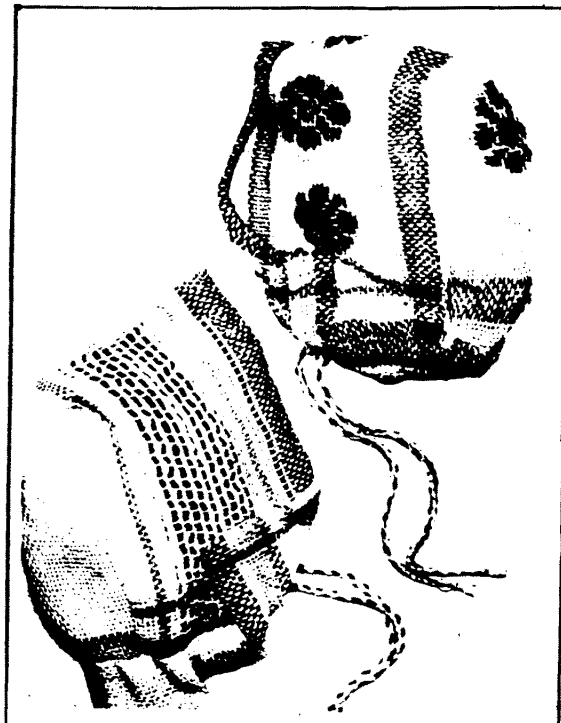


HANDWEAVING NEWS



Brocaded Caps and Jacket.

There seems to be a good deal of interest in knowing how brocade technique may be used for the decoration of garments. And so this month, I am going to try and show what some of my students have done with these. The above articles are both of all wool for the warp and weft. The white jacket woven by Edythe Cusick was woven of fine angora, and brocaded also with angora, somewhat coarser. The caps were woven of Shetland yarn. Both of these were woven on the heddle loom or the Hearthside loom. The jacket was brocaded with rose and green, while the caps were of vary colored yarns mostly very bright colors. These caps were woven square, and folded as the bonnets were folded in the broomstick loom directions of July 1941. But instead a 12" wide strip may be woven, and sewed up the back and pulled in at the neck with small box pleats if desired.

On the next page are a number of different borders and figures, any of which can be suited to the article to be woven. Vests in either a dark color, green, black or blue, may be brocaded with bright reds, greens, yellows, blues, and the red purples. For these use a narrow stripe design, followed by some plain weave of the background color, then use a design of figures, as birds etc. Some of the magazines have shown some of these vests lately as well as bordered dresses etc. Harpers Bazaar and Vogue have had illustrations of these. Also in the last number of Forecast Magazine is an excellent bordered dress made after McCall Pattern No. 5538. Bags, hats, fascinators, head scarves, neck scarves etc. can all be brocaded with these designs, and in many different ways and colors that are most attractive and individual.

Method of Brocading has been given in a number of the Handweaving News, and also in the booklet "Weaving on the Hearthside Loom". It consists of picking up a row of warp threads, over and under, according to the pattern, with the weft shuttle. Then this row is followed by a row of the plain weave. Then another picked up row and so on.

A Variety of Designs for Brocading Technique.

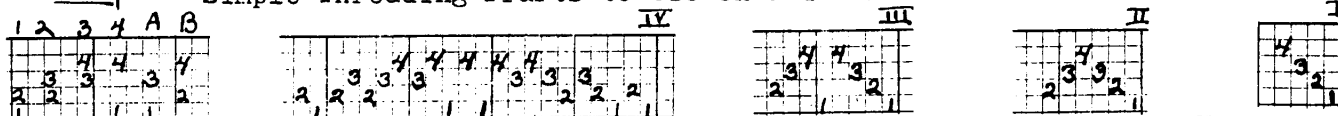


To Weave separate figures as for instance a yellow bird and a green tree, carry the yellow pattern weft color only as far as it is needed, then push it below the warp threads. Leave it and continue at the point where the green is needed. Carry this as far as it goes, push it below the warp threads and so on across the width of the pattern to be picked up. Then put in a row of plain weave all width of the loom. Now bring up the colors from below the warp threads at the point where the next part of that color begins again. There will be some weft skips on the back, but that cannot be helped. The weft pattern thread should always be heavier than that used for the plain weave shots.

To break up a long weft pattern skip. Often in some of the figures, there are very long weft skips, too long to be practical. When these occur, they can be broken up by going under one warp thread every once in awhile at regular intervals. Sometimes this would only need to be in the center of the skip, at others it might be necessary to break it twice or even three times. This is described in detail in *Handweaving News* for January 1941.

For those who have a loom which weaves finer than the heddle, it is possible to weave finer materials set at 30 or 24 threads to the inch. For this sort of weaving, one may use all cotton for warp and weft, all wool if you can get it, or wool only for the brocading using a warp of cotton. When using all cotton for this, the strand cottons are nice to use for the brocading pattern weft.

Tie-up Simple Threading Drafts to Use on a 4 harness loom.



The threading drafts above are variations of twill; No. I is twill; No. II Herring-bone; Rosepath; and the simple diamond which is the same as No. III except that the blocks are larger skips. The tie-up is the regular four harness tie-up. These threadings can be used for simple borders, and can be woven in any combination of bright colors that may be desired. Between these borders, small figures can be picked up in the brocaded technique, following the cross section paper patterns as given on Page 2. I hope this material will prove of interest and help.

A few Announcements which may be of interest.

Two small books which weavers may like to own, -

"Vegetable Dyes, Make Your Own, from Barks, Weeds, Berries, Fruit" by Douglas Leechman. published by Oxford University Press, Toronto, Canada. Cost 35¢.

This book contains a number of simple recipes for vegetable dyeing. Its purpose is to give the beginner who wishes to dye wools with vegetable dyes, some simple methods of doing it. One basic recipe is given, alum is used as a mordant, and only the common easily obtainable plants are used.

"Home-craft Course in Pennsylvania Dutch Home Weaving Patterns" by Mrs. Marguerite P. Davison. Volume IV. can be purchased from Mrs. C. Naaman Keyser, Plymouth Meeting, Pa. Price \$1.00

This little book contains a number of the ancient drafts from some of the books on weaving contained in the Pennsylvania Museum. Those who enjoy using small over-shot patterns will find these of interest.

Many of you have probably noticed that for several months I have been sending out two months of *Handweaving News* at once. This is to save paper as well as time, since help has also been hard to find in this war production center. I want to take this opportunity to again thank all those of you who have been sending in new subscriptions thus helping me to increase the usefulness of this instruction leaflet. Write me when you have news of interest, and for information you would like to have in the *News* too.

Nellie Sargent Johnson