



Practical

WEAVING

Suggestions

for the

Handweaver

Vol. XVII

COLORFUL, *Soft and Absorbent Towels*

By Heather Thorpe

We have something here that many weavers have been looking for. The towels we describe here can be woven up very rapidly, the materials used are reasonable in price, and they will give a bright and cheerful color note on that towel rack of yours. Heather Thorpe, Instructor in Hand Weaving at the Buffalo Museum of Science in Buffalo, New York has worked out a towel that fits the specifications that have been quite frequently expressed by our correspondents. They will stand repeated washing and last right on. If the colors used in our samples are a bit too strong for your taste, you can follow the same weaving plan with more subdued colorings. If they appear a little heavy in weight you can make similar towels using 20/2 cotton as warp and the smaller size, No. 2, novelty cotton as weft. For real absorbancy, for soft texture and body, for real wearing qualities you can hardly do better than to follow the directions and use the materials just as described for us by Miss Thorpe. Here it is in her own words.

Published By Lily Mills Company Shelby, N. C., Mfgs. of Hand Weaving Yarns



A—RO
 B—RO
 C—RO
 D—AM
 BE

WARP: A four yard warp will weave the 4 towels, requiring two 2-ounce tubes of Lily's Art. 714, soft twist 10/3, for each of five different color stripes. Make each stripe 1" wide (24 warps). Repeat the color scheme three times for a 15" wide warp (360 warps). Use colors K59, Dark Green; K62, Talisman Green; K17, Ming Gold; K27 Skipper Blue and K44, Rose Fraise.

WEFT: 1 tube (2 oz.) of color 406 Yellow, 862 Natural, 908 Salmon Rose, 920 Skipper Blue, 952 Light Blue. Lily Art. 105 Novelty yarn (size 1 a cotton boucle).

REED: 12 dent sleyed 2 to a dent.

PATTERN: Rose path threaded:



ART. 714
 LILY SOFT TWIST

TIE UP

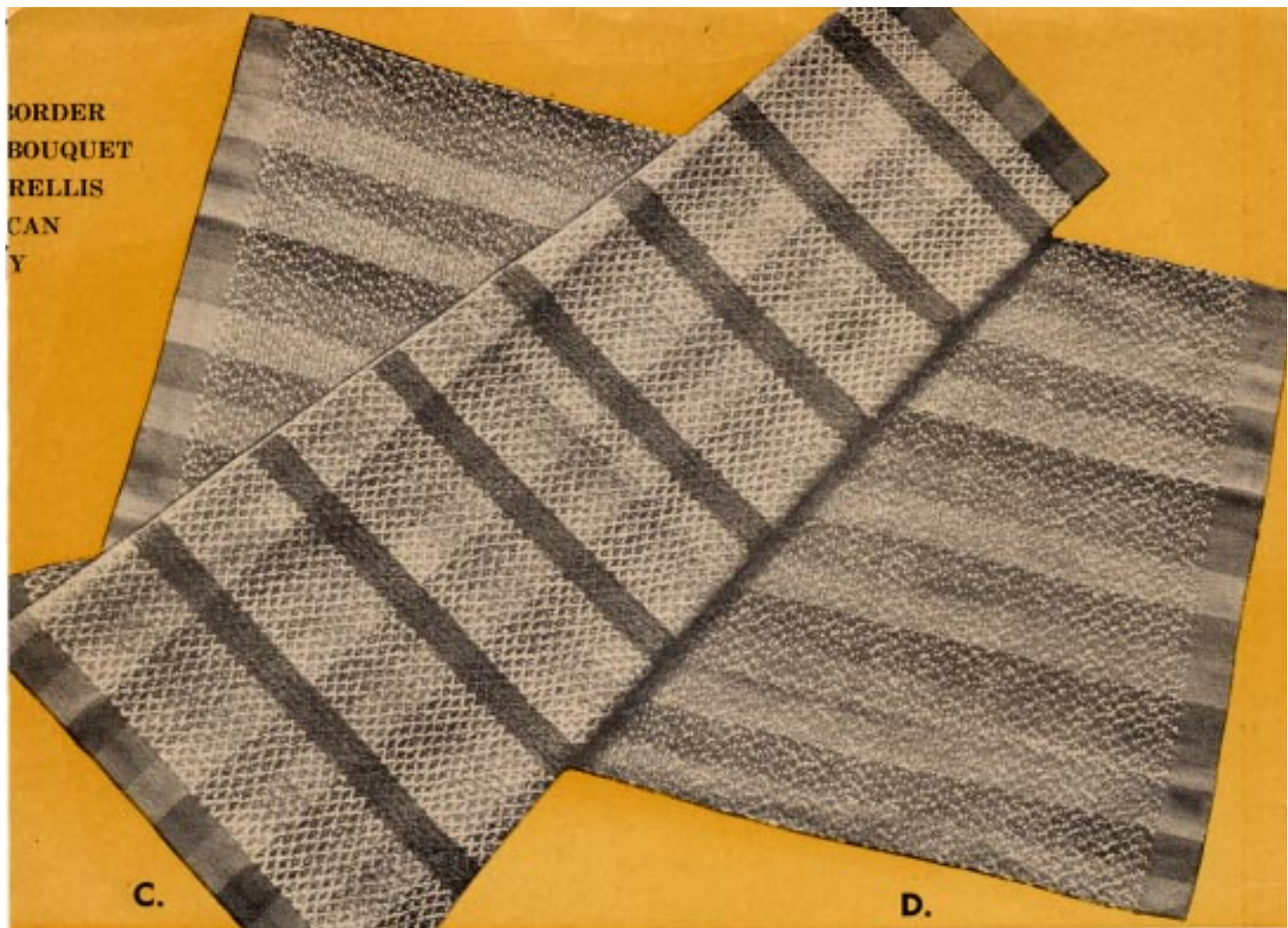
X	X	X	O	O	O
O	X	O	X	X	O
O	O	X	O	X	X
X	O	O	X	O	X
6	5	4	3	2	1

X FALLING SHED
 O RISING SHED

DRAFT

4	4
3	3
2	2
1	1

BORDER
BOUQUET
RELLIS
CAN
Y



TREADLING DIRECTIONS:

Towel A. "Rose Border":

Weave plain hem for 2 1/2" using 10/2 natural for weft. (all measurements are made with slackened warp) Treadles 3 and 4.
Weave plain for 16 rows using Art. 105 natural. Do not use a heavy beat as this material packs down.

- Border: 1. Tr. 1.2.5.6 with rose Art. 714. No tabby. Repeat
2. Tabby with Natural Art. 105 2 rows
3. Tr. 1.2.5.6 with Rose Art. 714
4. Tr. 1.2.5.6.5.2.1 with Natural Art. 105
5. Tr. 6.5.2.1 with Rose Art. 714
6. Repeat step 2
7. Tr. 1.2.5.6. 1.2.5.6.5.2.1.6.5.2.1 with Rose Art. 714
8. Reverse beginning with step 6

Weave remainder of the towel in plain weave using a very light beat.

The same border may be repeated at the other end if desired.

All towels were woven 28" long including hems.



ART. 105
LILY NOVELTY YARN

Towel B. "Rose Bouquet"

Plain weave 2 1/2" for hem using Art. 714 in Skipper Blue.
Main part of the towel woven with four colors of Art. 105 as follows:
Skipper Blue, Salmon Pink, Natural and Yellow using the following
treadles:

Treadle 1 — Skipper Blue)	
2 — Salmon Pink)	
5 — Natural)	over and over. No tabby
6 — Yellow)	

Weaving with four shuttles is made easier if they are laid down as used one above the other, so that the one nearest the weaver is the next one in order to be used. A small lap board helps.

Towel C. "Rose Trellis"

Hems 2 1/2" with Talisman Green Art. 714

The main part of this towel is woven in horizontal stripes. . . Yellow, Skipper Blue, Salmon Rose and Light Blue, using pattern treadles 1.2.5.6.5.2. and repeat and no tabby. Where the color changes put in a duplicate shot on treadle 1 with the new color.

Towel D. "American Beauty"

Hems 2 1/2" using Natural 10/2 as weft

Body of the towel is woven in pattern treadles 1.2.5.6.5.2 over and over using 10/2 Natural Lily's mercerized warp as tabby and Art. 105 Salmon Rose wound with Silver 1/64 metallic for the pattern. This pattern with its silvery glitter is especially pretty under artificial light.

When the four towels are woven and cut off the loom, run machine stitching at the beginning and end of the woven piece. Before cutting the towels apart, launder the piece. There will be considerable shrinkage. Laundered and hemmed with 1" hems, these towels measured 13" x 26" . . . medium-sized towels.

These soft, absorbent towels have another interesting feature . . . they are reversible and just as pretty on one side as the other.

It is quite possible that the particular colors used in our sample would not be suitable for use with your own color scheme or as we have said, may be too "strong" to suit your taste. Lighter shades of Green, Blue and Rose can be substituted for the warp colors that have been listed and lighter shades of the novelty cotton be substituted for weft. Whatever colors you may plan you will find the texture and feel of this towel material particularly pleasing and we doubt if you stop with one warp of them. Try some anyway.