

NOTES ON WEAVING TERMINOLOGY

HONEYCOMB = WAFFLE

There is a difference of opinion as to the proper meaning of the term: Honeycomb Weave. Very often Swedish "hålkрус" is translated as "honeycomb", which is rather a very free translation, since "hål" means a hole, and "kрус" - a ripple, a wrinkle (perhaps of the same origin as our "crush"). The mistake originated probably with E.F.Worst, and then has been repeated by F.Siminoff-Cohn. At any rate there is not the slightest similarity between a "hålkрус" and a real honeycomb.

On the other hand authorities on commercial weaving such as G.H.Oelsner, or J.Read call the Waffle weave by the name of Honeycomb, and use the latter term exclusively.

Honeycomb is not a particularly lucky term when applied to any weave at all, since the cells in a honeycomb are hexagonal, and consequently hard to imitate in weaving.

So far we have found out that Honeycomb and Waffle are the same weave, and that "hålkрус" is not honeycomb. But then what is it? The French have a term "ondulé" (wavy) for hålkрус, which seems to be very appropriate, but we do not know any English term designating this particular weave, which does not mean that such a term does not exist. We shall be very grateful for any information on this subject. To avoid any misunderstanding here is one of the "hålkрус" drafts:

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DORNICK TWILL ≠ DORNICK WEAVE

(from the "Encyclopedia of Handweaving")

The term came undoubtedly from a small weaving center in Northern Scotland (now Dornoch), where a particular kind of turned twill was made. The fabric was later known as Dornock, or Dornick, and thus the weave itself got its name. But later on the same name has been used for a herringbone twill, and the origin of the word ascribed to Belgium or even Scandinavia. At first it would seem that there is no possible connection between these two weaves, but a closer examination shows that the way of joining diagonals in the blocks of pattern of the original weave is the same as in the Dornick twill. The point in both cases is to avoid long floats. It is obvious that a weaver familiar with the first weave invented the second one, and called it accordingly "dornick twill", which later has been abbreviated to "dornick".

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Dornick Weave

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Dornick Twill