

Seamless Afghans and Bags

BY AGNES K. NEILSON

THE WEAVING of double-width cloth and seamless tubing is a very interesting subject.

On eight harnesses a four-harness pattern, double-width fabric may be woven suitable for coverlets and pillow covers. On six harnesses a tubing with a four-harness pattern top and a plain back suitable for pillow covers may be woven. A plain tabby weave four times as wide as the loom may be woven on eight harnesses in plain tabby weave; on six harnesses a fabric three times as wide as the loom may be woven in plain tabby weave.

On four harnesses a double-width fabric and tubing may be woven in the plain tabby weave and, to get any kind of pattern in it, it will be necessary to put in stripes of colors in the warp which, if woven with stripes of colors, of course will produce a plaid effect.

Double-width fabrics in tabby weave have many uses, as for dress and coat material, blankets, afghans, etc.

The threading for this weave is the "Twill" threading, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. Harnesses 1 and 2 are used for the upper layer and harnesses 3 and 4 are used for the bottom layer. The warp should be sleyed with double the number of threads as in ordinary weaving. For dress material made of "Fabri" yarn, sley the loom 44 or 40 to the inch and the material will come out 22 or 20 to the inch. Thus it is possible to weave dress material 38 inches wide on a table loom. An afghan made of knitting worsted should be sleyed 18 or 20 to the inch and will come out 9 or 10 to the inch, which is a very good texture for the purpose. Perle No. 10 sleyed 24 or 30 to the inch is good for bags and pillows.

The sleying is done in the ordinary way, two threads in each dent, the threads from harness 1 and 2 in one dent and the threads from harness 3 and 4 in the next dent, etc., and the fabric will come out smooth and even as if woven on two harnesses. The warp in the illustrated bags and pillows is in one color, and the decorations different colored stripes in the weft and figures in tapestry weaving. The two pillows, the saddlebag and the zipper bag are all woven on the same warp, 300 threads sleyed 30 to the inch. It gives 10 inches of warp in the reed and the finished weaving is about 9 inches wide. The pillows are woven 13 inches long, making them 9 x 12 after shrinking. The knitting bag is sleyed 24 to the inch, 16 inches wide, making the bag 15 inches wide. Directions for threading and tie-up are given on the diagram. When threading for tubing, be sure to put in one extra thread after the last repeat, as there must be an uneven number of warp threads in tube weaving to avoid a double thread on one side. Omitting one thread in the last repeat will, of course, have the same effect.

To weave Pillow No. 1, begin with a few tabby shots by

stepping on treadles A and B alternately; these tabby shots close the pillow in one end. Then weave one shot on treadle 1, one shot on treadle 3, one shot on treadle 2 and one shot on treadle 4. Repeat these four shots until 13 inches of tubing are woven, then step on treadle 5 to open the tube and insert the pillow in the tubing, taking care to arrange it nice and even. The warp may be loosened a little to make the arrangement easier. Tighten the warp again and weave a few tabby shots on treadles A and B alternately. This will close the pillow. The warp may now be cut and, when the fringes have been tied on both ends, the pillow is finished with the cover on without a single stitch taken with a needle.

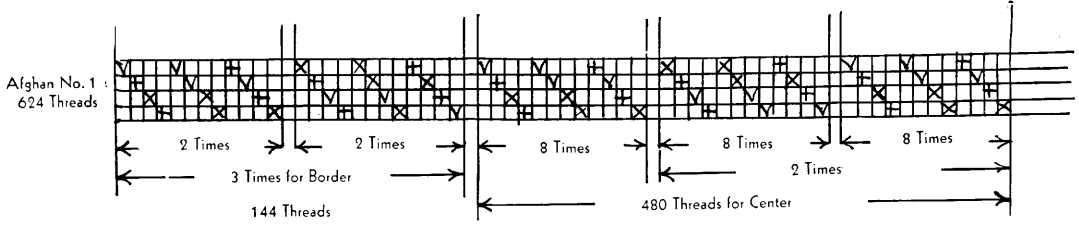
For Pillow No. 2, first a few tabby shots on treadles A and B alternately, then, starting from the left, weave one shot on treadle 1, one shot on treadle 3, one shot on treadle 2 and one shot on treadle 4. Repeat these four shots until 3 inches are woven. Then weave one shot on treadle 3, one shot on treadle 1, one shot on treadle 2 and one shot on treadle 4. Repeat these four shots until 7 inches are woven. Then weave one shot on treadle 1, one shot on treadle 3, one shot on treadle 2 and one shot on treadle 4. Repeat these four shots until 3 inches are woven. Then finish with a few tabby shots on treadles A and B alternately. There will be an opening in the middle of one side where the pillow may be inserted.

In the making of the saddlebag the procedure is the same as for Pillow No. 2, only on a larger scale. First weave the tabby shots to close the bag at the bottom, then weave a tube for about 7 inches, weave the opening at the side for about 16 inches. This center part should be beaten loosely to make it soft. Then weave 7 inches of tubing and close the bag with a few tabby shots. This length allows for shrinkage and makes the bag well proportioned.

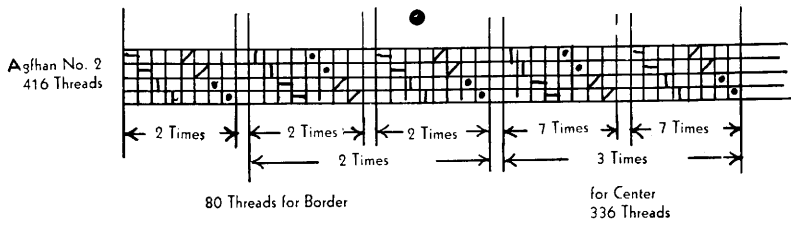
The zipper bag is very simple. Begin with the tabby shots to close the bag, then weave a length of double width the same as the center part of Pillow No. 2, and finish with the tabby shots. When the fringes are tied at both ends, sew the selvage to the zipper.

To make the knitting bag, begin as usual with a few tabby shots to close it at the bottom, then weave a tube 8 inches deep. Then an opening must be made at each side to make the two flaps to sew on the rings. Make these about 9 inches, more or less, depending on the size of the rings. To weave these flaps, two shuttles are necessary. With shuttle No. 1 weave one shot on treadle 1 and one shot on treadle 2. Then with shuttle No. 2 weave one shot on treadle 3 and one shot on treadle 4. Repeat these four shots until the desired length is woven.

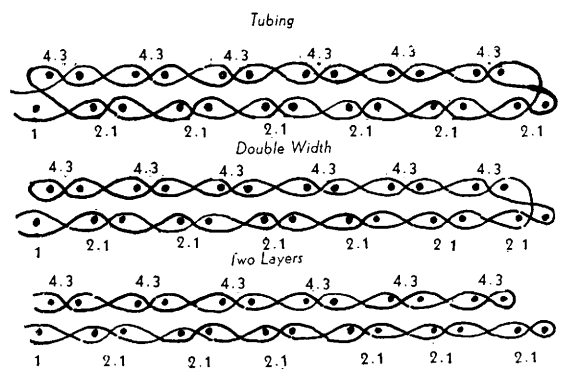
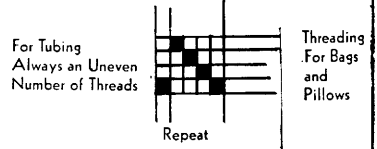
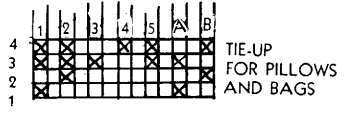
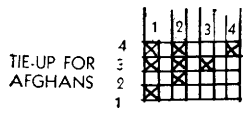
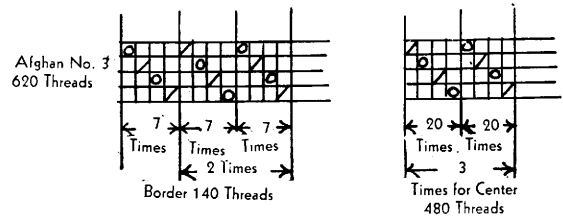
-  Blue
-  Tan
-  Brown



-  Black
-  White
-  Red
-  Gray



-  Taupe
-  Red



Agnis K. Nielsen.

Treadle 1 once }
 " 3 " } Repeat for tubing in pillows and saddle-
 " 2 " } bag and knitting bag.
 " 4 " }

Treadle 3 once }
 " 2 " } Repeat for double width as in center parts
 " 1 " } of Pillow No. 2 and saddlebag and for
 " 4 " } zipper bag.

Shuttle No. 1, treadle 1 once }
 " " " 2 " } Repeat for two layers as in
 " No. 2 " 3 " } the knitting bag.
 " " " 4 " }

Treadle A once }
 " B " } Repeat for tabby.

FOR STRUCTO-LOOMS

Press on Lever 2 once }
 " " " 1-2-4 " } Repeat for tubing in pillows,
 " " " 1 " } saddlebag and knitting bag.
 " " " 1-2-3 " }

Press on Lever 1-2-4 once }
 " " " 1 " } Repeat for double width as
 " " " 2 " } in center parts of Pillow No. 2
 " " " 1-2-3 " } and saddlebag and for zipper
 bag.

Shuttle No. 1, press on Lever 2 once }
 " " " " " 1 " } Repeat for two
 " No. 2 " " " 1-2-4 " } layers as in the
 " " " " " 1-2-3 " } knitting bag.

Press on Lever 2-4 once }
 " " " 1-3 " } Repeat for tabby.

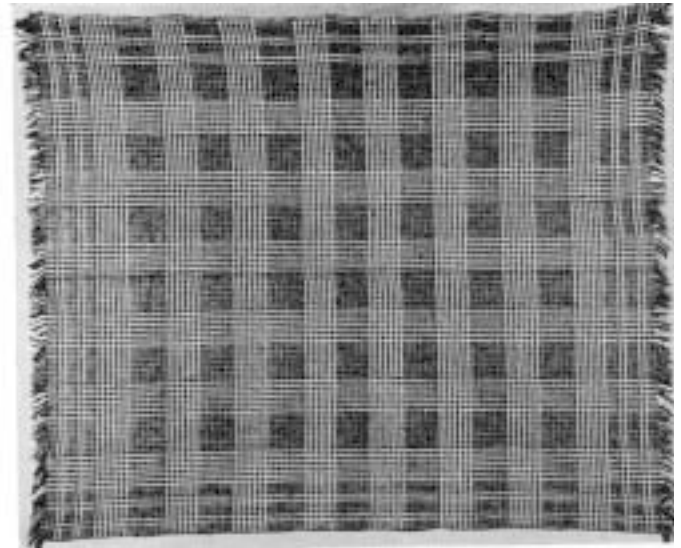
* * * * *

Afghan No. 1 is woven with knitting worsted sleyed 20 threads to the inch, 624 threads in all, making it a little more than 31 inches in the reed. It measures 61" x 80" after finishing. It is warped in alternating stripes of brown and blue and tan and blue, and woven the same.

Threading is given on the diagram. Weave as follows:

Treadle 1 brown }
 " 3 " }
 " 4 blue }
 " 2 " }
 " 3 brown }
 " 1 " } Weave this repeat once for small square
 " 2 " } or four times for large square.
 " 4 " }
 " 1 blue }
 " 3 " }
 " 4 brown }
 " 2 " }





Treadle 1 tan	}	Weave this repeat once for small square or four times for large square.
“ 3 “		
“ 4 blue		
“ 2 “		
“ 3 tan		
“ 1 “		
“ 2 “		
“ 4 “		
“ 1 blue		
“ 3 “		
“ 4 tan		
“ 2 “		

Weave six small squares for border, alternating one brown and one tan. Then weave as many large squares as wanted for the center and finish with six small squares for border.

Afghan No. 2 is woven with heavy peasant wool sleyed 15 threads to the inch, 416 threads in all, a little more than $27\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the reed. The finished afghan measures 53" x 63". It is warped and woven with black and white and red and gray in alternating squares. The threading is given on the diagram. Weave as follows:

Treadle 1 red	}	Weave this repeat twice for small square or seven times for large square.
“ 3 “		
“ 4 “		
“ 2 “		
“ 1 gray		
“ 3 “		
“ 4 “		
“ 2 “		

Treadle 1 black	}	Weave this repeat twice for small square or seven times for large square.
“ 3 “		
“ 4 “		
“ 2 “		
“ 1 white		
“ 3 “		
“ 4 “		
“ 2 “		

Weave five small squares alternating red and gray and black and white, beginning and ending with the red and gray. Then weave large squares for center, as many as

wanted, beginning with black and white and ending with red and gray. Then finish with five small squares for the border, beginning and ending with the black and white.

Afghan No. 3 is in the well-known log-cabin style woven in dark red and taupe knitting worsted sleyed 20 threads to the inch, 620 threads in all, 31 inches in the reed, and, after finishing, it measures 61" x 75". Threading is given on the diagram. Weave as follows:

Treadle 1 red	}	For small square weave this repeat once and then the four shots at the bottom. For large square weave this repeat ten times.
“ 3 “		
“ 4 taupe		
“ 2 “		
“ 3 red		
“ 1 “		
“ 2 taupe		
“ 4 “		

Treadle 1 red		
“ 3 “		
“ 4 taupe		
“ 2 “		

Treadle 1 taupe	}	For small square weave this repeat once and then the four shots at the bottom. For large square weave this repeat ten times.
“ 3 “		
“ 4 red		
“ 2 “		
“ 3 taupe		
“ 1 “		
“ 2 red		
“ 4 “		

Treadle 1 taupe		
“ 3 “		
“ 4 red		
“ 2 “		

First weave five small squares for the border, then weave the large squares for center, as many as wanted, and finish with the border.

An afghan has many uses in the home and in the car, and is a delightfully worth-while possession. It may be woven in colors to blend with its surroundings, or in bright colors to lighten up a dark corner. If made with moth-proof yarns it will last a lifetime and become a cherished heirloom.