

Simple "Laid-In" Weaving.

One of the simplest of the free weaving techniques is the simple "laid-in" method of decorating a fabric while it is on the loom. It allows for much freedom of design, and is not nearly as slow as some of the other methods. It can be woven on any loom, even on a cardboard one, which gives the plain weave, and with any type of yarn or thread desired. The only thing to remember is that the effect is better when the colored pattern thread of the design being "laid-in" is heavier than the plain weave or "ground" of the fabric. Also the weaving should be more closely beaten with the batten in the parts where the design is being put in, if it is not an all-over pattern, because the coarser pattern thread will have a tendency to make a more open texture in the weaving where the pattern is, than in the plain weaving.

"Hit and Miss" Laid-In.

This method is an interesting way to use up all kinds of odd threads and colors in a fabric, and is worked without any definite design previously drawn out. You weave in your colors just as you feel like putting them in, keeping in mind of course some idea of balance. At (A) in Figure No. 1 on Page 2, is a graphic description of this simple technique. Weave a heading of plain weave for the number of inches desired, then start your colored threads as at 1 and 2 of Figure No. 1. One important point to remember, especially if you are using several colors, is to be sure and keep all of your colored threads going in the same direction as your thread of the plain weave. Throw a shot of plain weave tabby from left to right, then in the same shed, lay in, say a rose color at 1 from left to right, leave a space of the warp, and lay in a green thread at 2, also from left to right. These two threads can be left on top of the weaving, or put below the warp threads if desired. Then throw a shot of the fine plain weave tabby from the right side of the warp all across the width to the left. In this same shed, lock the rose thread around a warp thread, and carry it also from right to left for any distance desired. Then lock the green thread around a warp thread and carry it from right to left for any distance you wish, or to within a few threads of the rose color. The ends of the colors with which you began, may be cut off after the weaving has progressed a short distance, and they are well beaten into the fabric. To finish a color, lock the thread around a warp thread and carry it back in the same shed, beat up well, and cut off after the plain weave tabby is well beaten up.

Rugs in heavy materials, luncheon sets of linen, towels, and curtains can all be easily and quickly woven after this method. For a towel, set 40/2 linen warp at either 24 or 30 threads to the inch, and lay in with six strand D.M.C. cotton or better still with heavy linen floss, using plain weave tabby like the warp. A colored hem with a narrow laid-in border is effective. An unusual table runner, can be made with gold silk warp set 24 threads to the inch, with tan fabri wool for the plain weave tabby, and heavy Germantown or tapestry wools for the pattern in blues, greens, blue-greens, and a touch of orange. Try this weave and see how effective it is.

"LAID-IN TECHNIQUE.

Figure No.1

- (C) Weaving diagonals on open warp. A plain weave tabby thread can be added if desired. The diagonals may drop one, two, three or more threads as desired.
- (B) Weaving on an open warp, with no plain tabby weave between the pattern colors.
- (A) Weaving "Hit and Miss" method or designing the pattern on the loom as the fabric is woven. The fine line indicates the plain tabby weave. The threads of the color may be carried back and forth as desired.

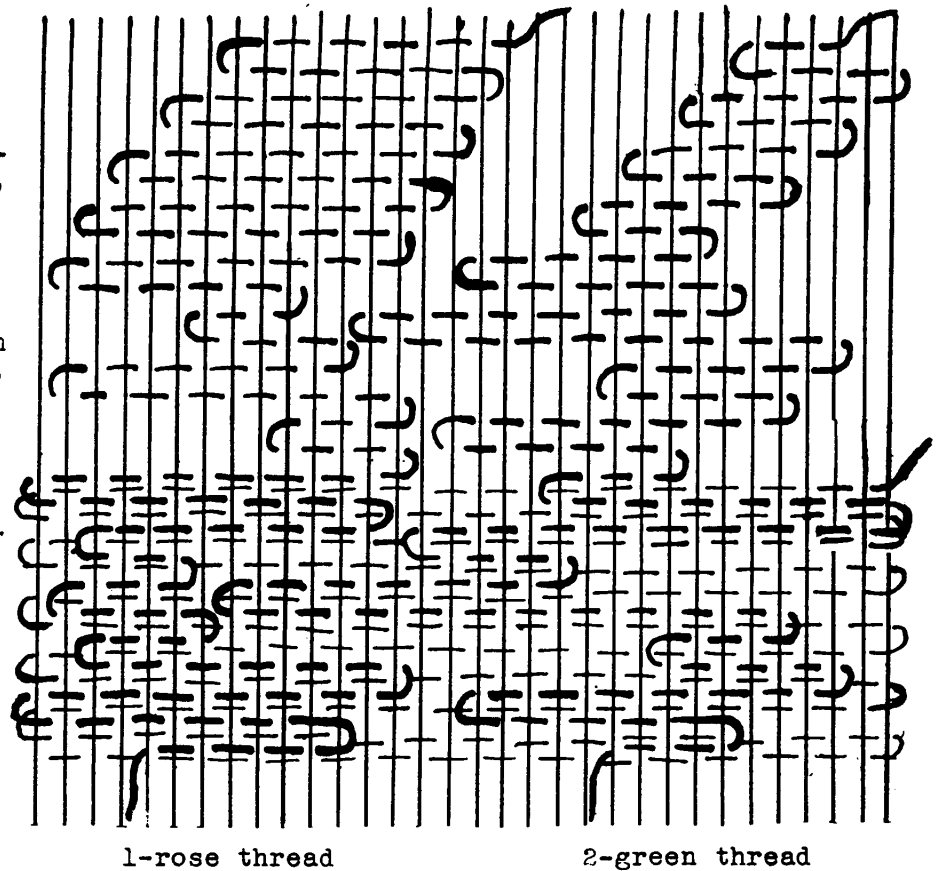
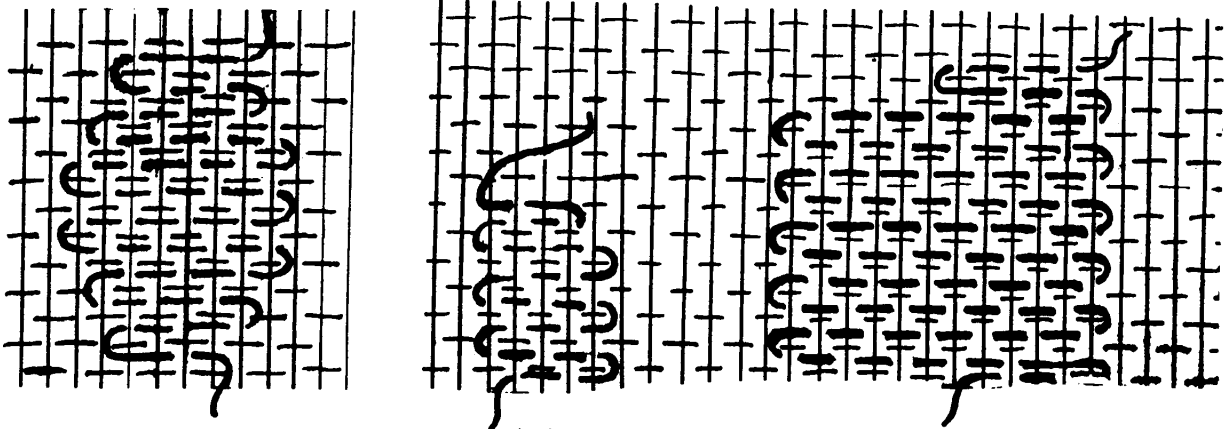


Figure No.2.

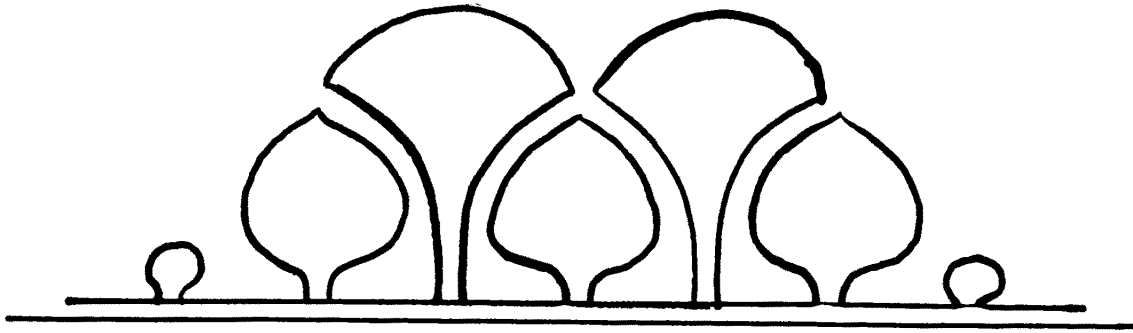


- (D) Weaving a circle. Circles are rather difficult, but are possible. The finer the fabric is set in the reed the better the appearance of the circle.
- (E) Weaving squares. Simple geometric forms of squares and lines are very easy to weave in this technique. Designs made after the January 1936 News will be found effective. The border at the bottom of Page 3 can be used for a towel. Weave a colored hem of plain tabby weave in green linen, several rows of white tabby, then green tabby for border, with squares in shades of yellow.

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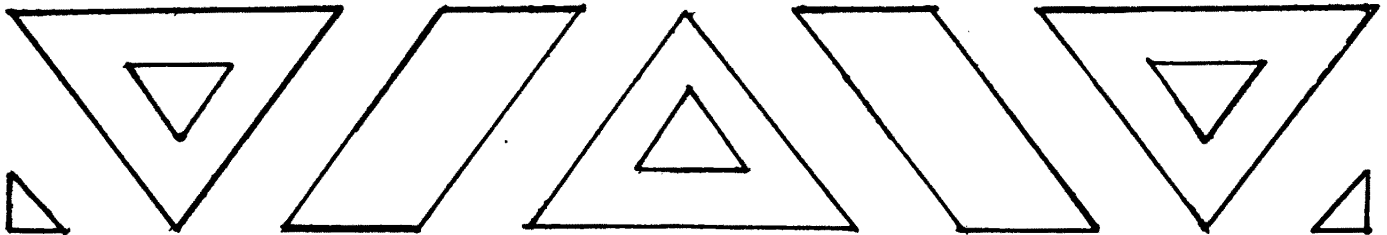
Simple Designs for "Laid-in" Technique.

Figure No.3



This little design of trees could be used for a border for a towel. It is slightly smaller on this sheet than the original, and may be enlarged or traced from this if desired. It should be woven of fine material, linen or cotton, set at 30 threads to the inch. It will give good practise in weaving an approach to the circle and more realistic designs. The method of weaving is the same except that it is better to have the right side of the weaving on top, so bring your pattern threads down beneath the warp each time, so that they can be easily brought up between the warp threads when you increase or decrease the design. Pin the paper pattern under your warp threads, and be sure you have enough width of paper on your sheet so you can pin it easily to the tabby weave heading. Weave the lines with a single laid-in color, then start seven different threads of color for the bottom of the trees. Increase and decrease according to the pattern. Let the top of the paper pattern hang down, and do not have it too stiff so it will interfere with your beating. Bring it up underneath your weaving with your fingers after each shot of the plain tabby weave.

Figure No.4



This simple design of diagonals will give practise in weaving diagonals, and is just a suggestion. There are many very simple but effective designs which can be woven in this way.

Figure No.5.

