o); one pass, all shots (b); one pass, all shots (dg); one pass, all shots (b); one pass, all shots (db); two passes, all shots (b).

Boy Figure: Three passes, all shots (be); two passes, 1 (be), 2 (b), 3, 4 (n)—heel of boot; three passes, 1 (be), 2, 3 (b), 4 (b)—foot; ten passes, 1 (be), 2 (b), 3, 4 (n)—leg; four passes, 1 (n), 2 (r), 3, 4 (n)—top of stocking; two passes, 1 (be), 2 (n), 3, 4 (be)—knee; ten passes, 1 (be), 2, 3 (dg), 4 (be)—pants; six passes, 1, 2, 3 (dg), 4 (be)—pants; two passes, 1, 2 (dg), 3 (b), 4 (be); two passes, 1, 2 (r), 3 (b), 4 (be)—belt; fourteen passes, 1 (db), 2, 3 (b), 4 (be)—coat and vest; three passes, 1 (o), 2, 3 (b), 4 (be)—necktie; three passes, 1 (n), 2, 3 (b), 4 (be)—chin; two passes, 1, 2 (n), 3, 4 (be)—face; one pass, 1 (r), 2 (n), 3, 4 (be)—mouth; 2 passes, 1, 2 (n), 3, 4 (be); 1 pass, 1 (b), 2 (n), 3, 4 (be)—nose; three passes,

1, 2 (n), 3, 4 (be); one pass, 1 (n), 2 (b), 3, 4 (be)—eyes; one pass, 1, 2 (n), 3, 4 (be); two passes, 1, 2 (n), 3 (r), 4 (be)—forehead and hat; two passes, 1 (n), 2, 3 (r), 4 (be); three passes, 1, 2 (r), 3, 4 (be)—hat; two passes, 1 (r), 2, 3, 4 (be)—top of hat; three passes, all shots (be).

Center Strip: Two passes, all shots (b); repeat series of single passes in plain color as at the top of bottom border; one pass (o); one pass (b); one pass (dg); one pass (b); one pass (r); one pass (b); one pass (db); two passes, all shots (b).

First Figure: Two passes, 1 (o), 2, 3, 4 (b); two passes, 1, 2 (o), 3 (b), 4 (o); two passes, 1 (o), 2, 3, 4 (b); two passes, 1 (o), 2 (b), 3 (o), 4 (b); two passes, all shots (r); two passes, 1 (dg), 2 (b), 3 (dg), 4 (b); two passes, 1 (dg), 2, 3, 4 (b); two passes, 1, 2 (dg), 3 (b), 4 (dg); two passes, 1 (dg), 2, 3, 4 (b).

Second Figure: Two passes, all shots (b); two passes, 1 (r), 2, 3, 4 (b); three passes, 1 (r), 2 (b), 3 (r), 4 (b); (x) — two passes, all shots (r), four passes, 1 (r), 2 (b), 3 (r), 4 (db); two passes, all shots (r); (y)—four passes, 1 (r), 2 (o), 3 (r), 4 (b); two passes, all shots (r); three passes, 1 (r), 2 (b), 3 (r), 4 (b); two passes, 1 (r), 2, 3, 4 (b); two passes, all shots (b).

NOTE:

For a larger rug, these two figures may be alternated as desired, or the second figure from (x) to (y) may be repeated for a broad band, followed by Figure One in reverse. Or the center strip may be woven plain, or in stripes, or in an entirely different figure.

Repeat single passes in plain color, followed by two passes, all shots (b).

Girl Figure: Three passes, all shots (be); two passes, 1 (b), 2, 3, 4 (be)—top of hat; three passes, 1 (b), 2, 3 (be), 4 (b); two passes, 1 (n), 2 (be), 3, 4 (b); one pass, 1 (n), 2 (be), 3 (b), 4 (n); one pass, 1 (n), 2 (be), 3 (o), 4 (n); one pass, 1 (n), 2 (be), 3 (o), 4 (b)—eyes and hair; two passes, 1 (n), 2 (be), 3 (o), 4 (n); one pass, 1 (b), 2 (be), 3 (be), 4 (n)—nose; two passes, 1 (n), 2, 3 (be), 4 (n); one pass, 1 (r), 2, 3

(be), 4 (n)—mouth; two passes, 1 (n), 2, 3 (be), 4 (dg)—chin; fourteen passes, 1 (dg), 2 (be), 3, 4 (dg)—body; four passes, 1 (r), 2, 3 (be), 4 (r)—belt; twenty-four passes, 1 (db), 2 (be), 3, 4 (db)—skirt; twelve passes, 1, 2, 3 (be), 4 (o)—stockings; two passes, 1, 2, 3 (be), 4 (r); two passes, 1, 2, 3 (be), 4 (o); two passes, 1, 2 (be), 3, 4 (r)—shoes; three passes, 1, 2, 3 (be), 4 (b)—heels; three passes, all shots (be).

End Border: Two passes, all shots (b); one pass (dg); one pass (b); one pass (o); one pass (b); one pass (r); one pass (b); one pass (db); two passes (b); two passes, 1 (r), 2 (b), 3, 4 (r); two passes, 1 (o), 2 (b), 3 (r), 4 (o); one pass, 1 (o), 2 (b), 3, 4 (r); one pass, 1 (r), 2 (b), 3, 4 (r); one pass, 1 (r), 2, 3 (b), 4 (r); eight passes, all shots (b).

RUG B ... Vine and Trellis Figure**Materials:**

Warp: Lily Art. 414 - Carpet Warp - Beige.

Weft: Lily Art. 814 - Rug Weave Yarn.

3 skeins Orange 20 (o)

4 skeins Natural 4 (n)

3 skeins Dark Green 59 (dg)

Makes rug approximately 19" x 36"

Directions:

End Border: Eight passes, all shots (dg); one pass, 1 (o), 2, 3, 4 (dg); one pass, 1, 2 (o), 3, 4 (dg); one pass, 1, 2, 3 (o), 4 (dg); one pass, 1 (dg), 2, 3, 4 (o); one pass, 1, 2 (dg), 3, 4 (o); one pass, 1 (o), 2, 3 (dg), 4 (o); one pass, 1 (o), 2, 3, 4 (dg); three passes, all shots (dg); one pass, all shots (n); one pass, all shots (o); one pass, all shots (n); two passes, all shots (dg).

Flowering Vine Figure: Three passes, all shots (n); three passes, 1 (dg), 2, 3, 4 (n); three passes, all shots (n); three passes, 1, 2, 3 (n), 4 (o); three passes, 1, 2 (n), 3, 4 (o);

three passes, 1 (dg), 2, 3, 4 (n); three passes, 1, 2 (n), 3, 4 (o); three passes, 1, 2, 3 (n), 4 (o); 3 passes, all shots (n); one pass, 1 (dg), 2, 3, 4 (n); one pass, 1 (dg), 2, 3 (n), 4 (dg); one pass, 1 (dg), 2 (n), 3, 4 (dg); one pass, 1 (n), 2, 3, 4 (dg); one pass, 1, 2 (n), 3, 4 (dg); one pass, 1 (dg), 2, 3 (n), 4 (dg); one pass, 1 (dg), 2, 3, 4 (n); three passes, all shots (n); three passes, 1 (n), 2 (o), 3, 4 (n); three passes, 1 (n), 2, 3 (o), 4 (n); three passes, 1 (dg), 2, 3, 4 (n); three passes, 1 (n), 2, 3 (o), 4 (n); three passes, 1 (n), 2 (o), 3, 4 (n); three passes, all shots (n).

Trellis Figure: Three passes, 1 (dg), 2, 3, 4 (n); six passes, 1 (dg), 2 (n), 3 (o), 4 (n); two passes, all shots (dg); three passes, 1 (dg), 2 (n), 3 (o), 4 (n); two passes, 1, 2 (dg), 3 (o), 4 (dg); six passes, 1 (dg), 2 (n), 3 (o), 4 (n); four passes, 1 (dg), 2, 3, 4 (o); six passes, 1 (dg), 2 (n), 3 (o), 4 (n); four

passes, all shots (o); three passes, 1 (dg), 2 (n), 3 (o), 4 (n); two passes, all shots (dg); three passes, 1 (dg), 2 (n), 3 (o), 4 (n); two passes, 1, 2 (dg), 3 (o), 4 (dg); twenty-five passes, 1 (dg), 2 (n), 3 (o), 4 (n). This is the center—repeat in reverse order back to the beginning.

RUG C . . . Tulip Bed Pattern

Materials:

Warp: Lily Art. 414 - Carpet Warp - Beige.
1 Rug requires $\frac{1}{4}$ tube.

Weft: Lily Art. 814 - Rug Weave Yarn.
4 skeins Black 2 (b)
1 skein Delft Blue 28 (db)
1 skein Light Green 44 (lg)
1 skein Red 95 (r)
1 skein Orange 20 (o)
2 skeins Yellow 10 (y)
2 skeins Lavender 70 (L)
1 skein Pink 47 (p)
1 skein Rose Pink 46 (rp)

More or fewer colors, or different colors, may, of course, be used if preferred.

Makes rug approximately 19" x 36"

Directions:

End Border: Six passes, all shots (b).

First Figure: Two passes, all shots (lg); three passes, 1 (lg), 2 (db), 3 (lg), 4 (db); three passes, 1 (lg), 2, 3, 4 (db); two passes, all shots (db); three passes, all shots (b).

Second Figure: Two passes, all shots (lg); three passes, 1 (lg), 2 (db), 3 (lg), 4 (db); six passes, 1 (lg), 2, 3, 4 (db); two passes, 1 (lg), 2 (r), 3 (db), 4 (o); five passes, 1 (r), 2 (r), 3 (db), 4 (o); three passes, 1 (db), 2 (r), 3 (db), 4 (o); two passes, all shots (db); three passes, all shots (b).

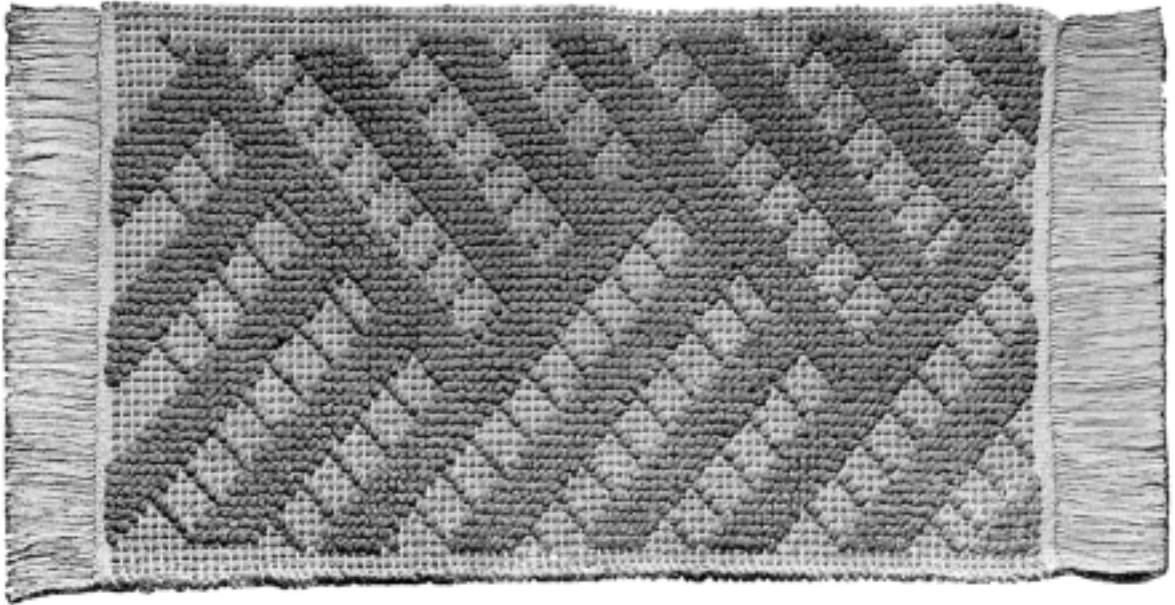
Third Figure: Two passes, all shots (lg); three passes, 1 (lg), 2 (db), 3 (lg), 4 (db); twelve passes, 1 (lg), 2, 3, 4 (db); two passes, 1 (lg), 2, 3 (db), 4 (y); fifteen passes, 1 (y), 2 (db), 3, 4 (y); three passes, 1 (y), 2 (db), 3 (y), 4 (db); two passes, all shots (db);

three passes, all shots (b). Repeat First Figure. Repeat Second Figure, using pink and lavender instead of red and orange.

Fourth Figure: Two passes, all shots (lg); three passes, 1 (lg), 2 (db), 3 (lg), 4 (db); twelve passes, 1 (lg), 2, 3, 4 (db); two passes, 1 (lg), 2 (r), 3, 4 (db); fifteen passes, 1, 2, 3 (r), 4 (db); three passes, 1 (r), 2 (db), 3 (r), 4 (db); two passes, all shots (db); three passes, all shots (b). Repeat First Figure, repeat Second Figure, using yellow and orange instead of orange and red. Repeat Third Figure, using old rose instead of yellow. Repeat First Figure. Repeat Second Figure using pink and red instead of orange and red.

End: Two passes, all shots (b); six passes, all shots (b).

TUFTED RUG



Materials:

Warp: Lily Art. 414 - Carpet Warp - Beige.
1 rug requires $\frac{1}{2}$ tube.

Weft: Lily Art. 814 - Rug Weave Yarn.
2 skeins Beige. 4 skeins Rust.

This method of weaving is a "pick-up" weave, but in coarse materials goes very rapidly. A two-harness loom may be used for this weave, or a four-harness loom, as shown by the threading drafts on the Diagram. The warp should be Lily Art. 414, Carpet Warp, threaded 1, 1, 2, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, if a two-harness loom is used and 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, if a four-harness loom is used. Then warp ends should be sleyed 1 to the dent in a No. 12 reed - single for foundation shots and double for the tufting. Foundation and tufting may be in same color, or in different colors if desired. All-white rugs make handsome bath mats.

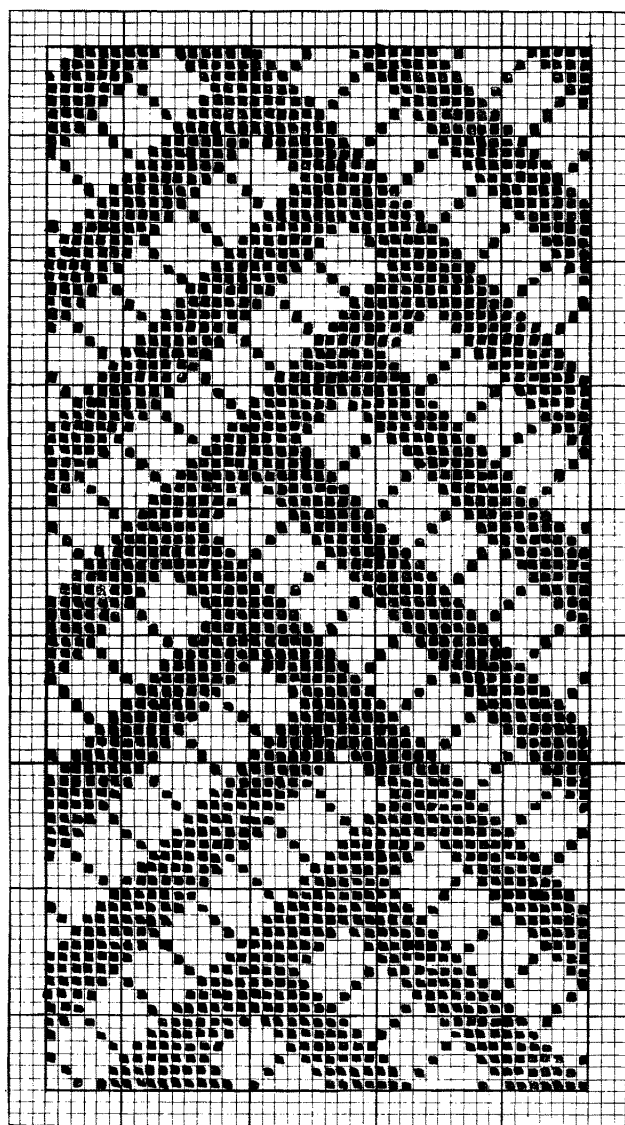
Weave a narrow tabby heading in carpet warp. Then an inch in tabby using the single strand of foundation weft, ending with a shot on treadle No. 2, thrown from right to left. With this shed still open, throw a shot of tufting material, in a double strand, also from right to left, allowing the strand to lie loosely in the shed. On the stiff wire, take up loops

of this strand as indicated on the pattern used. Omit the first three or four spaces to give a plain edge. This is important as the rug will tend to roll at the edges if the tufting is taken all the way to the edge. This pick-up should, of course, be made from right to left, and all the loops should be taken in the same direction, as shown on the diagram. The strand should not be drawn tight around the wire, but should not be left too loose or the tufts will be uneven in size.

When all the tufts of the first row of the pattern have been taken up, take the tufting strand around an edge thread and back from left to right through the same shed. Beat. Change the shed and beat again. Weave the foundation strand from left to right through the new shed and beat again. To make a firm edge, all weft picks should be crossed before entering the next shed. Very firm beating is required. Withdraw the pick-up wire.

This is the complete process. Weave the foundation shot on treadle No. 2, right to left. Beat. With this shed still open, weave the tufting strand and make the pick-up. With the shed still open, return the tufting strand from left to right. Beat. Treadle 1. Beat. Weave on treadle 1 with the foundation strand. Beat. Withdraw wire.

This bath mat is 16½ inches wide. The warp should be made of 194 ends, to allow three untufted spaces at each side for borders. The



Pattern of rug illustrated—slightly modified

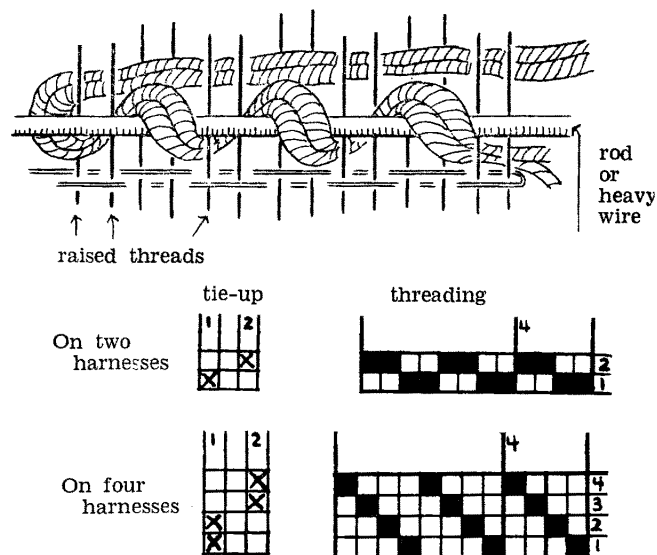
first tuft should be taken up between the fourth and fifth pairs of raised threads; the next between the fifth and sixth, and so on for seven tufts. Skip one space, take up one tuft, skip five spaces and take up seven tufts, and so on.

Patterns as intricate as one likes may be produced in this weave. Patterns, however, made up of very large plain and tufted spaces should be avoided. The surface of the rug should be fairly evenly and closely covered.

Note: For a somewhat heavier rug, set the warp at 18 ends to the inch and thread triple - that is, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, and so on. For the four-harness threading, thread in the same manner and make the 1-3-2-4 tabby tie-up. About three-eighths of a pound of weft material is required for each square foot in rugs of this type. Of course, this varies greatly with the beat and also with the size of the tufts, and is based on my practice. I use one of the wires from my spool rack as a pick-up wire. If a heavier rod is used the tufts will be larger and the quantity of material greater.

The tufts in tufted weaving should not be cut as they are held under a single warp-thread only and would soon come out. If one desires a cut-pile effect a different method of weaving should be used.

Method of making tufts





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