

WEFT

For each sample there is a column labelled "WEFT". This indicates which of three possible wefts are thrown for that shot.

t is tabby, which in the woven samples shown here is the same yarn as was used for the warp. Tabby wefts are only used on treadles "a" and "b", in keeping with commonly accepted notation.

b is binder, and in the samples shown, the weft used for binder is the same as the weft used for the warp. The binder, like the tabby, stabilizes the fabric by inserting opposite sheds (countersheds) as needed to prevent long floats. Where tabby shots are thrown on treadles "a" and "b", binder shots are thrown when treadles 1, 2, 3, or 4 are pressed.

Pattern wefts are denoted by P, P1, P2, P3, P4. Pattern wefts are typically thicker, more lofty, and of a colour that contrasts with the warp. When pattern wefts are in brackets within the treadling blocks, as in sample 26, then particular care must be given to ensure that the correct pattern weft is being used as each pick is woven.

TREADLING BLOCKS

Recall that the warp is threaded in four crackle blocks. Treadling for each sample is also given in four variations. These four treadling blocks interact with the threading blocks in different ways, producing a series of rectangles in the woven sample.

For each sample, treadling block A should be repeated a number of times, then B, C, and D. Each treadling block is a sequence of treadles (a,1,2,3,4,b), and if weaving on a loom without treadles the notation should be re-written as described previously.

There are samples that have only two treadling blocks, because it was apparent from the two that the remaining blocks would be little different.

WEFT INCIDENTALS

Weft incidentals are added to the last repeat of a sequence before starting to weave the next block. In these notes they are shown in brackets, (a),(1),(2),etc.

Occasionally when one treadling block follows another there is a treadle that is repeated (see sample #10). In such cases it is customary to insert an "incidental weft" to avoid this. Samples 10, 12 and 23 have such wefts.

There are also times when a treadling block has a symmetry that is enhanced by ending the block on a particular treadle. Samples 19 and 20 are of this type. Sample 8 inserts two wefts at the end of each block to emphasize the edge.