



# warp and weft

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February, 1974

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Editor: Russell E. Groff

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### A Word from the Editor

Hurray, I think that we're beginning to catch up a little. We just mailed the January issue a few days ago (March 15th) and less than a week later, we are writing up the February issue, so there is some chance of getting back on schedule. And the sample for the March issue is about finished, and the April sample is on the loom and in progress. Oh, sometimes it's a great struggle to do Warp and Weft. The other bulletin, Drafts and Designs, isn't so hard, but eight pages to fill sometimes gets to me.

Really, not much has happened since I wrote the last issue. We have been able to confirm and finalize our plans for the workshop this summer with Sallie O'Sullivan from Dublin, Ireland. This will be a workshop on color and design on four harness looms, and will be a five day workshop. It will start August 12th, and will be Monday through Friday. We will have 20 looms (for 20 students) and have different color combinations on all looms, according to the warping directions received from Miss O'Sullivan. The warp for this has just arrived today, so we will be starting to prepare these warps shortly. We are now starting to prepare the warps for the Peter Collingwood workshop, which will come first.

It will be a hectic coming few months for your editor when you hear the schedule that is planned. There is the Southern California Handweavers Conference in Santa Barbara, California in April. In May, a friend and I will drive to Minneapolis, St. Paul, to attend the Midwest Weavers conference at the end of May and 1st of June, and then a quick visit

from St. Paul, to the home of my parents in Pennsylvania.

Returning to Oregon, we will then prepare for the Peter Collingwood workshop, and as soon as that is over, start preparing to attend Convergence 74 in San Francisco. Upon returning from that, two weeks later will be the Sallie O'Sullivan workshop, and the, I hope there will be a three weeks of NOTHING, so that the slow tail end of August will see me gradually getting ready for the trip to England to look for new threads. I am also planning to go to Ireland this trip, and visit with a personal friend who will arrange for me to visit some of the various mills there. This will take us clear over into October, so you can see there will be a hectic time in the weaving shop this summer.

I don't remember whether we had received the shipment of five beautiful yarns from England, which were designed by Bernat Klein. These are fairly heavy flake yarns, with a blend of four colors in each of the five yarns we have received. These are 100% flake wool yarns, two ply, and the word is "Scrumptious," as this is what these five yarns are. One of our students is doing some double weave of this for weft, for pillows right now, and are they ever rich in color.

And Janice starts her last term of college, and she says it will be a busy term for her before she graduates. So, we'll not be able to expect too much help from her during this last quarter at college. After that, though, we are looking forward to her working full time at the shop, and what a help that will be. She is here today, winding seven warps, for one of the local colleges, and all seven will be done before she quits for the day, I am sure.

Enuf chitchat, back to the coal mines.

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

### This Month's Book Review

A studio publication from England which is distributed by The Viking Press is the book "OFF THE LOOM," and the sub-title is Creating with Fibre.

To me, this is a book of contrasts. I like the actual physical instructions and directions in it very much, but I do not care much for the created objects that are featured. But then, your reviewer is oriented towards practical

and functional weaving, and the author has her viewpoint aimed at the aesthetic value of the created fabrics.

I think the directions in this book are excellent. She describes finger-weaving, brading, sprang, twining, meshwork, and macrame, and gives excellent directions and details. Also, there are concise and excellently detailed directions for tapestry and rug-making techniques, and she also has complete descriptions of many different gauze weaves.

The book is loaded with excellent drawings, diagrams, and pictures, which are so sharp and clear that they themselves would be an aid in creating some of the items.

There are some instructions on dyeing with vegetable dyes, directions for ikat dyeing, double weaving, and the interlocked warp.

The advantage of this type of weaving as described by the author "Shirley Marein" are that no previous experience is necessary, little or no equipment is required, and the basic techniques are explained in great detail in this book.

There are more than 150 step-by-step illustrations, with photographs of many finished pieces.

For those who like to experiment with texture, color, and form in weaving, and do not have a loom, this book should be a valuable aid.

TITLE: OFF THE LOOM, Creating with fibre.

AUTHOR: Shirley Marein

PUBLISHER: The Viking Press, New York

COST: \$8.95 plus pp. and ins.

AVAILABLE: Directly from the publisher, or from Robin & Russ if desired.

## **This Month's Cover Photograph**

The cover photograph this month is a small tapestry, woven by one of the members of the Portland Handweavers Guild. It was displayed in the Portland Guild Booth at Vancouver, Canada last year, and attracted quite a bit of attention. It is a very good picture of Mt. Hood, about 50 miles from Portland. You have a view very similar to this of Mt. Hood from many places within a 50-mile radius of Portland, and this one might have been from a

much closer vantage point. I drove to Portland just yesterday, and was impressed with the two wonderful views of Mt. Hood that I had as I drove in, and it is all of 70 miles from McMinnville.

## **A Second Book Review**

With the lack of publications on inkle loom weaving on the market, it is a pleasure to have another publication available on the subject.

The new book "INKLE LOOM WEAVING," by Nina Holland is a welcome addition to the publications that are available.

The author begins by showing how to build an inkle loom, giving complete dimensions, directions, etc. She also explains about different types of inkle looms that are available.

Then, she discusses the proper yarns to use in Inkle weaving, and explains how to set-up the loom, and start and finish your first project.

There are also explanations on the use of color, how to combine colors and textures, how to make interesting projects by dyeing your belts on your warp, and gives related information.

The last half of the book is devoted to 17 different projects that one can weave on the inkle loom. These are also illustrated in black and white, and in the 22 color plates that show finished examples of the projects.

I feel that the book is definitely lacking in instruction in patterns, and good instructions for advancement in weaving on inkle looms, but for the beginner, they will probably receive quite a bit of inspiration from the many pictures, the color plates, and the clear directions on building, setting up, and weaving on the inkle loom.

TITLE: Inkle Loom Weaving

AUTHOR: Nina Holland

PUBLISHER: Watson-Guption Publications

COST: \$10.50 plus pp. and ins.

AVAILABLE: It is available direct from the publishers, or from Robin & Russ Handweavers if desired.

# CONTEMPORARY AND TRADITIONAL

This interesting four harness weave contains elements of both the contemporary and the traditional. The variety of colors in the warp, and the traditional pattern are both elements that make it an interesting and exciting pattern.

## THREADING DRAFT: A SMALL DIAMOND

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

## 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.

## WARP:

There are five colors of 10/2 mercerized cotton used in the warp. They are as follows: white, rosebud, begonia, red, and wine.

## WEFT:

There are two threads used in the weft. One, the pattern thread is a heavy, 2 ply, natural white nylon. The tabby thread is the 16/2 ramie, color #58. Scarlet Red.

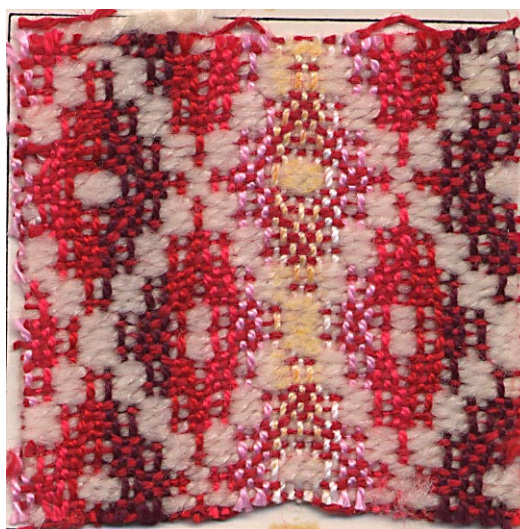
## REED USED:

A 10 dent reed is used, and it was doubled sleyed, two ends per dent, or 20 threads per inch.

## COLOR SEQUENCE USED IN THREADING DRAFT:

Please note that there are 40 threads in one complete color sequence as used in the warp. And, there are 24 threads in each pattern repeat. So, because of this uneven effect of the number of colors and 40 threads in one color sequence, and 24 threads in one pattern repeat, the pattern keeps moving in the color sequence, and one time appears in the lighter colors, and then gradually moves and changes position until it appears in the darker colors in the warp. So, clear across your warp, the pattern appears to move and change position, and it actually does not do this, but the colors are what are making the pattern appear to do this.

## SAMPLE:



Here is the color sequence as we used it, and, once again, I want to emphasize that the color sequence is constant throughout the width of your fabric.

1. 4 threads of white
2. 4 threads of rosebud
3. 4 threads of begonia
4. 4 threads of red
5. 8 threads of wine
6. 4 threads of red
7. 4 threads of begonia
8. 4 threads of rosebud
9. 4 threads of white

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40 threads in one color sequence

### THREADING THE DRAFT

Reading the draft from right to left, you see that the first four threads are 4, 3, 4, 3, and these are threaded with the white. Then, next is 2, 3, 2, 1, and these are threaded with rosebud, etc., until you complete threading the entire pattern. What I want to say is that when you start threading the pattern over again, that the same colors will not always appear in the same position in the pattern, and it is this that makes the fabric so very interesting.

I WISH THAT YOU COULD SEE THE COMPLETE 40" WIDE FABRIC TO SEE WHAT I AM REFERRING TO, as your sample cannot show the movement. Also, the samples in the bulletin will vary somewhat in color sequence, so your sample might not look exactly like that of your neighbors.

### TREADLING SEQUENCE

This pattern is treadled "as drawn in," or the original treadling sequence is taken from the pattern and used as your treadling sequence. And remember, that there is a tabby thread of 16/2 scarlet red ramie, between each shot of the two ply white nylon. Here is the sequence as we treadled it.

1. Treadle #3 — 3 times, white nylon
2. Treadle #2 — 3 times, white nylon
3. Treadle #1 — 3 times, white nylon
4. Treadle #4 — 4 times, white nylon
5. Treadle #1 — 3 times, white nylon
6. Treadle #2 — 3 times, white nylon
7. Treadle #3 — 3 times, white nylon
8. Treadle #4 — 2 times, white nylon

END OF ONE COMPLETE PATTERN REPEAT. Do repeat over and over, and be sure to use and alternate the A and B tabby between every shot of pattern thread.

### MORE ABOUT THE FABRIC

This really is a very exciting fabric when you see it in the large piece, or even in placemat width, as we did it in our first sample.

And once again, let me emphasize that in a wide width, the fabric does not beat up as tightly as in a narrow width such as in placemats. Therefore, I do recommend a firm, even double beat. You should beat with the shed open, change to the next shed, and beat again before you throw the next shuttle.

And, as we did this in placemats with one of our students first, I thought you might be interested in the plan for setting up and threading this for placemats. Here is PLACE-MAT THREADING PLAN.

A. 14" wide, or 280 warp ends.

1. Thread 4, 3, 2, 1, — 2 times ..... 8 threads
  2. Thread the pattern a total of 11 times,  
11 x 24 ..... 264 threads
  3. Thread 2, 3, 4, 1, — 2 times ..... 8 threads
- Total warp threads                      280 threads

Note that #1 above is the right selvage (#1) and #3 is the left selvage.

I really do think that you will enjoy weaving something like this, using the five colors in the warp as we have. We have been experimenting with our students with this, with very, very, pleasing results, threading Swedish Lace, M's and O's, Huck, Overshot, Twill, Crackle, and Barleycorn and other weaves on these color sequences, and the results are so stimulating and exciting that I wish you could share them all with us. Of course, you have to find someone who wants to learn and is willing to do this, and you will be so very much pleased with the results. We have just now threaded up a similar 14" width warp with a double weave, and our student is delighting in this now, and is planning on using this tubular fabric for pillows.

### COST OF THE THREADS USED

Our 10/2 cotton comes in about 40 colors on 1/2 lb. tubes, and it is \$7.50 per lb. It has 4200 yards per lb.

The white nylon pattern thread has about 1150 to 1200 yards per lb. It comes on tubes of 600 yards, and has been selling for \$2.40 per lb. However, I am getting low on this now, and when I re-order, I'm sure it will go up some, as I purchased about 200 lbs. of this about two years ago, and have not purchased any since.

The 16/2 ramie, comes on 4 oz. tubes of 600 yards each and is \$1.75 per tube, or \$7.00 per lb.

We did about five yards of the sample with a 10/2 cotton red for tabby, and ran out of that color, and did the next eight yards with the ramie tabby. The ramie tabby resulted in the fabric weaving about 1 1/2" wider than did

the cotton tabby. One reason for this is the fact that it is slightly heavier than the cotton, but also, ramie is somewhat like linen, a little stiffer than the cotton, and this also, I'm sure, resulted in the fabric weaving a little wider.

**COST OF THE FABRIC:**

We had a 15½ yard warp, 40" wide, and it took slightly less than 3 lbs. of thread for warp. From this 15½ yards of warp, we had 14 yards of finished fabric. With the warp at \$7.50 per lb., and 3 lbs. being used, our total warp cost was \$22.50, and our warp cost per yard was \$1.45.

In the weft, we used slightly less than 7 lbs. of the white nylon for pattern thread, and about 2¼ lbs. of the 16/2 ramie for tabby. Thus, our total weft cost was \$32.55 for the 14 yards of finished fabric, or the cost per yard for the weft was \$2.33 per yard.

Warp cost per yard, 40" wide .....	\$1.45
Weft cost per yard .....	\$2.33
<b>FABRIC COST PER YARD .....</b>	<b>\$3.78</b>

And if you use this in placemats, if you purchase five 1/2 lb. tubes of the five colors, from the 2½ lbs. of 10/2 cotton warp, you get 35 yards of warp, 14" wide. Thus, your warp cost per yard for placemats comes to 54¢ per yard, or approximately 30¢ per mat. I have also taken and woven these type of mats in five shades of yellows, five shades of browns, and greens, and also oranges, and almost everytime, they have worked out beautifully. Another favorite weft threads has been to take three shades of heavier rayon boucles, wind them together, and use as one thread in the weft, on the 10/2 multicolored warps, with great success and popularity. One of the best selling items we have ever made.

**15 Books Published or Distributed by Robin & Russ**

We have a new brochure advertising and telling about the 15 books we have either published or distribute. We would be pleased to send you a copy if you would like to have one. Let us hear from you by card or letter, and we will send you one.

Weaving shops and studios, please do note that we also wholesale these books as well as sell them at retail. If you would like further details, drop us a line. Books are on card-

weaving, sectional warping, Tibetan tapestry or rug weaving, color, lichens for dyeing, about six publications on bobbin lace, and also one on four and eight harness patterns from Finland and the district checks from Scotland. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

**Three Upcoming Weaving Conferences**

The Southern California Handweavers will be holding their Ninth Biennial conference in Santa Barbara at Earl Warren Showgrounds and Miramar Hotel & Convention Center. The dates are Saturday and Sunday, April 20 and 21st. Set-up will be on Friday, the 19th. Sounds like it will be a very good conference with four featured speakers. Hope you attend. Registration chairman is Mrs. Norma Ames, 337 Calle Yucca, Thousand Oaks, California 91360.

And then, the Midwest Conference is an upcoming event to be held in St. Paul, Minnesota on May 30, 31, and June 1, 1974.

It will be on the St. Thomas College Campus. They also will have three featured speakers, one each day, and one is Theo Moorman, the outstanding tapestry weaver from England, and the other two are Jean Stamsta and Robert L. Kidd. For details, write to Betty Batzli, Rt. 2, Box 252, Excelsior, Minnesota.

And finally, most of you have probably heard of "Convergence 74," the national conference to be held in San Francisco, at the Fairmont Hotel. The dates are July 18, 19, 20, and 21st, and this should be an outstanding event, and if you are in the area, and can participate, plan to do so. This will be an outstanding conference, if I know the Northern California Handweavers Guilds who are the main sponsors along with Shuttle, Spindle, and Dye-pot.

**Warp and Weft Subscription Cost Increased As of January 1, 1974**

Don't forget, as of January 1, 1974, the subscription rate for Warp and Weft is now officially \$6.00 per year. Because of increases in cost of printing, mailing, labor, and threads, we just have to have this increase, so that Warp and Weft is a going concern, instead of one that is falling in the red.



## 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.**

### FOR SALE

Bergman floor loom, 45" wide, 4 harnesses, \$470. Matching bench \$39. Warping Board, Extra Reed, Shuttles, Books, etc. Reasonable. Kempen Spinning Wheel, Carders, Wool, etc., all for \$160. All in excellent condition. Mrs. R. D. McClarin, Rt. 1, Box 191, Scappoose, Ore. 97056. Phone 543-2482.

### 3/2 PERLE COTTON, KELLY GREEN

On special. While it lasts, we have it on sale at \$2.40 per lb. Comes on tubes of about 14 or 15 oz. each. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### A FINE 3 PLY, EMERALD GREEN, GLAZED COTTON

This fine, glazed cotton is available on sale at \$2.40 per lb. It comes on tubes of about 2 to 2½ lbs. each. Has approximately 4800 yards per lb., and it is sold by the tube only. About 40 tubes left. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### 2 PLY CAMEL HAIR YARN

A very-nice quality yarn, which comes on approximately 1 lb. tubes. Has approximately 3800 yards per lb., comes on about 1 lb. tubes, and it can be used for warp or weft. Price is \$8.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### 10 COLORS IN 15/1 C.C. DOUPPIONI SILK

We just located this very nice lot of fine textured, slubby silk. It has about 7200 yards per lb., comes on cones of about 1½ lbs. each, and is \$6.00 per lb. Mostly shades of golds, greens, beiges, and natural, although there are just a few cones of red, dark red, and two shades of blues. We can also wind this off for you in 3 fold yarns, in 1/2 lb. tubes of 1200 yards per tube. This is 3 ends all wound together as one, and each is 1200 yards long. Price is \$3.00 per 1/2 lb. tube of 3 fold silk. The 3 fold can be used for warp as well as for weft. Limited amounts of these available, and it is almost impossible to find these on the market anymore. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### 6 EXOTIC METALLICS

We purchased this small, odd lot of metallics. Have about 25 lbs. of each of the 6 colors. It comes to us on cellophane or plastic wrapped cones of 1/64 supported metallic. The colors are pearl-beige, natural, white, intensified green, cornflower blue, and electric blue. It is on cones of 12 to 16 oz. each, and the price is \$7.00 per lb. Some of these came marked \$20.00 per lb., so you can see this is a good price for such a close-out lot. We are making sample sheets of these, but it will be about a month before they are ready. Remember \$7.00 per lb., on tubes or cones rather of 12 to 16 oz. each. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### NATURAL BRUSHED MOHAIR FROM ENGLAND

This beautiful brushed yarn comes on about 1 lb. cones, and it is \$7.60 per lb. Comes on cones of about 1 lb. each, with approximately 1,000 yards per lb. And we also have it in a half-bleached white, on the 1 lb. cones at \$8.00 per lb. Many, many uses for this beautiful yarn. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### 8 CUT WHITE COTTON CHENILLE FROM ENGLAND

This English chenille is woven tighter and more firmly than the American chenille, and is a beautiful quality. Comes on skeins of 8 to 12 oz. and it is \$4.00 per lb. Also, we have a 12 cut white rayon chenille, made in U.S.A., also with 1200 yards per lb., and it is \$4.00 per lb. It, the 12 cut, comes on cones of about 1½ lbs. and it is \$4.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

### SPEE-DEE CEMENT

This outstanding fabric cement comes in small bottles once again and it is 80¢ per bottle. Dries in one minute. If a warp thread breaks, glue it together and it will dry in one minute and you can proceed with your weaving. Excellent for use in Macrame, for glueing new threads together, and for glueing finished pieces together, etc. 80¢ per bottle, plus 24¢ postage. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

### BOBBIN LACE EQUIPMENT OF ALL KINDS

We stock bobbin lace bobbins of two kinds, have three different kinds of pillows on the way to us from Sweden, have bobbin lace linen, about 10 to 12 different bobbin lace books, bobbin lace bobbin winders, etc. Ask for our special mimeographed sheet on bobbin lace equipment. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore.

### SPINNING WHEELS AND KITS IN STOCK

We have the New Zealand Spinning Wheel Kits on hand, as well as those from Finland for the conventional wheel. We have two styles of castle wheels on hand, and one all metal spinning wheel. Come and visit us, and see the variety we have available. A special sheet of spinning equipment and supplies is also available. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

### 2/16's HEATHER WORSTED FROM ENGLAND

This 2 ply worsted comes on approximately 2 lb. cones, and we still have it available at \$8.00 per lb. About 15 colors in stock in limited amounts. Will work well for warp with the Scottish heather homespun rye yarns as weft. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

### A GUIDE TO LACEMAKING

This book was used by the Girl Guides in England and has 10 excellent basic lessons in lacemaking. Just republished after being out of print since 1939, we have become the publishers and distributors for this little booklet. Price is reasonable also at \$3.50 each. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

