

# warp and weft

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June, 1964

## warp and weft

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Assistant Editor: Robin Groff.

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### A Word from the Editor

Catching up a little this month, we will have this issue out almost on schedule which is a change from last month.

The summer season is approaching, and business is slowing down, and so now we are experimenting with samples for future warp and weft samples. I think that we have worked out an interesting barley-corn and lace combination for a future issue that is different than what you expect it to be. Also, we have been experimenting with a rib weave, with a canvas weave, with a sheer drapery in a plain weave, and one or two others. We hope that you will like them when they appear in Warp and Weft.

We have two new sample sheets that we are now starting, and have just finished some 2,000 of these sample sheets featuring the homespun wools that were featured in last month's issue. It is hoped that we will be able to finish mailing out our catalogues this summer, so that all 3,000 have been mailed.

We are still looking forward to receiving our shipment of mercerized and colored ramie which we hope is enroute to us from Japan. There are some beautiful colors that we have had dyed to order, and it will be fun to do some experimenting with this mercerized Ramie.

We had another surprize from our daughter this month that is not related to weaving, but which pleased us no end. Janice is 11 years old, and in the physical fitness tests for the girls at her elementary school, she

had the highest score in the physical fitness tests of any girl in the school. You can see that the tiger milk that Janice was brought up on really did the trick in helping make her healthy.

For one week of our vacation this summer, as soon as school is out, we hope to visit Vancouver and Victoria, Canada. It is there that there will be two weaving exhibitions that we hope to take in. One is a guild exhibit and the other, if I remember correctly, is an all Canada weaving exhibit. We are looking forward to seeing this exhibition and sale. You know that after you have had so many issues of magazines or bulletins to get out, you sometimes seem to lose all ideas you might have had, and by seeing these conferences and exhibits, you then receive new inspiration and ideas.

Russell E. Groff, Editor.

The 1st Pacific Northwest Bi-Annual Weaving Conference will be sponsored by the Portland Handweavers Guild in 1965 in Portland, Oregon. This conference will be held at the Multnomah Hotel in downtown Portland on the dates of May 22nd and 23rd, 1965. All of the different weaving guilds of the Pacific Northwest are being invited to participate and have booths at this conference. It is hoped that there will be many different guild exhibitions, actual weaving demonstrations of unusual techniques, and a name speaker, as well as the traditional fashion show. A theme for the conference has been worked out, and the different guilds who have booths will be asked to plan their exhibits with this theme in mind.

More details will be forthcoming and we hope that all the guilds of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia will consider this conference as their own, and participate in it.

All weavers are welcome to attend.



## **This Month's Cover**

We were pleased with this unusual room divider which was displayed at the Northern California Handweavers Conference this year.

The warp seemed to be a cotton, and the weft in these narrow strips a rayon boucle. Also in the weft, were these long, irregular shaped sticks which I believe is a type of sedge or broom.

And of course, the interesting bells hanging on the lengths of sedge or broom make this an interesting piece. You can imagine that if it is hung in a position where there is any kind of breeze, that you would have a sighing or singing of the bells when moved by the breeze. Also, of great interest are the different kinds of bells used. This also made this piece more appealing and attractive.

## **This Month's Book Review**

Just published this month is the second edition of the book, "THE JOY OF HANDWEAVING," by Osma Gallinger Tod.

This is a revised edition of the earlier book, with much new copy, and much revision of the old copy.

Actually, this is an excellent book for the beginner and intermediate weaver with its interesting content which is quite instructional in nature.

This is really not a pattern book, but an instruction book. There are some patterns given, but primarily this is a technique with some excellent instruction given on many, many different phases of weaving.

The first portion of the book is devoted to the many different kinds of threads that can be used in weaving. This includes some of our modern man made fibers as well as the natural fibers.

For the beginner weaver, the complete process of weaving a bookmark is explained to help teach the many different processes of weaving to the newcomer or beginner in weaving.

Next is an explanation of how to weave rugs on a frame, and an explanation of how the Indians weave on such a frame.

The next several chapters deal with the loom set-up, handling of threads, knots used, designing, setting up and weaving on a 2 harness loom, weaving of rag rugs in a plain weave, and the making of different articles with striped warps and wefts.

Then comes a chapter on tapestry and tapestry techniques, a chapter on lace weaves, and different methods of inlay.

The second portion of the book is entitled pattern weaving, and is concerned with some of the different classes of 4 harness weaves and an explanation of different things such as explanation of twills and variations, over-shot weaves and different ways of weaving overshot, and finally special four harness techniques.

Two interesting chapters in the latter part of the book are the Handweavers approach to color, and planning borders. These, we do not normally see in many weaving books.

There is a very elaborate thread chart of proper warp settings, and suitable weft threads for these various projects and warp threads being woven.

This book gives you a feeling that it is slightly old-fashioned, and not written for the modern up to date weaver with the modern up to date threads and materials available. Most of the pictures are older pictures and not too clear and even the line drawings have this same feeling.

However, even with this feeling, the content of the book is good, solid material that would be very, very helpful to the beginning and the intermediate weaver.

**TITLE: THE JOY OF HANDWEAVING.**

**AUTHOR: Osma Gallinger Tod.**

**PUBLISHER: D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc.  
Princeton, New Jersey.**

**PRICE: \$7.95 plus 25c postage.**

**AVAILABLE: From publishers, or from  
Robin & Russ Handweavers.**

## GREEN FIRE

An interesting turquoise and green silk and cotton combination for dress and blouse material.

### Threading Draft

4	o		o		o	
3		x		x		x
2			o		o	
1			x		x	

### Warp

Two threads were used in the warp. One was the 6/2 silk, dark turquoise which has 5,000 yards per lb. The other was the 20/2 egyptian cotton with 8400 yards per lb.

X—6/2 Dark Turquoise Silk.

O—20/2 Egyptian Cotton—Parakeet.

### Weft

In the weft, we used the dark turquoise 6/2 silk as one thread, and the other one was another color in egyptian cotton size 20/2 in spring green.

### Reed Used

A 15 dent reed was used and it was double sleyed, 2 ends per dent. One silk and one cotton thread was in each dent to make 30 threads per inch.

### Treadling

The treadling used is a straight twill treadling as given below.

Treadle No. 1—6/2 dark turquoise silk

Treadle No. 2—20/2 Sp. Green egypt. cotton

Treadle No. 3—6/2 dark turquoise silk

Treadle No. 4—20/2 Sp. Green egypt. cotton

End of one repeat. Repeat over and over as desired.

### More About This Sample

First of all, we want to give the credit for the idea for this sample to a swatch sent us by Mrs. Geraldine Wood of Tulsa, Oklahoma, who used the 7/2 douppioni silk, and Lily's 50/3 fine weave cotton in the warp and weft in a similiar manner for dress material.

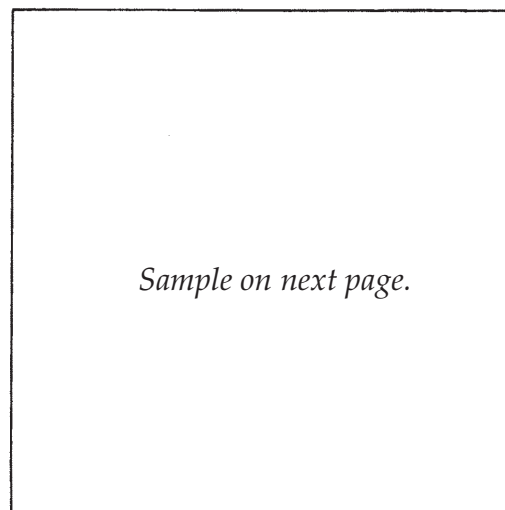
### Tie-Up Draft

4	X	X	O	O	X	O
3	X	O	O	X	O	X
2	O	O	X	X	X	O
1	O	X	X	O	O	X
	1	2	3	4	5	6
				A	B	

X—tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.

O—tie-up for Jack-type looms.

### Sample:



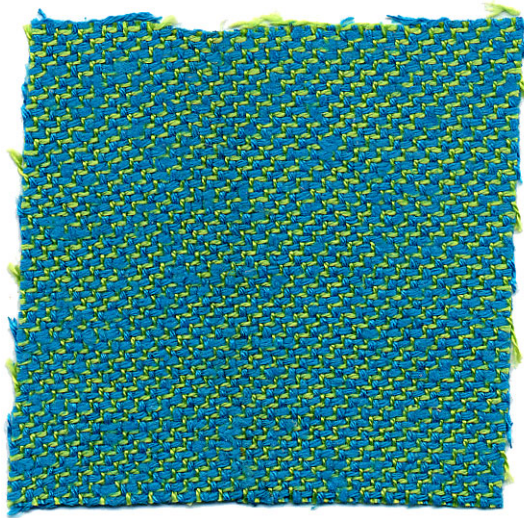
I was very pleased to see her material, and as a result, decided to have something similiar for a warp and weft sample, so here it is.

I thought that it might be just a little more interesting if we used two different colors of the finer thread, one in the warp, and the other in the weft. You can see the result, and I do think that it created more interest in the fabric.

Actually, both of our threads are a little heavier than the two used by Mrs. Wood, but I think the result is just as pleasing.

I think that this type of material would also make nice sport shirt material as well as dress or blouse material.

The fabric was very easy to weave, but was fairly slow weaving because after every shot you had to change shuttles so you could alternate the two colors.



Mrs. Wood also had her material processed with something like a Scotch Guard treatment, making the fabric both stain and spot resistant, and she stated that this made a wonderful dress material. There are several processors who will perform this service for you, and the cost is quite reasonable. If I remember correctly, the Countryside Handweavers in Mission, Kansas do this type of finishing.

There were no broken silk or cotton threads in the 10 yard warp, so you can see that the weaving was very easy.

I can see many, many other ways of using this pattern and creating some interesting fabrics. A great contrast in size and color should work quite well. A different treadling like the one we used in the May, 1964 issue of Warp and Weft in our wool sample would also be interesting. Then, there are many other treadling variations that can be worked out on a twill threading to make an interesting fabric. An unbalanced tie up of one harness against three would create a still different effect. Why not try something like this 4 harness straight twill and see what you come up with.

### Cost of the Threads in This Sample

The 6/2 spun douppioni silk comes in 8 other colors besides the dark turquoise. Five of these colors are quite smooth threads, and three of them are the same texture as this dark turquoise silk. This thread has 5,000 yards per lb. It is available on approximately 1 lb. cones at \$7.00 per lb., or 4 oz. spools of 1250 yards each at \$2.00 per 4 oz. spool.

The egyptian cotton comes in 100 different colors. It is a superior quality thread both mercerized and gassed, and has 8400 yards per lb. It comes on ½ lb. cones, and is \$5.50 per lb., or \$2.75 per ½ lb. cone.

### Cost of This Fabric

In a 10 yard warp, 40" wide it took 13½ oz. of the Parakeet 20/2 egyptian cotton, costing \$4.64. It took 6,000 yards of the dark turquoise silk. This is 1-1/5 lbs. at \$7.00 per

lb., or \$8.40 for the silk in the warp. Thus, the total warp cost was \$13.04 for 10 yards or \$1.31 per yard of 40" width.

Nine yards of material were received from the 10 yard warp. It took 13½ oz. of the spring green egyptian cotton for weft and 1-1/5 lbs. of the dark turquoise silk for weft in 9 yards. Thus, the weft cost per yard was just a little more than the warp cost, as we had 9 yards of finished fabric from the 10 yard warp. The weft cost was \$1.45 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD, 40" WIDE \$1.31  
WEFT COST PER YARD ..... 1.45  
FABRIC COST PER YARD ..... \$2.76

### This Month's Second Project

A very interesting fabric is a drapery called "Marigold." This fabric features the space dyed cotton in a variegated yellow combination. Here is the threading draft and the other details.

### Threading Draft

4				x	x		x	x
3		o			x	x	x	x
2	x	x	x	x				o
1	x	x			x	x		

X—20/2 Egyp. Cotton, space dyed yellow, one end per heddle.

O—3 ends of 20/2 Natural Unmercerized cotton in one heddle.

A 15 dent reed is used, and it is threaded 2 ends per dent for the space dyed yellow cotton, and the 3 ends of 20/2 natural (O) in threading draft are all put in one dent. This actually makes it a total of 33 threads per inch.

Use 3 different threads in the weft. They are as follows:

A—20/2 egypt. Cotton, Old Gold.

B—20/2 egypt. Cotton, Goldenrod.

C—16/4 Merc. Cotton, Natural, to be doubled on the bobbin, or 2 ends used as one thread.

## Tie-Up Draft

4	X	X	○	○	X	○
3	X	○	○	X	○	X
2	○	○	X	X	X	○
1	○	X	X	○	○	X
	1	2	3	4	5	6
				A	B	

X—tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.

○—tie-up for Jack-type looms.

Here is the treadling for this nice semi-sheer drapery material.

Treadle No. 5—20/2 egypt cotton, old gold  
 Treadle No. 6—20/2 egypt cotton, goldenrod  
 Treadle No. 5—20/2 egypt cotton, old gold  
 Treadle No. 6—20/2 egypt cotton, goldenrod  
 Treadle No. 5—20/2 egypt cotton, old gold  
 Treadle No. 6—20/2 egypt cotton, goldenrod  
 Treadle No. 5—20/2 egypt cotton, old gold  
 Treadle No. 6—20/2 egypt cotton, goldenrod  
 Treadle No. 3—16/4 cotton natural  
 Treadle No. 5—20/2 egypt cotton, goldenrod  
 Treadle No. 6—20/2 egypt cotton, old gold  
 Treadle No. 5—20/2 egypt cotton, goldenrod  
 Treadle No. 6—20/2 egypt cotton, old gold  
 Treadle No. 5—20/2 egypt cotton, goldenrod  
 Treadle No. 6—20/2 egypt cotton, old gold  
 Treadle No. 1—16/4 natural cotton, doubled

End of one repeat, repeat over and over.

I might mention that the thread in the warp is a space dyed thread, actually being dyed different colors at different intervals. This is not printed on as some threads are done, but is actually dyeing. This thread is handled twice in the dyeing or sometimes 3 times, and as a result, is more expensive than a solid color. This 20/2 egyptian cotton, space dyed is \$6.50 per lb., and the minimum order is 1 lb. of a color.

One more thing that I should mention is that you use a light single beat on this. This makes a quite interesting fabric and is an unusual one.

The 16/4 natural cotton is doubled on the bobbin and is used as one thread. It is \$2.60 per lb. on 1 lb. cones.

The 20/2 natural unmercerized used in the warp is \$2.05 per lb. on 1 lb. cones.

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I think you would enjoy this drapery very much, and hope that you'll try it.

This drapery project is very attractive because of the colors used. However, I think it would also be very, very appealing if it were done in a natural and white combination. You could use the 20/2 white egyptian cotton in the warp along with the 20/2 natural cotton for the tripled thread in the warp.

In the weft, you could use all white, or a combination of white and natural 20/2 egyptian cotton along with the 16/4 mercerized natural cotton doubled as the heavy thread in the weft.

Yes, I mentioned it earlier, but I want to emphasize again that on this drapery fabric, you should not use too firm and too tight a beat. Just a medium even and regular beat, and I think that you would like it very much.

One other suggestion for the weft is that you use a smooth 20/2 white egyptian cotton as one of the weft threads, and the other one could be a finer weight boucle, perhaps with a silver or gold twist. This also would give more depth to the fabric and these two in combination with the 16/4 mercerized natural cotton doubled will make three excellent weft threads. We have a fine rayon boucle with silver twist that would work very well in this situation. This rayon boucle with silver twist has 1900 yards per lb., and comes on 1/2 lb. spools. It is \$2.80 per lb., so would not make the fabric any more expensive.

The pattern effect in these drapes are created by the 3 ends of the 20/2 natural unmercerized cotton in the warp, and by the 2 ends of 16/4 mercerized cotton in the weft. If you want to, you could exaggerate this effect much more by using a perle 3 cotton in natural or a pastel color to blend with your other colors in the warp. If you had 3 ends of this together in the warp and perhaps 2 ends of it in place of the 16/4 in the weft, I think that this also would give you some unusual effects.

It is worth while for you to make an 8 or 10 inch wide sample of this first to see how you like it. Try it and see.



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**20/2 OYSTER LINEN.** This is a nice quality natural linen at a good price of \$4.00 per lb. Available on 1 lb. cones, 3,000 yards per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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**A GUIDE TO TWO HARNESS TECHNIQUES** is an excellent and outstanding book for the weaver who wants to experiment with two harness patterns. I feel this is the most outstanding book on two harness techniques. It is so clearly written it is easy to understand. It is \$4.95 plus 15c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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**SILVER TWIST RAYON BOUCLE.** This is a nice quality boucle with 1900 yards per lb. This seems to be an exceptionally nice quality yarn which is \$2.80 per lb. It is available on ½ lb. spools. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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**COLOR WHEELS:** An excellent aid to the handweaver is the Harmony Selector color wheel. It is made so you can easily pick out the complimentary, split complimentary, analogous, near complimentary, and triadic colors of the color wheel. The back of the color wheel is covered with information such as Definitions of color terms, the Relationships of Colors, and some excellent suggestions for the use of colors. \$1.50 plus 10c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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**NATURAL COTTON FLAKE WITH SILVER TWIST** is also available on ½ lb. spools at \$2.80 per lb. It has about 2800 yards per lb. and has an interesting texture. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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**9/3 LINEN RUG WARP.** A nice quality linen that has about 850 yards per lb. It is \$3.20 per lb., and comes on ½ lb. spools of 425 yards each. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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**WARP AND WEFT BINDERS.** These binders are a hard cover with the name printed on one cover, and three rings for easy addition of the individual issues. They are \$1.50 a set plus 10c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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**7/1 BLEACHED THIRSTY LINEN.** This is an excellent bleached white linen for use as weft in towels. Very, very absorbent and this is imported from Scotland. It has 2100 yards per pound, and is reasonable in price at \$2.40 per lb. It comes on tubes of about 1½ lbs. each. Use as weft on a 20/2 bleached white linen or ramie. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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