

warp and weft

Vol. XXIV, No. 10 December, 1971

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Editor: Russell E. Groff

Assistant Editor: Robin Groff

Vol. XXIV, No. 10

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A Word from the Editor:

Hurrah, we are beginning to obtain some of the long-awaited threads that have been held up because of the dock strike. We have received three shipments, one each of two ply English rug yarn, 16/2 ramie in many colors, and a shipment of 12 of the Norwegian Castle-type spinning wheels.

Besides this, we have heard that the following listed yarns are on the way to us. We have coming some single ply, natural and white slub wool, similar to the Mexican handspun yarns; a line of 14 colors in a wool tweed yarn, which will be a standard line of colors from now on; 600 lbs. of beautiful, large loop, variegated mohair yarns; 100 lbs. of a bleached slubby 5/1 linen; 400 lbs. each of bleached 10/2 and 7/2 Thirsty linen, spun to weave the traditional linen towels; a shipment of 10/2, 18/2, 18/6, and 18/8 linen from Ireland, and we haven't yet heard whether the camelhair yarn and other novelties have been shipped or not. All I know is that I'll be broke for the next three months, trying to pay the shipping charges and duty on all of these yarns. There will be an additional 10% duty on all of these because of the increase in duty that was invoked when President Nixon started the wage-price control program.

And since it is the beginning of the holiday season, we want to send you our best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year, and may it be filled with many hours of pleasure in weaving and creating at your loom.

So many things happen at the shop all the time that it is hard to remember and tell you about some of them.

Our two books on bobbin lace that we are publishing are on the way to us, and one lot

has arrived in Portland, but has not yet cleared customs. And this past month, we signed the official contract to have the book, LICHENS FOR VEGETABLE DYEING, republished, and we will probably have it in March or April. It is supposed to be printed in February in Italy for us, and will take four to six weeks to reach us, after it has been printed, and then packed and shipped to us.

And we are dickering with a publisher to have several other out of print weaving books published, and we will let you know more about this later.

One of our threads that we have been purchasing for weaving, the 6/4 Swiss, natural grey linen, has been so popular for Macrame, that we have ordered another 600 lbs. of it from Switzerland. It is an excellent rug warp and one of our students is using it here in the shop now as warp, on one of the rugs she is doing.

The demand for looms seems to be growing greater all the time, and as a result, many of the loom manufacturers are busier than ever, and one manufacturer is so busy that they are quoting 16 months delivery time. Most of the others are now quoting from four months to a year for delivery. This is hard to believe, and we find that many persons will not wait nine to 12 months for a specific loom, and as a result, they look at and try all other kinds and makes of looms.

It has been becoming exceedingly hard the past six months to get specific weaving accessories like we have had in the past, and more and more we are having to go to a cabinet shop or cabinet maker to get the items we want made to order. We now find that about 20 to 25 of our special items have to be made to order, such as special shuttles, bobbin winders, spool racks, tension boxes, benches, and many other items.

It sometimes seems like it is a continual merry-go-around, trying to get one item that is no longer made, having to order a larger quantity in order to have them made to order, have the larger amount made. Some days, I really do wonder if it is worth all the effort and running around that it involves, and then other days, I tell myself that I would not have it any other way, that I'm my own boss, and that I can do what I want with such a business.

I do know also that I went way overboard

this past summer, and ordered perhaps 50% more threads when abroad searching for things, and wow, sometimes it does scrape and pinch to try and come up with the duty, the surcharges, the shipping charges, the customs broker charges, and paying the balances on the yarns themselves.

Perhaps next month, I'll be able to tell you that some of these latest threads have arrived, and that we have sample sheets on them now available.

Merry Christmas, and the Best Holiday Season ever.

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

This Month's Cover Photograph:

This cover photograph this month was loaned to us for use by Paula Simmons. It is heavy, grey handspun yarn, which shows as the surface yarn in a lattice overlay, a double-weave which requires two warp beams. One warp beam is used for the fine yarn underlay, and one is used for the heavy yarn, which is all that you see in this picture.

The photograph has been enlarged a little more than natural size, but not by very much.

This was one of the photographs that Paula Simmons sent to us, when she featured her article on HANDSPINNING OF HEAVY YARNS, in one of our past issues of Warp and Weft.

This Month's Book Review:

Virginia Harvey's done it again. Yes, her new book entitled "COLOR AND DESIGN IN MACRAME," is excellent, and should be an inspiration to many. Virginia has divided this new book into six sections, and has written this to give more information on color and design in Macrame, and to stimulate others to be original and creative in their efforts in knotting.

Chock full of pictures, with about 25 or more in color, this book should do just that, be a stimulous to those who want to grow and advance in this craft. Her first section of the

book in on Design. The black and white photographs in this section should stimulate many to better design, and with her suggestions, many persons will be better knotters through her efforts.

The next section of the book is devoted to the different knots used in Macrame, drawings and photographs of them, and an explanation of how they are tied. Mrs. Harvey explains that the knots do look very complicated, but really are simple, and that if you practice a while and learn how to do them, then you can begin to experiment and see how you can combine them. There are seven different knots explained, and then different variations of each of these are also covered, with directions, and sketches, and photographs.

The next section is a logical sequence of first recognizing the knots, and this section then deals with how to combine these knots in the proper place at the proper time. And of course, there are more photographs, and more drawings, which explain how these are combined to make creative and unusual projects.

The fourth section of the book is devoted entirely to "Color," and the 37 different color photographs that are in this section help you to understand some of the explanations that Mrs. Harvey gives in combining some of the colors.

Next, she tells about the third dimension, and the part that it plays in the craft of Macrame or knotting. There are many illustrations showing how depth, curves, stiffness, height, width and other properties help show how a third dimension can be achieved with Macrame.

And the last section of the book deals with more combinations and contrasts, in color, in knots, and particularly in combinations of different textures and colors of thread.

There are so many photographs that make this book an unusual one. You could spend hours and hours looking at the photographs alone, if one were a Macrame enthusiast.

TITLE: COLOR AND DESIGN IN MACRAME

AUTHOR: Virginia I. Harvey

PUBLISHER: Van Nostrand, Reinhold.

PRICE: \$7.95 plus 41¢ postage.

AVAILABLE: Robin & Russ Handweavers, or from the publishers if desired.

BURNT ORANGE, BEIGE, BROWN and BRUSHED

This interesting brushed mohair fabric should make beautiful, long floor length skirts and might be just as beautiful in coat material.

THREADING DRAFT:

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

WARP:

Our warp was the English 2/18's worsted in color #16, Dark Brown.

WEFT:

In our weft, we used four different colors in the brushed mohair we have imported from Holland and Ireland. This mohair is a variegated brushed mohair, with a blending of colors in each thread, and it is this which makes the large piece of fabric so unusual and different. The colors are:

- A. BRUSHED ORANGE, A HARVEST FESTIVAL
- B. BEIGE, NATURAL AND TAN
- C. DANDELION FUZZ, GREY, GREEN NATURAL
- D. LONDON FOG, BEIGE, GREY AND A TOUCH OF BLACK.

REED

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

WIDTH IN LOOM AND LENGTH OF WARP:

Our warp was set up 40" wide in the reed, and we had a 10 yard warp. From this 10 yard warp, we received about eight yards of finished fabric.

SOURCE OF IDEA FOR THIS FABRIC:

One of our good friends in Southern California, Mrs. Jean D. Russom of Glendale, is doing some experimenting for us with various threads of ours. This sample was inspired

Page 4

by a sample that she sent us, and while it is not exactly the same as her sample, it is fairly close to her idea and suggestion.

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:



TREADLING AND COLOR SEQUENCE:

In our treadling on this sample, we just have used two treadles, treadles #2 and #4, as on the tie-up we have given, and alternated these throughout the length of the fabric. However, we did have to use four shuttles, and we did have 41 shots in one complete pattern repeat. Here is the sequence that we used.

1. 2 shots of A, Brushed Orange
2. 2 shots of B, Beige, Tan, and Natural
3. 2 shots of A, Brushed Orange
4. 2 shots of D, London Fog
5. 2 shots of C, Dandelion Fuzz
6. 2 shots of B, Beige, Tan and Natural

7. 4 shots of C, Dandelion Fuzz
8. 4 shots of A, Brushed Orange
9. 2 shots of D, London Fog
10. 4 shots of B, Beige, Tan and Natural
11. 2 shots of C, Dandelion Fuzz
12. 4 shots of A, Brushed Orange
13. 2 shots of B, Beige, Tan and Natural
14. 1 shot of A, Brushed Orange
15. 2 shots of C, Dandelion Fuzz
16. 4 shots of D, London Fog

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

MORE ABOUT THIS FABRIC:

We have a fairly long sequence of the colors used in this sample in the weft, so as a result, all of our samples do not show the colors in exactly the same design or sequence, but you can certainly get the idea from the sample.

Also, one thing that we did after weaving this fabric was brushing the fabric to raise the nap a little more. If you will look on the back of this sample, you will notice that there is practically no nap, and there is quite a bit of it on the surface of the sample. And it wasn't hard to do, but it did take about an hour to do for the eight yards of finished fabric. We took an ordinary vegetable brush, and brushed the whole fabric up and down in the direction of the warp.

It was not brushed too hard, but no areas were missed, and as a result, we do have a light nap.

I do think that if we had sett the warp closer at about 28 or 30 per inch, that we could have raised much more of a nap and then I would have brushed it in both directions. I would then have brushed it the same direction as the warp, and also at right angles to the warp.

If you will examine the threading draft, you will notice that 1/2 of the M's and O's threading draft has been used. If you will look at an M's and O's draft, you will note that it has two different units or blocks, and we have used just one of these in the threading draft.

I might also mention that one of the samples was woven, using both of the units of the M's and O's draft, and this was done in about

2" squares. I also liked this very much, as on one of the units, the brushed mohair always will show up much more than on the other unit. It was hard to decide which sample to use for Warp and Weft, but finally I decided to use the plain single unit, and then tell you about the use of both and let you then perhaps try out the suggestion. What I'm really saying is that you can thread the 4, 3, 4, 3, 2, 1, 2, 1, block of M's and O's for about two inches, and then thread the 4, 2, 4, 2, 3, 1, 3, 1 unit of M's and O's for about two inches and repeat this over and over. You will be surprised at how pretty this sample is, and it is too bad that we cannot show you both of them here.

A third way of designing and weaving a distinctive fabric with this type of yarn would be to repeat the A unit of M's and O's about five or six times, and then repeat the B unit just two times. And then weave it in this same manner, and it too, is very striking, and does give you much, much, more exposure of the brushed mohair on the surface of the fabric.

One thing that I do want to mention is that you do not want to use a heavy beat. Just use a firm, even beat, or better yet,, beat lightly, change to the next shed, and beat lightly again before you do throw the shuttle.

And, one more thing that I must mention is the take-up on this fabric in the warp because of the heavier weft thread.

The brushed mohair yarn is almost five times heavier than the warp, so there is quite a bit of take-up, and in the 10 yard warp, there was about 1/2 to 1 yard more take-up than in the normal weaving where the warp and weft are about the same weight. From our 10 yard warp, we received slightly over eight yards of weft, and you must plan for this accordingly.

Another of our friends in Southern California has long woven full length evening skirts using a fabric similar to this, and they have always been very popular, and she finds it hard to keep the skirts in stock. Perhaps you might like to make one for yourself, or for a gift for that valued friend or relative.

There are so many variations in both treadling and color combinations that you can use with this thread, that one finds it a pleasure to work with and very rewarding fabric does result.

NOTE ABOUT THE THREADS USED IN WEFT

This brushed mohair comes in five different color combinations that we have imported from Holland. It has 1,000 yards per lb., and comes on about 1 to 1½ lb. cones. Price is \$6.80 per lb. PLEASE NOTE THAT WE ARE GETTING LOW ON SOME OF THESE COLORS, BUT WE HAVE RE-ORDERED MORE OF ALL FIVE COLORS FROM HOLLAND, AND WE DO EXPECT IT TO BE IN HERE IN ABOUT two or three month's time.

Besides these five brushed mohair, we also imported five colors of heavier nub brushed wool and mohair yarns. These also have proved extremely popular and we have ordered more of all five of these colors.

As most of you know, our English 2/18's worsteds come in 39 different colors, on approximately 1/2 lb. cones, and we have all colors in stock. It is \$6.80 per lb., and has 4800 yards per lb. Most of the colors are on 1/2 lb. tubes, but a few of them were wound by the manufacturers on eight to 12 oz. cones., so we send you the nearest we can to your order.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

In our warp, we used 1 lb. 15 oz. of the 2/18's worsted in 10 yards, 24 ends per inch, 40" wide. Thus the total warp cost of 10 yards was \$13.17, and thus the warp cost per yard comes to \$1.32 per yard.

In the weft, we used a total of 3 lbs. and 1/2 oz. on the 8 yards of finished fabric. At \$16.80 per lb., this comes to \$20.63 for the total weft cost, or the cost per yard comes to \$2.58 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD, 40" Width	\$1.32
WEFT COST PER YARD,	\$2.58
	<hr/>
Fabric cost per yard	\$3.90

**Eighth Biennial
Southern Conference
Of California Handweavers**

March 18th and 19th, 1972 will see the 8th Biennial Southern Conference of Handweavers in full swing at the Riviera Hotel in Palm Springs, California.

Preceding the conference, there will be three days of workshops from March 14th through March 16th. There will be 10 workshops offered and they will be Basic Weaving; Color and Design; Spinning, Backstrap looms — making and weaving on them; Peruvian Pebbleweaving; Card-weaving; Bobbin Lace; Tattng and Needle Lace; Tapestry, and Macrame.

The conference will consist of two full days of exhibits (amateur, professional, and commercial), demonstrations, fashion show, and banquet. The speaker will be Roger K. Thomson from the University of Kansas at Lawrence, and Design Forum of Topeka.

For further information write: Mary Ingwerson, P. O. Box 737, Joshua Tree, Calif. 92252. For registration, write to Ethel Miller, P. O. Box 793, Idyllwild, California 92349.

<p>Gift Certificates For Christmas:</p> <p>If you would like us to send a Christmas gift certificate to a special person, you can write and tell us how much or how large a certificate you do want, and then we can either send it on to you, or send it directly to the friend you purchase it for. These gift certificates are available in increments of \$5.00 each, starting with \$10.00 and going up to \$100.00. These gift certificates are redeemable at any time in yarns, books, or weaving accessories. Let them choose the book, or yarn, or other item that they might like for their handweaving.</p>

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Why not advertise your old loom, duplicate equipment, and other such items in this section. Price per 5-line ad is \$5.00. Payment to accompany your advertising copy.

BYWAYS IN HANDWEAVING

by Mary Meigs Atwater is in stock now. Has been hard to obtain. \$7.95 plus postage is the price. This seems to be the only book in print now, with some information on Inkle weaving, and with some details on card-weaving, finger weaving, and other related off loom techniques. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

5 NATURAL SHADES OF 3 PLY RYGJA, WOOL YARN FROM NORWAY.

About the weight of a 2 ply knitting yarn, this yarn is excellent for knitting or weaving. It is available in natural dark grey, medium grey, light tannish beige, dark brown, and natural white. It is water repellent, as long as natural oil is retained in the fibre. \$1.90 per skein of 100 grams. About 350 to 375 yards per skein. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

10 LB. TUBES, 4 and 5 PLY NATURAL JUTE:

Quite popular for the macrame enthusiast, this also is a good weft on warp-faced mats, and rugs. Reasonably priced at \$8.00 per 10 lb. tube, shipping extra. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

18 COLORS, 9 IN FINE LOOP MOHAIR, AND 9 IN FINE NUB MOHAIR.

Both have 2400 yards per lb., come on about 1 lb. 2 oz. cones, and are \$4.80 per lb. We have sample sheets made up of the Nub Mohair, and none left of the Loop Mohair. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 9712.

MACRAME

This is Virginia Harvey's second book on Macrame, and is really entitled COLOR AND DESIGN IN MACRAME. Lavishly illustrated, many in color, it is \$7.95 plus 41¢ postage and insurance. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

GRADED LESSONS IN MACRAME KNOTTING AND NETTING

by Louisa Walker. Just \$2.00 plus postage, this book was written for Macrame enthusiasts in 1895 and has just been reprinted. Excellent, well done, and applies to the Macrame of today. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

AN EYE FOR COLOR

by Bernat Klein. This is one person's theory of color, and of living today, and has many color plates. Limited edition publication, and it is \$9.95 plus postage and insurance. Read this, and you will be enthralled with the theories. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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14 COLORS IN ENGLISH WOOL TWEED

A new stock item, due in today from England, this tweed is supposed to be on approximately 1 lb. cones, about 1750 yards per lb., \$4.80 per lb. It can be used for warp or weft. We will have black and white, and 12 color blends. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

11 COLORS IN 8 and 12 CUT RAYON CHENILLE:

We have 6 colors priced at \$3.50 per lb. on 1/2 lb. tubes, and 6 colors priced at \$4.00 per lb. on 1/2 lb. tubes. Most of these have either 1,000 or 1,200 yards per lb. Light Yellow, Cream, Lt. Blue, Wine Red, Light Aqua, and variegated yellow are \$4.00 per lb. Dark Brown, Chartreuse, Yellow Gold, Gold, a Celery Green and a Dark Chartreuse are the colors at \$3.50 per lb. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

STEP BY STEP KNITTING

This paperback as well as Step by Step Macrame, is published by Golden Press and is \$2.50 per copy. Excellent instructions, and written by Mary W. Phillips. Postage is extra. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

MODELS OF MINIATURE SPINNING WHEELS

From Switzerland, these models are so realistic. Two sizes available. About 20 left. \$5.95 plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

CORN DOLLS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA

About 50 left out of 100 we received. These are beautifully made. The single figures are \$3.50, and double figures \$3.95 plus postage. You'll fall in love with these. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

THIRSTY LINEN IN 10/2 and 7/2 SIZE.

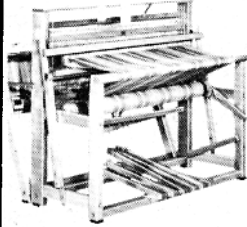
These two linens are spun to order for Robin — Russ in Scotland. It is spun for absorbency out of fine quality linen. Comes on 1 lb. tubes. 1500 yards per lb. for the 10/2, and 1050 yards per lb. for the 7/2. Price not settled yet, until we find out what duty and shipping charges are, but should be about \$4.50 to \$5.00 per lb. Due in any day now. It is a creamy white, not quite a dead white, and makes the large, absorbent, linen bath-towels, as well as smaller ones. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

WEAVING WITHOUT A LOOM

has been reprinted and is in stock again. Excellent for teachers, and for children, this book by Sarita Rainey continues to be popular. \$7.95 plus postage and insurance. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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