

warp and weft

Vol. XVIII, No. 9

November, 1965

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by Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North
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Assistant Editor: Robin Groff.

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A Word from the Editor:

Yes, the older you get, the faster time seems to flow. Your editor has passed another birthday, and where has the month gone since we last wrote Warp and Weft?

Our adult education class in weaving has started, and while it is a very, very small class, it is rewarding to see how quickly a beginner will progress when they have a little more individual help.

Also, we are now starting on an order for 36 yards of 44" wide upholstery for a customer from Portland, Oregon.

This upholstery has 40 shots of a 3 ply fingering yarn for weft per inch, so this will be a long tedious project. This piece is very similar to some of the Scandinavian upholstery, becoming a weft faced material, with the warp being almost entirely hidden in the weft thread. If we have enough extra yarn, we will weave enough for warp and weft samples for a future project, but only if we have enough weft yarns.

Also, during the past month, our new catalogue has come out, and we will start preparing these for distribution. We will send one to all the subscribers of Warp and Weft this year, so you will be receiving one in the latter months of this year.

Robin has been working hard at the shop

her 4 days a week, and then in between her activities here and at home, she has canned tomatoes, made tomato juice and canned it and made the most delicious of relishes, one which is called piccalilli.

We must now start planning some future samples for our two bulletins, so this coming month will be just as busy.

Janice is still helping at the shop for 4 hours every Saturday morning, and this is a great help, as she has been able to do the small time-consuming jobs which we two would rather pass by if we can.

Enough of this chatter.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

This Month's Cover:

The cover this month was one of the outstanding fabrics displayed at the Northern California Handweavers Conference in Fresno this year.

This was a very attractive sheer drapery which appealed to almost everyone. I'm sorry to say so but this picture does not do justice to this fabric as it does not show clearly the stitchery that was combined in the weaving of this drape.

I'm not sure, but seem to remember that this was done in natural and white, and the arrangement of the lace and open areas was so attractive that everyone admired this fabric. This one must have been a lot of fun to weave, it is so interesting looking.

Do not even know who wove it, but perhaps someone will let us know that we might share this information with you in the next issue.

This Month's Book Review:

Another Swedish Text by the I.C.A. publishing company has just come out entitled ROLIGT ATT VAVA. It was written by Ingers, Mauritzson and Meijer.

This book has a secondary title of "A Weaving book for the home, school with small projects."

Actually, most of the projects are place-mats, aprons, bags, and other such items.

There are 16 pages of color plates and many black and white photographs.

The projects are very severe and very simple, and are not complicated in any way.

Actually, there is very little new information given in this book, but the color plates, etc., do give one ideas.

To my way of thinking, this is the poorest of all of the many I.C.A. books that have been printed. It has little that is new, but is mostly a rehash of other materials and ideas given elsewhere.

NAME: ROLIGT ATT VAVA
 AUTHOR: Ingers, Mauritzson, Meijer
 PRICE: \$3.50 plus 20 cents postage.
 AVAILABLE: Robin & Russ Handweavers

This Month's Second Project:

Christmas Book-marks in a small miniature overshot make an interesting small gift for the Christmas season. Why not weavesome and include one with each of your Christmas cards to show your friends and acquaintances how much you enjoy your hobby of weaving.

THREADING DRAFT:

	D	C											B	A
4		X	X X X X X X X X X											X
3	X		X X	X X	X X	X 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	X	

Selv Selv

WARP:

10/2 mercerized cotton, white

WEFT:

You will use two different threads in the weft. One of these will be a 10/2 white cotton to be used for tabby. The pattern thread could be perle 3 or perle 5 cotton in any color of your choice, or for instance you could use a gimp or round metallic for a pattern thread. Sometimes, you might like to change the tabby thread to a 20/2 white cotton. This would depend upon the size of pattern thread you can obtain. I would suggest your pattern thread be from two to three times bigger than your

tabby thread. Don't hesitate to try other things than what I have suggested here.

REED USED:

Use a 12 dent reed, and double sley it, 2 ends per dent, or 24 threads per inch.

TIE-UP DRAFT:

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

X—tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.
 ○—tie-up for Jack-type looms.

PLAN FOR BOOK MARKS:

- Selvage —A to B-3 times—12 thds.
 - Pattern —B to C-1 time —55 thds.
 - Selvage —C to D-3 times—12 thds.
- Total Number of Warp Ends —79 thds.

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

- Treadle 1, 2, 3, 4 — 3 x — 12 thds
 - Treadle No. 1 — 3 times
 - Treadle No. 2 — 4 times
 - Treadle No. 1 — 4 times
 - Treadle No. 2 — 4 times
 - Treadle No. 1 — 3 times
- End of first rose.
- Treadle No. 4 — 3 times
 - Treadle No. 3 — 4 times
 - Treadle No. 4 — 4 times
 - Treadle No. 3 — 4 times
 - Treadle No. 4 — 3 times

(Continued on page 6)

A Foundation Fabric For Stitchery:

This is another sample of a canvas weave, and is a fabric similar to that which has been used in the past as a basis for stitchery or embroidery in the Scandinavian countries.

THREADING DRAFT:

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

TIE-UP DRAFT:

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

X—tie-up for counter-balanced loom

O—tie-up for jack-type loom.

WARP:

Two threads are used in the warp. They are:

X—10/2 White, Mercerized Ramie

O—20/2 Natural gray, Gillspun Linen

WEFT:

The same two threads that were used in the warp, were also used in the weft.

REED USED:

A 12 dent reed was used, and it was sleyed two ends per dent, or 24 threads per inch.

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

Treadle No. 1 — 20/2 Gillspun Linen

Treadle No. 2 — 20/2 Gillspun Linen

Treadle No. 1 — 20/2 Gillspun Linen

Treadle No. 4 — 10/2 Merc. White Ramie

Treadle No. 3 — 10/2 Merc. White Ramie

Treadle No. 4 — 10/2 Merc. White Ramie

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

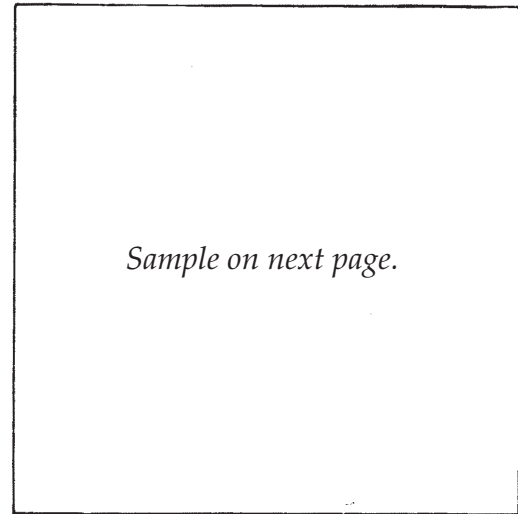
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MORE ABOUT THIS FABRIC:

First of all, I wanted to mention that this is the 4 harness canvas weave that we have been featuring two other times during the last year. However, as it is such an effective and easy weave to do, we do not feel remiss in featuring it again in a different choice of threads and a different effect.

The canvas weave is quite often used in Scandinavia as a background fabric for stitchery or embroidery. As the field of stitchery is becoming more and more popular, we thought it might be appropriate to feature a fabric of hand-woven material that you can do your stitchery on.

SAMPLE:



Actually, with the openings that are created in this weave, you can see how ideal it is for such a use. When it is used in Scandinavia, they normally use all of one weight and one color thread to weave this fabric, rather than the two weights and two colors as I have done in this month's sample.

I was trying to be more than practical when experimenting with this, as I really was trying to create a multi-purpose fabric. I actually think that we have succeeded here, as I feel that this would make excellent drapery, and I also feel that it would make very, very attractive place-mats, I think it would be good for a table cloth, and I'm sure that you can think of other uses for this weave.



I have been so intrigued with it that I think this will be our choice of weave to weave some new drapes for the living room of our home. Also, you could use very, very heavy yarns, and a coarser reed, and get some nice effects with this weave. This weave also reminds me somewhat of a leno weave, but I think that you will find it much easier to weave than a leno. Why not try it and see.

On this weave, I feel that a firm, even, double beat is important. I beat with the shed open, changed to the next shed, and beat again. For place-mats about 14" wide, I think that you will find that the fabric is even firmer than is our sample which was woven 40" wide.

Also, another thing that is important is the manner in which you cross the threads from the two shuttles when they pass one another in the weft. Be sure that when you do change from one shuttle to the other, that the shuttle you are using crosses the other one and helps lock the other weft thread in place on the edge. If you are not careful of this, you will find that sometimes one of the weft threads will not catch until it reaches the fifth warp thread, and you want to avoid this if possible, as if you can, it will result in a neater selvage edge.

Also, I thought that the choice of materials in this sample was most effective with the dull natural grey of the gillspun linen contrasting with the white and sheen of the 10/2 mercerized ramie.

Why not try this weave with your own choice of materials and see what you can do with it.

MORE ABOUT THE THREADS USED:

First of all, I'm sure that many of you are going to ask what Gillspun linen is, so I had better explain it herewith.

Gill-spinning is the process of carding, actually an advanced form of carding which helps to separate the long, choice, desirable fibers of the same length from the remaining

short, immature, or otherwise undesirable fibers. Only choice fibers may be gilled. This operation is comparable with a person combing his hair with the fine-mesh part of a comb. Thus, a gill spun linen is a good quality linen like a line linen, with all of the short length fibers removed. Thus, if you have a gill-spun linen, it is normally one of the best qualities of linen that is available.

Also notice that this linen has a darker natural character than does most linens. This color results from the type of soil it is grown in, the method used in retting, and also it has not been boiled as have most linen threads. The boiling of linen threads seems to change this dark color which many weavers like to a lighter creamier color which we normally associate with linen thread.

Also, the character of the soil and the amount of water available often determines the color of Ramie as well. We just received a shipment of Ramie which in the natural color, is so white that you can hardly tell it from white. So, when the two additional processes of mercerizing and bleaching are added to this, you have an extra strong, desirable thread, as we have in this mercerized bleached ramie.

COST OF THREADS USED IN THIS SAMPLE:

1. The 20/2 Gillspun, Natural Gray linen is \$5.00 per lb., and we can wind off 4 oz. spools if it is desired. It comes on cones of about 1½ to 2 lbs. each normally. Thus a 4 oz. spool is \$1.25. Has 3,000 yards a lb.

The 10/2 mercerized white Ramie comes on one pound cones, and it is \$4.00 per lb. It has about 1500 yards per lb.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

We had a 10 yard warp, 40" wide on the loom, and from this, we were able to weave
(Continued on page 6)

This Month's Second Project:

(Continued from page 3)

End of the second rose. Repeat from No. 2 to 11 over and over again as desired for desired length. Then be sure to end by repeating the treadling for the first rose (No. 2 to No. 6) to balance.

12. Treadle 4, 3, 2, 1— 3 x — 12 thds

THIS MARKS THE END OF ONE BOOK-MARK. Also, the treadling above is just for the pattern threads. Be sure to put a tabby thread in between each shot of pattern thread, and be sure to alternate tabbies. Also, this treadling is "treadled as drawn in."

MORE ABOUT THESE BOOK MARKS:

Sometimes you can make these very glamorous by the use of different metallics for the pattern thread, or by using a 6 strand floss, either doubled or tripled for the pattern. If you use a 12 dent reed as suggested, these would be set-up about 3-1/3" wide on the loom. If you wanted them a little wider, you could add on to the width by having 4, 8, 12, or 16 more selvage threads on each edge. If it is 3-1/3" wide on the loom, it should weave down to about 3" width. I would suggest a proportion of 1 to 3 or 3" wide, and 9" length plus fringe.

You can also make it more decorative by the way you make your fringe. You can either hem-stitch on the loom or knot your warp threads in groups of 3 or 4 threads, or you could even stitch the ends of each book mark with the sewing machine.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

(Continued from page 5)

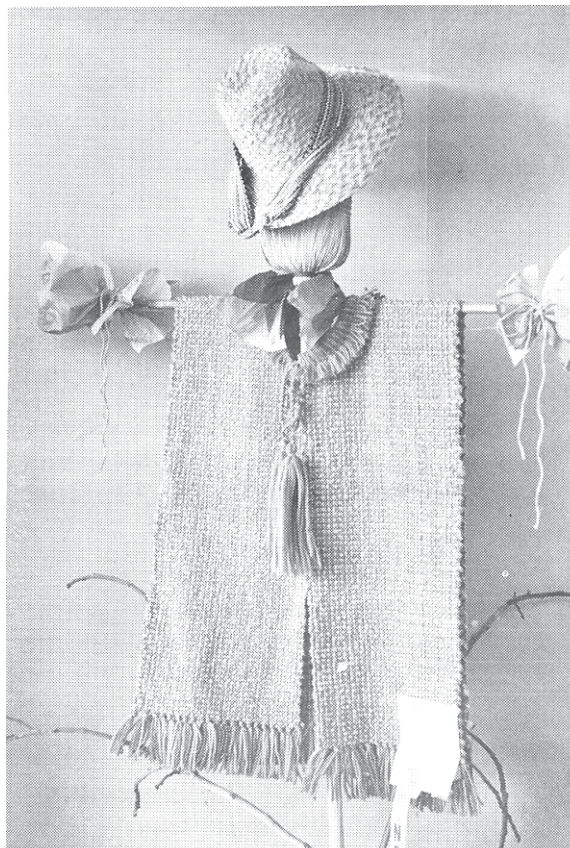
9 and 1/4 yards of finished material.

It took 3 lbs. 6 oz. of the 10/2 white mercerized ramie and just half as much or 1 lb. 11 oz. of the 20/2 gill spun linen for the 10 yard warp, 40" wide. Thus, the total warp cost for 10 yards of warp was \$21.92 or

\$2.19 per yard.

In the weft, it took 2 lbs. of the 10/2 mercerized ramie and 15 oz. of the 20/2 gillspun linen. Thus the weft cost was \$12.69 for 9 1/4 yards of material or \$1.37 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD	—\$2.19
WEFT COST PER YARD	— 1.37
FABRIC COST PER YARD	— 3.56



This was a novel display of a poncho, which was on exhibit at the Northern California Handweavers Conference in Fresno this year.

If I remember correctly, the poncho was in shades of bright oranges and the piece of inkle-weaving was in matching colors, and it was used as a hat band. This shows very clearly how simple a display of hand-woven material can be and yet, how effective such a display can be.

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One of our subscribers has furnished us with black wool fleece and we have had several persons spin it and like the results. These are a small fleece averaging from 5 to 8 lbs., and costing \$1.10 per lb., plus postage. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon

BRUSHED MOHAIR IN HEATHER GREY-GREEN

This is a new lot of 100 lbs. of brushed mohair. It is actually 70 per cent mohair and 30 per cent orlon. Has 900 yards per lb., and comes on 1 lb. cones. Price is \$4.80 per lb. It is a light heather grey with a touch of green. Excellent for knitting as well as weaving. Would make nice men's sweaters, and could be used with other yarns. Postage is extra. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

3-1/3 GLOSSY SPUN SILK, NATURAL

This is a smooth, glossy, nice quality spun silk, on cones of about 1 lb. each. Has 2800 yards per lb. (about the same size as a 10/3 cotton), and the price is \$7.00 per lb. Limited amount available. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon

36/2/2 SPUN SILK

This is a fine four ply spun silk with 15,000 yards per lb. We have used it for warp as have others. Available on cones of about 1 lb. each, this is \$7.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

ASH WOOD SLATS

About 165 to 175 per bundle, these are very nice quality wood slats for lampshades, mats, covers for waste-baskets, magazine racks, and the like. Price is \$1.50 per bundle, plus postage. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

TRIP COUNTERS

For counting the turns of your warp beam and to help you keep track of how much warp on the beam. Well made counters which we import. Price is \$7.50 plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

RAYON BOUCLE WITH GOLD SPIRAL TWIST

This yarn has been very popular for many years, and hard to find. We have just been able to purchase 100 lbs. It comes on 1/2 lb. spools of approximately 800 yards each. Price is \$3.20 per lb. Excellent in mats, drapes, upholstery, etc. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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These are stiff, front and back cover binders with the name, Warp and Weft on the front. Includes 3 rings, and will hold 2 or 3 years issues of Warp and Weft. Price is \$1.50 plus 10c pp. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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We offer complete sets of the years 1955, '56, '57, '58, '59 and 1960 at 1/2 price or \$2.00 per year's set, plus 12c postage. If 3 or more years are ordered, we will pay postage. Only one issue missing, Jan, 1955. The years, 1961 and 1962 are \$3.00 per year's set, and all others are regular price. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

DRAFTS & DESIGNS BACK ISSUE SALE

Seven years of back issues of our monthly bulletin, Drafts and Designs, with sample swatch in each issue. Complete set of 7 years would sell for \$28.00, and we have a special at \$20.00 for 7 years back issues. If you just desire one year's set, it is \$3.00 plus 12c postage. All multiple harness weaves of 5 to 8 harnesses with an occasional 10 or 12 harness weave. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

3 PLY MULTI-COLORED SILK TWEED

This tweed has flecks of Orange, Yellow, Light Green, and Rust on a beige background. Has 4,000 yards per lb., and can be used for warp or weft. Price is \$4.00 per lb., or \$2.00 per 1/2 lb. spool. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams, McMinnville, Oregon.

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This is an excellent motor for making your own bobbin winder. Up to 5,000 R.P.M. This will give you years and years of service. It is a Dayton motor. Price is \$7.50 plus postage. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

RAYON NUB YARN WITH FAINT GOLD & SILVER METALLIC TWIST

This yarn has 1600 yards per lb., is a nice quality yarn, and comes on tubes of about 1 lb. each. Price is \$3.20 per lb. Excellent for weft in mats on pastel colored warps. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

FIND LOOP MOHAIR IN 4 COLORS.

Approximately 2200 yards per lb., these are nice quality yarns in 2 shades of dark olive greens, heather grey and heather brown. Price is \$3.50 per lb. Available on 1/2 lb. spools. Can be used for either knitting or for weaving. Excellent accents in yardages, coat materials, etc. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon

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