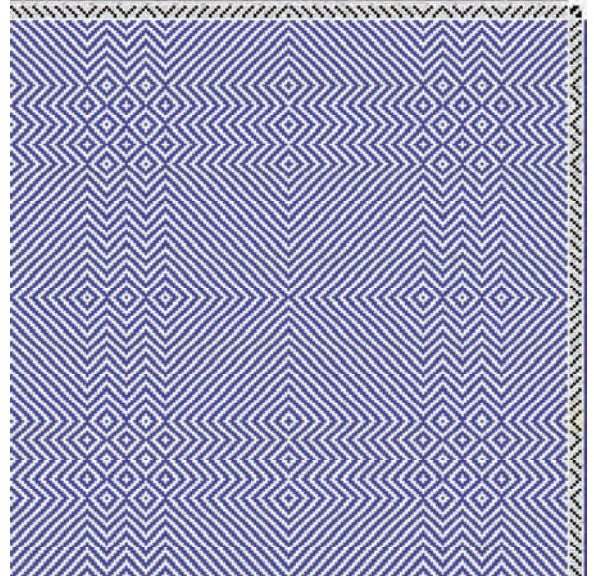


Bread Cloth Exchange for December – A Twill Weave Plan Part 2 By Heather Hubbard

Last month I left you with a partial weave plan adapted from Davison's A Handweaver's Pattern Book, page 36, Goose-Eye Blocks, shown at right.

You may have noticed this abbreviated weave plan is too small for our Bread Cloth Exchange. There are only 199 ends, which even at 24 epi would only be 8.29 inches wide. There will be no measurement police at the exchange, so don't worry about exact size, but our bread cloth should be about 20 inches square.

It is a great time to use a sample library, or weaving magazine recipes, when deciding on the warp yarn for a project. For this weave plan, I looked at twill weave samples or recipes done in the yarns I am considering and use that sett as a starting point. The added benefit of having samples is that I can feel the hand of the finished fabric.



Here are some yarns, setts and comments from samples from the Complex Weavers Early Weaving Books and Manuscripts study group – notice the mixing of yarn types:

8/2 unmercerized cotton, sett 24 epi, weft same; squares up.

10/2 cotton, sett 30 epi, weft 10/2 cotton; squares up.

10/2 unmercerized cotton, sett 27 epi, weft 10/2 mercerized cotton; squares up

10/2 cotton, sett 24 epi, weft 10/1 linen; squares up.

10/2 mercerized cotton, sett 30 epi, weft 8/2 unmercerized cotton; not quite square, wider sett or thinner weft needed.

22/2 cottolin, sett 24 epi, weft a linen single; nice and square.

40/2 linen, sett 36 epi, weft 20/1 linen; squares up – beautiful heirloom quality

16/2 cotton, sett 36 epi, weft same; squares up

Back to our weave plan. If we are using 8/2 cotton, sett at 24 epi. We need about 20 inches x 24 epi or 480 ends. But don't forget about draw-in (I use about 1 inch) and shrinkage (I would guess about 1 inch additional), so 22 inches x 24 epi = 528 ends.

What can we do to get the desired size cloth? First, look at the corner, goose eye block, motif. It's only 35 ends or only 1.46 inches wide. Adding more points to the warp so there are 5 eyes across the top (odd numbers usually look best) we can enlarge that block to 78 ends or 3.25 inches each.

Now look at the all over pattern at right.

There are many choices for how to add enough ends to reach near 528 ends. I chose to add more reversing twill blocks, making sure I had an odd number of blocks so the corner motifs would match.

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