

PPWG December 2008 Newsletter Sample

by Deborah Lane

Structure: Twill

Warp & Weft: Bamboo (Bambu 7 from Green Valley Weavers)

Sett: 17 ½ epi/ppi; 1-2-2-2 in a 10-dent reed

Width in Reed: 40"

Takeup: 5% or 2"

Shrinkage: 0%

Finishing: Since this was to be a baby blanket, I washed it in **hot** water with mild detergent; then dried it in the dryer. There was no shrinkage and almost no wrinkles! The baby blanket was then pressed and hemmed.

I call this my “Bamboo-boo” experience. I set up this project for a waffle weave baby blanket. Never having woven waffle weave before, I called friends and determined waffle weave has approximately 35-40 percent takeup/shrinkage. (I didn’t realize waffle weave also depends a lot on the fiber shrinking!) I wound enough warp on my loom for 2 baby blankets and samples; width in the reed 50” (hoping to end up with two 36” baby blankets). Fortunately, I sampled. My waffle did not waffle, so my width was 48”! I went to my software program to see if I could find an alternate pattern to weave without having to re-thread heddles. I tried a number of different tie-ups and treadlings until I found one that I liked. I then pulled off 4” of warp on each side of my loom (preserving the pulled off warp for future use); and resleyed my reed as my sett was now too open for my new weave pattern. I ended up having enough warp on my loom to weave 3 baby blankets (didn’t need that 35-40% takeup!) and still had enough for the guild newsletter sample! Bamboo makes a luxuriously soft, cuddly baby blanket.

I would definitely consider this a low maintenance baby blanket!

