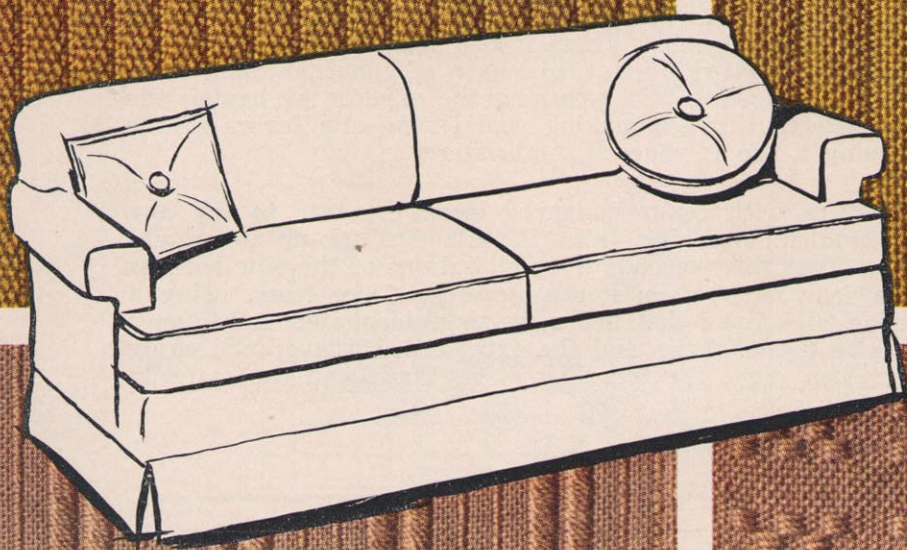


**PRACTICAL WEAVING SUGGESTIONS**

**VOL 2-58**

**ONE COLOR  
UPHOLSTERY  
FABRICS**  
by Edna Olsen Healey



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## ONE COLOR UPHOLSTERY FABRICS

by  
Edna Olsen Healey

Fashions in furniture fabrics change as they do in wearing apparel. Leaf through the pages of a magazine and you will find that quite a change has taken place during the past year. More plain one color fabrics are being shown, and there is a definite trend toward smoother fabrics. These one color fabrics are used in many ways: sometimes for the large sofa; often for one or two chairs; echoed in the sofa pillows and footstools, or in the dining-room chair seats.

You will note that these plain one color fabrics have a rich glowing quality about them. This effect is achieved by the quality of the yarn and the technique or pattern weave which is used to give texture and depth to the fabric. Contemporary interiors have an uncluttered appearance and plain fabrics aid in achieving this restful look. They also present fewer problems to the weaver as there is no worry about blending colored threads and wondering if the fabric will suit the furniture after it is completed. This should be an attractive thought to the inexperienced weaver and to those who are hesitant about working with color combinations. The color problem is easily solved. Choose the color that either blends with other fabrics in the room or one that sparks up the whole color scheme. Lily's Three Strand Soft Twist Yarn (Art. 714) has a good range of colors for this purpose.

Regarding the wearing qualities of this Soft Twist Yarn (Art. 714) you need have no doubt. The yarn was especially spun for upholstery fabrics, and although it is called a soft twist yarn it really produces a strong smooth, quality fabric which wears well.

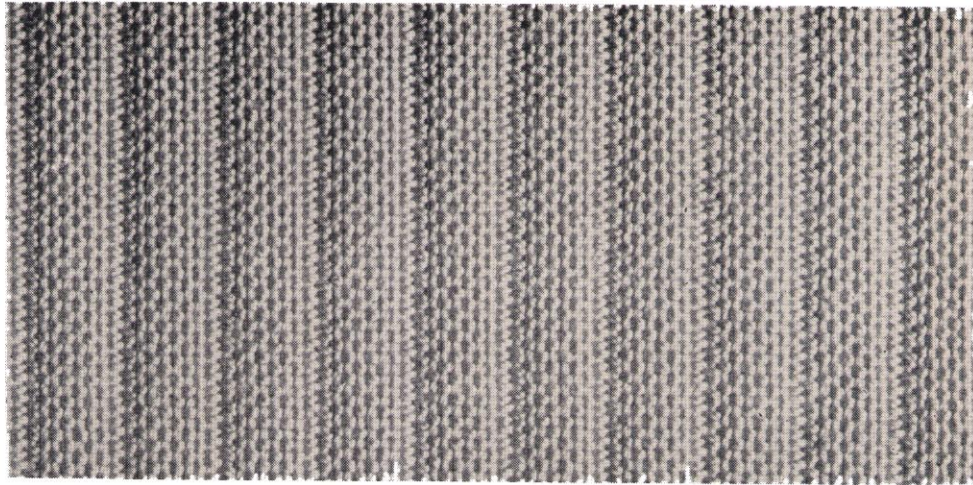
Weaving upholstery is a very satisfying project because the finished fabric, when in place on the furniture, is always a conversation piece and adds distinction to one's home. There is also a feeling of real achievement when one has created a beautiful length of upholstery and often one can add to this feeling by by-passing the expense of having the furniture upholstered through making well fitting slip covers of the material or being a "do it yourself" upholsterer.

Many weavers with counterbalanced looms hesitate to try any draft which requires changing from the standard tie-up to an unbalanced tie-up. For this reason, I wove all but one of the four harness samples on a four harness counterbalanced Le Clerc loom, using a Swedish shuttle, and found the shed more than adequate. A beginner can easily weave these fabrics and the experienced weaver will enjoy weaving them also, since the treading is rhythmic and the material weaves up rapidly.

### NOTE:

The fabric photographs on the following pages are slightly enlarged so that the pattern weave can easily be seen. The color photographs on the front cover are actual size.

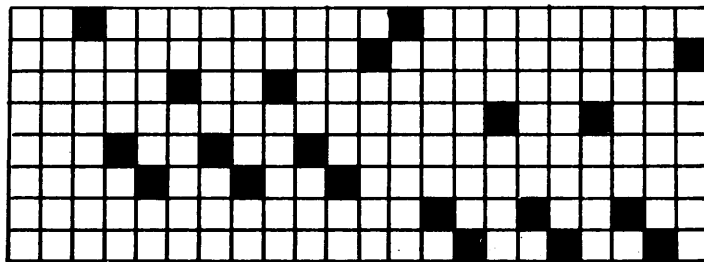
## SAMPLE A-1



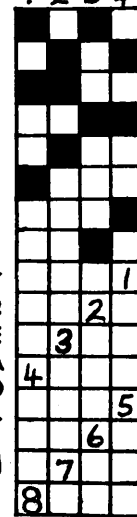
This sample is for an eight harness weave. A Bedford Cord threading was chosen to give relief stripes. These stripes are padded in the weaving so they will stand out well. The weaving is done with only one shuttle using the same thread for the weft as for the warp and with only four treadles. The wefts which lie in loose floats on the reverse side draw up the fabric into raised stripes and for this reason we must plan to set the warp wide enough to take care of the weft shrinkage.

The sample was set  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " in the reed and the finished piece measures  $6\frac{1}{4}$ ". So for a finished fabric of 36" width it would be wise to set the warp about 42" in the reed. A thing to remember in weaving upholstery is that several inches of additional width is needed for handling and adequate turn in. Be sure to plan for extra length as the upholsterers are not economical in the use of material. Any left over material will make interesting bags or pillows.

### THREADING



1 2 3 4



TIE-UP

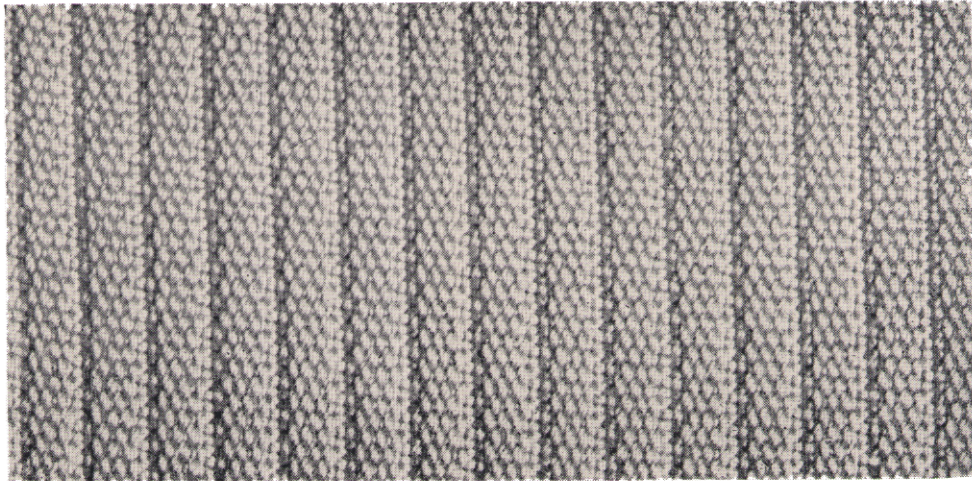
TREADLING

**WARP** Art. 714 Ming Gold K-17

**SETT** 24 threads to the inch  
two in a dent in a 12 dent reed.

**WEFT** Art. 714 Ming Gold K-17

## SAMPLE B-1

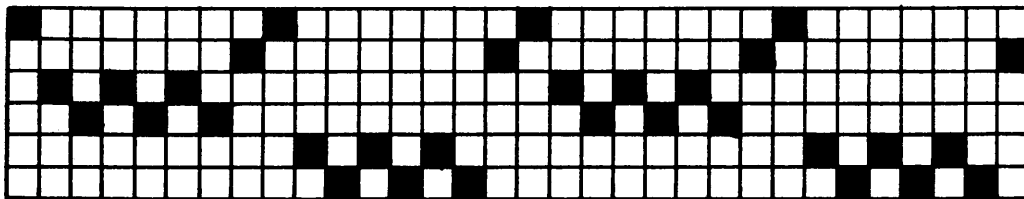


This sample is also done on a Bedford Cord threading, but this time a six harness draft was used and the warp set at 30 threads per inch. The weaving is done with one shuttle and with only four treadles used in straight succession. The stripes in this fabric are somewhat narrower than in the eight harness piece but stand out very well. The fabric is firm yet pliable.

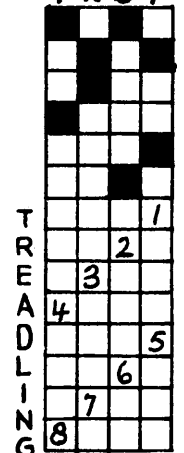
If the weft is used double on the shuttle the stripes will have more texture.

Sample size 6" in the reed, finished 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ ".

### THREADING



### TIE-UP



**WARP** Art. 714 Ming Gold K-17.

**SETT** 30 threads per inch  
2 in a dent in a 15 dent reed.

**WEFT** Art. 714 Ming Gold K-17

**NOTE:** For sampe B-2 on next page use same diagram as sample B-1 above



## SAMPLE B-2



This sample was made on the same threading, using the same warp, weft and treadling. The only difference is that this warp was set at 24 threads to the inch. It was set  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " in the reed and finished at  $6\frac{3}{4}$ ".

The three Bedford Cord threadings can also be used for two color fabrics if desired.

Use a one color warp.

Treadle 4, 3, with a weft of the same color as the warp.

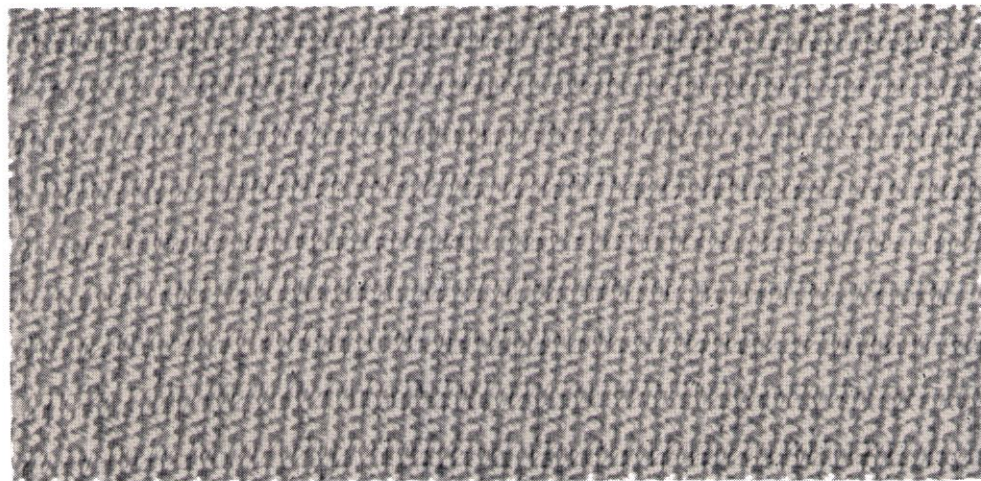
Treadle 2, 1, with weft of another color.

This treadling sequence will give a two color striped fabric, alternate stripes of each color.

If you desire to alternate the colors further to give a block like pattern, simply treadle an extra two shots of warp color every time you desire to change the pattern stripe, you thus switch colors in the stripe.



## SAMPLE C-1



For a four harness ribbed fabric the twill threading was used, weaving weftwise stripes that form raised ribs. The fabric can be turned if lengthwise stripes are desired, but for many Contemporary pieces of furniture weftwise stripes are desirable.

The treadling for this fabric is a little more difficult than for the other three samples but is easily mastered. The treadling draft gives directions for the first four stripes. Shots on treadles 1 and 2 divide the stripes, treadles three and four form one stripe, treadles 5 and 6 form the next stripe.

There is little weft shrinkage on this warp but do allow plenty of extra warp length for the take up.

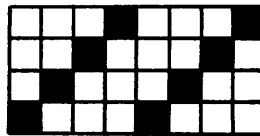
**WARP** Art. 714 Ming Gold K-17

**SETT** 24 threads per inch  
2 in a dent in a 12 dent reed.

**WEFT** Art. 714 Ming Gold K-17

For an interesting all over satin textured effect (not shown), treadle 3, 5, 6, 4, with either single or double thread.

### THREADING



### TIE-UP

1 2 3 4 5 6

1					
	2				
		3			
		4			
			5		
6					
7					
			8		
				9	
				10	
					11
	12				
13					
		14			
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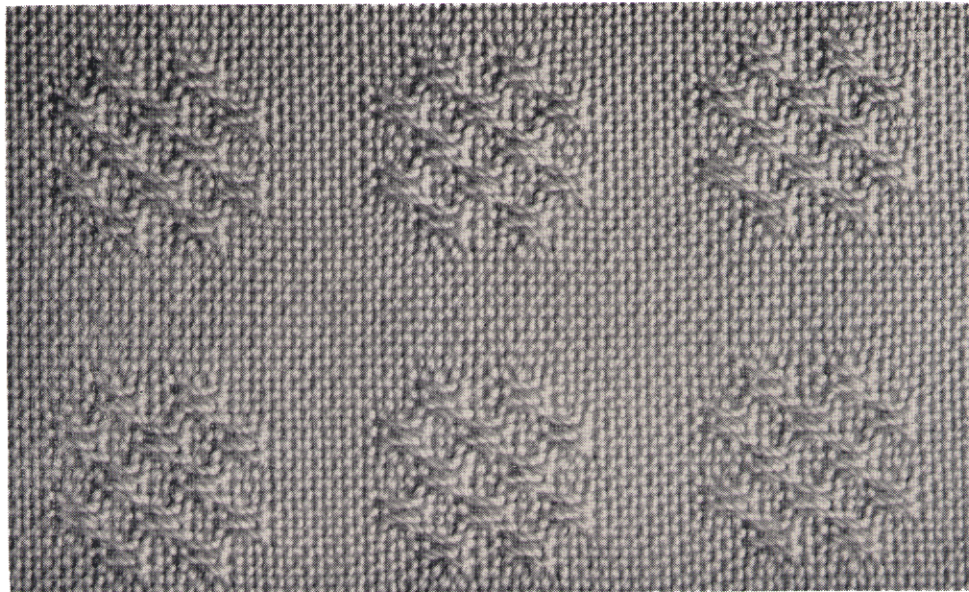
TREADLING







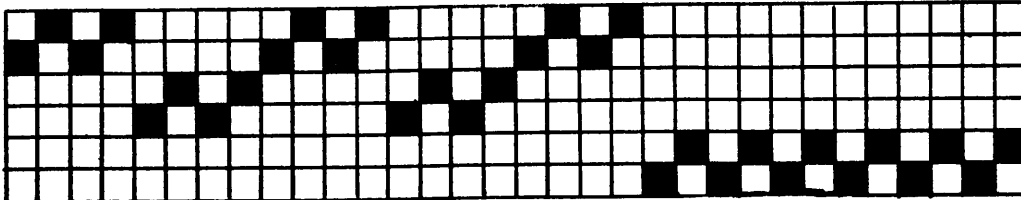
## SAMPLE E-1



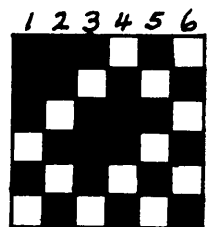
For this sample a little known Swedish technique was used. It is a 6 harness weave called Droppdrall and is usually woven as a lace weave, but set closer in the reed it makes interesting upholstery. The fabric is reversible, the pattern being formed by weft skips on one side, and by warp skips on the other.

The tie-up is given for a sinking shed. For a Jack loom the spaces can be tied, but this is not necessary as the pattern is equally attractive on both sides.

### THREADING



### TIE-UP



**WARP** Art. 714 Ming Gold K-17

**SETT** 24 threads to the inch  
2 threads in a dent in a 12 dent reed.

**WEFT** Art. 714 Ming Gold K-17

For plain area alternate treadles 6 and 5 — six times.

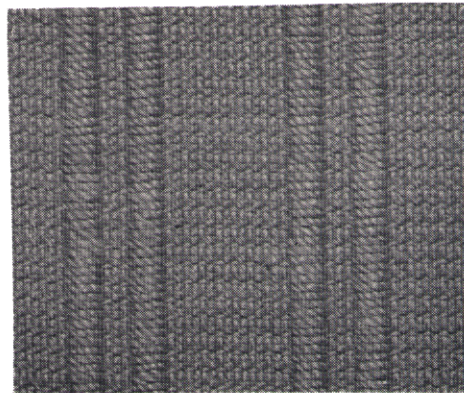
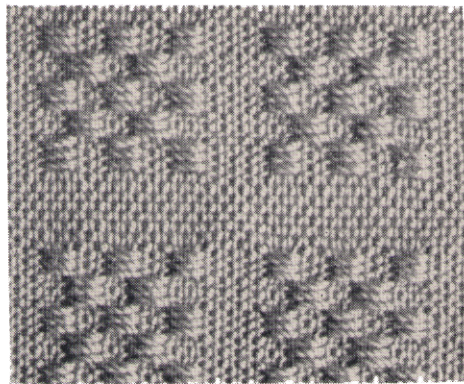
**TREADLE** 4, 3, 4, 3,  
2, 1, 2, 1,  
4, 3, 4, 3,  
2, 1, 2, 1,  
4, 3, 4, 3,

Alternate treadling for a square pattern block.

**TREADLE** 2, 1, 2, 1,  
4, 3, 4, 3,  
2, 1, 2, 1,  
4, 3, 4, 3,  
2, 1, 2, 1,

Set at 20 threads per inch this makes interesting drapery fabric.

## SAMPLE F-1 and F-2

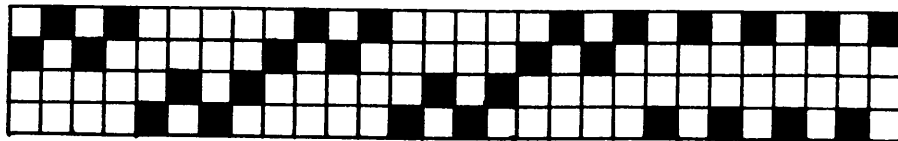


The six harness Droppdrall threading has always been a favorite of mine and I have used it in many ways. But since I have never been able to find a four harness version of this Droppdrall threading I set out to devise one and the next sample is on this threading.

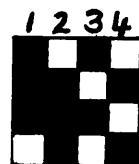
Art. 714 set at 24 threads per inch on this threading produces a somewhat open fabric with a fairly long skip on the back, so it is more suitable for runners or mats.

For a serviceable upholstery fabric on this threading a warp of finer thread was used with the heavier thread for weft. Warp skips on the reverse side of upholstery fabrics are not objectionable, especially when the thread is fine. A fine tabby thread was used to bind the pattern area.

### THREADING



### TIE-UP



**WARP** Art. 314 Unmercerized 20/2 ply #1432 Buff

**SETT** 30 threads per inch  
2 in a dent in a 15 dent reed.

**WEFT** Art. 714 Leaf Beige #91.      **TABBY** Same as warp.

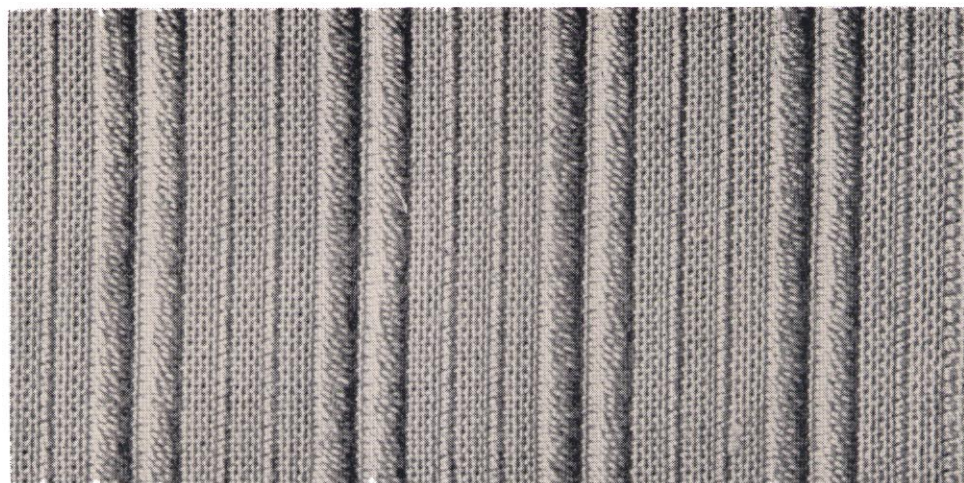
**TREADLE** 4, 3, 4, 3, as desired ending on treadle 4, for plain area.

<b>TREADLE</b>	1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 1, 4, 1, 4, 1,	Treadles 1, 2, with pattern thread Treadles 3, 4, with tabby thread For plain area use pattern thread on treadles 3, 4.
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For an interesting striped pattern (F-2 shown above) on this threading. Use Art. 714 for the pattern shuttle and Art.314 for the tabby shuttle. Treadle 2, 4, 2, 3 and repeat. One tabby shot will lie in the same shed with the pattern thread and the alternate tabby shot will lock the threads, producing a textured effect between the stripes.



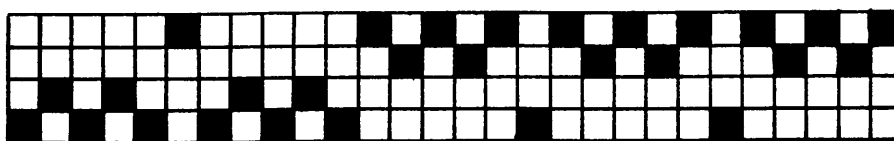
## SAMPLE G-1



For this warp stripe fabric I chose a Swedish threading called Bunden-drall, which simply means a bound weave. The fabric is reversible, having a double stripe on one side and a triple stripe on the other.

This is a two shuttle weave, pattern and tabby and is the only sample in the group that is woven on a balanced tie up, but using only three treadles.

### THREADING



### TIE-UP

	1	2	3	4
1				
	2			
3				
				4

**WARP** Art. 314 Unmercerized 20/2 ply #1432 Buff

**SETT** 30 threads per inch  
2 in a dent in a 15 dent reed.

**PATTERN** Art. 714 Leaf Beige #91

**TABBY** Same as warp.

For the double striped fabric treadle #1 is used with treadles #3 and #4 alternated after each pattern shot, using the 20/2 weft.



## ART. 714

**Lily Three Strand** — A mercerized Soft Twist Cotton, size 10/3, especially suitable for upholstery and draperies. In 2 oz. tubes and 1 lb. cones.



### AVAILABLE IN FOLLOWING COLORS:

1 White	28 Navy Blue	60 Lily Green
2 Black	29 Delft Blue	61 Med. Green
4 Nat. Ecreu	36 Turquoise	62 Talisman
7 Cream	41 Salmon Rose	70 Lavender
8 Dk. Ecreu	43 Rose	87 Gray
10 Yellow	44 Rose Fraise	91 Leaf Beige
11 Lemon Tint	45 Pink	95 Red
17 Ming Gold	48 Ciel Pink	108 T'o'n Wine
21 Burnt Orange	49 Coral Pink	120 Brown
26 Lt. Blue	59 Dk. Green	124 Dk. Brown
27 Skipper Blue		

Color Card and Price List on Request



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