

# warp and weft

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September, 1965

## warp and weft

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### A Word from the Editor:

A busy summer has almost passed, and once again, we are starting warp and weft for the fall and winter months.

In our shop, we have had many, many different projects going. First and of most importance was the complete preparation of a new catalogue. This involved a dummy catalogue first to check prices, and to plan a lay-out, and then the taking of pictures to show some of the accessories, etc. available. After this, it was typed on supposedly letter perfect pages (36 of them) so that the printer could photograph each page and then reproduce them without setting type. After much effort, and many, many evenings of work, and advice from many, it has been taken to the printers, and we expect our new catalogue to be available in about two to three weeks.

Also, another thing was accomplished this summer that I have worked on for many hours during the past two or three years. This was the writing of a manual of "SECTIONAL WARPING, MADE EASY." This is the method we use in warping most of our looms, and as we find it most efficient and effective, we have long thought that we should share our ideas on this subject. This manual on SECTIONAL WARPING shows not only the warp being put on the warp beam, but the complete loom set-up in PICTURES AND WORDS. It is essentially an instruction manual on loom set-up, and it too is at the printers, and we hope will be available for sale in about two to four weeks. We expect it to sell for \$2.50 plus 10c postage

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if all goes well, and if the printers estimate is correct.

Besides this, several warp and weft projects have been put on the looms, and are in progress. One multiple harness sample for Drafts and Designs was also woven, and several samples have been made for future projects in each bulletin.

Besides this, we have started an order for approximately 50 yards of sheer drapes, and hope to have these finished by the time we next write another copy of warp and weft.

Along with the above activities, Robin has been busy canning cherries, peaches, pears, and Janice is away at camp for awhile. She is at a camp where they have about 100 Welsh ponies and horses, and is learning to ride, saddle, and take care of the horse and equipment necessary.

Robin and I have had a chance to explore a little of Northern California and we visited the Lava Beds National Monument and went exploring in some of the 200 lava caves in the area. We also explored a beautiful state park called Burney Falls State Park in Northern California, and had a pleasant 6 days of camping.

We also hope to go camping next week and explore the Olympic Peninsula Rain Forest, and camp there for a week, and then pick up Janice when camp is ended.

You can see from this report, that there hasn't been much time that wasn't used these past two months.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

### This Month's Cover:

Many have written to ask about our daughter Janice Susan, so here we present two pictures of her. She is wearing a hand-woven tartan, called the "Duncan" tartan. This is woven of 2/18's Fabri, set at 30 threads per inch.

Janice's sweater is also knit of two ends of fabri knitted together as one thread. It is the same dark green color as is used in the tartan.

I also wanted to tell you that the skirt was made in the authentic Scottish manner in a wrap around style with pleats on the back and one side, and with a large pin for a button. This was copied in style from an authentic Scottish Tartan skirt.

I might also mention that Robin's family in the past was named Duncan, so that is why we wove the Duncan tartan for this project. I might also mention that Robin also has a skirt made in the same manner, so Mother and Daughter both have matching outfits.

Many of our subscribers to Warp and Weft used to purchase yarns from us when she was born, and I'm sure that many remember her from the pictures we featured when we took over the publication of Warp and Weft in 1955.

Janice is now a teen-ager being 13, and she will be entering 8th grade this fall, and she will be a busy young girl once school starts, as she will also be practicing her clarinet lessons as per the past several years, and also she will work four hours every Saturday here in the shop.

## This Month's Book Review:

This month, we want to tell you about a different book. The book review this month is a book entitled "Bobbin Lace" by Elsie H. Gubser.

Before I go any further, we have a friend who is an expert in making bobbin lace, and she has done this for many years, and has taught many people this ancient handcraft. She feels that this book on bobbin lace by Mrs. Gubser is the best instruction manual on the subject, and is excellent for the beginner and intermediate.

I have examined this book very thoroughly, and I myself feel that I could follow her directions and do some of the lace-making.

Mrs. Gubser has quite a collection of lace-making books from many different countries, and found that beginners had trouble using these to start to learn this hand-craft, so as a result, she worked out her own lessons and incorporated them into this manual.

She explains the equipment needed quite thoroughly, tells how to make a bobbin lace pillow, and then goes into detail about how the equipment of pillow and bobbin lace bobbins are used. Her lessons are planned to teach step by step, the different stitches and their combinations.

Mrs. Gubser explains 15 different laces, has photographs and diagrams of each, and gives the step by step instructions for each of these 15 laces, and suggests in some of these 15 patterns, ways of making the patterns different than the straight piece of lace.

In all, there are some 39 illustrations or photographs of this ancient hand-craft.

Those we have sold this book to have recommended it highly. If you are ever interested in bobbin lace, we suggest you make this your beginning manual.

TITLE: BOBBIN LACE  
AUTHOR: Mrs. Elsie H. Gubser  
PRICE: \$5.00 plus 10 cents postage  
AVAILABLE: Robin & Russ Handweavers  
or from Mrs. Gubser directly.

## This Month's Second Project:

Our suggestion for a 2nd project this month is for a SEMI-SHEER DRAPERY. We want to mention that the idea for this drapery comes from a fly-shuttle woven drapery which is handled by Meier and Frank department store in Portland and Salem, Oregon, which they have on sale for use in drapes at \$28.00 per yard for about a 54" width material. We are weaving some 50 yards of this material in a 40" width, for a home being built here in the McMinnville area.

### WARP:

There are 3 threads used in the warp in this project in a quite open setting. The warp is as follows:

- A. A 40/2 natural linen
- B. A natural loop wool with a fine rayon twist with 2200 yards per lb.
- C. A natural boucle which is about 88 per cent rayon and 12 per cent cotton, in a fairly heavy thread with 1400 yards per lb.

(Continued on page 6) **Page 3**

## A Miniature Overshot Pattern:

We believe that this is one of the patterns originated by Bertha Grey Hayes, which she called "Peggy's Choice." However, this pattern and the other Bertha Grey Patterns were passed around so much from one weaver to another, that I doubt that all of these patterns of hers are exactly the same as when she originally wove them.

### THREADING DRAFT:

4	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
3	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
2	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
1		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

### WARP:

We used a 20/2 Egyptian cotton in the "Siesta" color for warp.

### WEFT:

There are two threads used in the weft in this fabric. The tabby or plain weave thread was a 20/2 Cherry spun rayon.

The pattern thread was a 2/18's Fabri yarn in the Burgundy color.

If I were weaving this over again for my own personal use and not for Warp and Weft samples, I would change one of the weft threads, and instead of the spun rayon, I would use an Egyptian cotton in a color just slightly different than in the warp. I would suggest this just because this 20/2 spun rayon was not as strong as much we have seen and used, but it did make a beautiful fabric.

### REED USED:

A 15 dent reed was used, and it was double sleyed, 2 ends per dent, or 30 threads per inch.

### TREADLING SEQUENCE:

Remember, in this pattern, there is a tabby shot of plain weave after every pattern treadle. The treadling given below is just for the pattern treadles with it being understood that you automatically alternate the A & B tabby shots after each pattern shot.

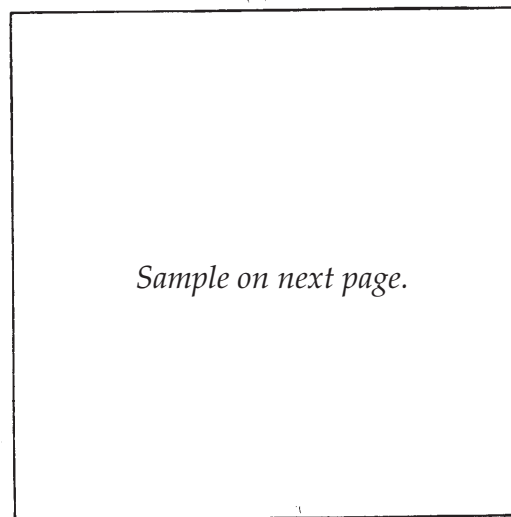
### TIE-UP DRAFT:

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
						A
						B

X—tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.

O—tie-up for Jack-type looms.

### SAMPLE:



1. Treadle No. 1 — two times
2. Treadle No. 2 — one time
3. Treadle No. 3 — one time
4. Treadle No. 4 — one time
5. Treadle No. 1 — one time
6. Treadle No. 2 — one time
7. Treadle No. 3 — one time
8. Treadle No. 4 — two times
9. Treadle No. 3 — three times
10. Treadle No. 2 — three times
11. Treadle No. 1 — three times
12. Treadle No. 4 — two times
13. Treadle No. 1 — one time
14. Treadle No. 2 — one time
15. Treadle No. 3 — one time



16. Treadle No. 4 – one time
17. Treadle No. 1 – one time
18. Treadle No. 2 – one time
19. Treadle No. 3 – two times (center)
20. Treadle No. 2 – one time
21. Treadle No. 1 – one time
22. Treadle No. 4 – one time
23. Treadle No. 3 – one time
24. Treadle No. 2 – one time
25. Treadle No. 1 – one time
26. Treadle No. 4 – two times
27. Treadle No. 1 – three times
28. Treadle No. 2 – three times
29. Treadle No. 3 – three times
30. Treadle No. 4 – two times
31. Treadle No. 3 – one time
32. Treadle No. 2 – one time
33. Treadle No. 1 – one time
34. Treadle No. 4 – one time
35. Treadle No. 3 – one time
36. Treadle No. 2 – one time

END OF ONE FULL REPEAT. REPEAT OVER AND OVER AS DESIRED.

#### MORE ABOUT THIS FABRIC:

Most miniatures are fun to weave, but this one is more interesting than usual because of the many different effects in one repeat of the pattern. I can see many different figures in this pattern. First of all, you have a diamond, and with two pattern repeats, you have a large diamond, with 4 small diamonds inside. You also have a pattern which is very much similar to a maltese cross, and many different and unusual shaped figures with names that I do not know.

And yet, with all of these figures, this is not too busy a pattern if you use the proper choice of colors and materials, as I feel we have here in this sample.

Patterns like this with such short overshots make excellent material for upholstery. I have seen this used to cover note-books, and this too, is very attractive. There are numerous other uses for such material, but I will not delve into this further.

In this fabric, we suggest a firm, even, double beat, and also that you beat once, change to the next treadle or shed, and beat the 2nd time. This 2nd beat will help clear the shed, and make

it much easier to throw the shuttle.

Another thing that I want to mention is that there is quite a bit of draw-in in weaving a pattern like this with a wool for the pattern thread, and a spun rayon for the tabby. We had a set-up of 40" width on the loom, and when taken off the loom, we found that we had a material 37 $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide. Sometimes and some people will have even more take-in than this.

When this happens, I feel it is time to use a temple or stretcher. We used a temple or stretcher in the weaving of this sample, and if it had not been used, I think it would have been about 34 to 35 inches wide, instead of 37 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Some persons feel that you are using a crutch when you use something like this, but I should also mention that it is a very common practice in Scandinavian weaving to use such a "crutch," and I recommend it highly that a person use such an aid whenever necessary.

#### COST OF THREADS USED:

The Egyptian cotton warp in size 20/2 is \$5.50 per lb. on 1/2 lb. cones.

The 20/2 spun rayon in cherry and other colors when available is usually about \$2.00 to \$2.50 per lb. Ours was \$2.00 per lb.

The 2/18's fabri has 4700 yards per lb., and is \$6.80 per lb. in lots of one pound or more, and when less than one pound is purchased, it is \$2.00 per 4 ounce spool.

#### COST OF THIS FABRIC:

A 9 yard warp, 30 threads per inch, 40" wide, took 1 lb. 6 oz. of Egyptian cotton warp. Thus, the 9 yard warp cost \$7.57 or 84 cents per yard.

In the weft of 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  yards of finished fabric from a 9 yard warp, it took 1 lb. 1 ounce of 20/2 spun rayon. In the weft, it took 1 lb. 12 ounces of the fabri. Thus the weft cost for 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  yards of material was \$14.02, and thus the cost per yard was \$1.81.

WARP COST PER YARD.....	84
WEFT COST PER YARD .....	1.81

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FABRIC COST PER YARD .....\$2.65

## This Month's Second Project (continued)

### THREADING DRAFT:

4		C		C		C
3		A		A		A
2	B		B		B	
1	A		A		A	

The threading draft above is a one inch repeat of your loom set-up. A 12 dent reed is used, and it is single sleyed, one end per dent, or 12 threads per inch. Actually, a 4 thread sequence, or 1/3 of the threading draft above is enough to give you the set-up, and I repeated it three times because it made a one inch pattern repeat.

You can see that this is a fairly sheer sett, and yet, the weight of the fabric will depend upon what type of thread you used for weft.

In the \$28.00 per yard fabric, a natural loop wool yarn was used as the major weft thread, with a border of about 15" at the bottom. In the border, in the commercial fabric, they used a 3 cut chenille, in natural, tan, and beige, along with a fairly wide (1/16") copper metallic, in an interesting stripe effect. Each of the lengths for these drapes was 100" long, and of this, it was all plain weave with a plain weave border 8" from the bottom; of 15" width.

We have just set this up on the loom 42" wide with exactly the same set-up as given you previously.

However, we wove several samples for our customer, and they liked very much the rayon nub with faint gold & silver twist as the major weft thread. The 15" border will be about 15" wide, and it will be woven of chenille, 3 cut, in natural and beige and wide copper metallic.

We will weave 8-100" lengths with the above materials, and will weave another 8-100" lengths with a different weft.

In the second set of 8 lengths, we will use the rayon and cotton boucle combination in natural. This boucle has 1400 yards per pound, so this will help to make the fabric semi-sheer instead of sheer as you would think when you see what the warp is.

The treads used in this drapery are as follows:

1. 40/2 natural linen, 6,000 yards per lb. at \$5.50 per lb.
2. The natural loop wool yarn with rayon twist has 2200 yards per lb., and costs \$6.50 per lb.
3. The rayon & cotton combination boucle has 1400 yards per lb., and it is \$3.20 per lb.
4. The 3 cut chenille is \$4.00 per lb., on 4 oz. skeins.
5. The 1/16" wide supported copper metallic is \$4.00 per lb. It is supported with a brown thread.
6. The rayon nub with gold and silver twist has 1600 yards per lb., and it sells for \$3.20 per lb.

We put a 55 yard warp, 42" wide on the loom. It took 2-1/3 lbs. of 40/2 linen natural warp at \$5.50 per lb. or \$12.85 for the linen.

In the loop wool, it took 3 1/6 lbs. of the natural at \$6.50 per lb., or \$20.58.

In the rayon boucle, it took 4 lbs. of this rayon & cotton thread for warp at \$3.20 per lb.

Thus our total warp cost for a 55 yard warp was \$46.23. We figure that we will get 50 yards of finished material from this set-up, so it should cost 93 cents per yard for the 50 yards of finished material we expect from this set-up.

In the weft, we expect to have 14 or 15 threads per inch of the rayon & cotton boucle thread. Thus in one yard, it will take 3/10's of a lb. of this for weft. In a 50 yard length, we expect to use 15 to 16 lbs. of this thread in the weft, so the weft cost would be 16 x 3.20 or \$51.20 and this would make the weft cost at \$1.02 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD .....	93
WEFT COST PER YARD .....	1.02
FABRIC COST PER YARD .....	_____
40" finished fabric .....	\$1.95

The \$1.95 per yard figure that we give for a 40" width finished fabric is quite reasonable for a drapery, and it would be quite an effective drapery material.

One thing that I might not have mentioned is that this drapery material is all done in a plain weave, using only the 2 tabby treadles.

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1. 1/15 H.P. Motor \_\_\_\_\_ \$7.50
2. Foot rheostat \_\_\_\_\_ 3.95
3. Tapered Shaft \_\_\_\_\_ 2.50

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### SECTIONAL WARPING MADE EASY.

This is a new manual of warping the loom with a sectional warp beam. Completed directions in pictures and words. Price is \$2.50 plus 10 cents postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

### 40/2 NATURAL MERCERIZED RAMIE.

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### 6/1 TUSSAH SILK IN NATURAL.

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Skein-winder-metal \_\_\_\_\_ \$12.50  
Stand for skein winder \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 7.50

I feel that this is the best combination and multiple-purpose skein winder on the market. You can use it to make skeins as it has a built on handle, or you can use it to unwind skeins. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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