

Bread Cloth Exchange for December – Searching the Library by Heather Hubbard

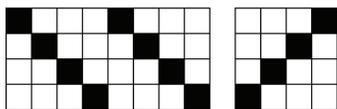
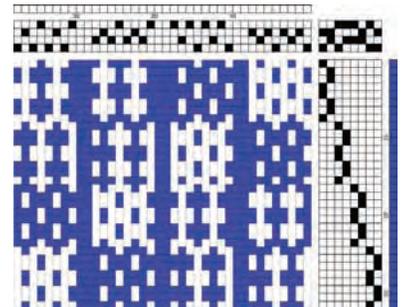
I love looking through our wonderful library. There is always something interesting to find.

In the *Handweaver & Craftsman*, Fall 1966, page 21, I found an interesting article: “Summer and Winter, Experiments With Four Blocks on Four Harnesses”, by Mae D. Aldrich. She in turn refers to a January, 1958, *Handweaver & Craftsman* article by Mrs. Atwater (Mary Atwater to us moderns, and we also have this issue).

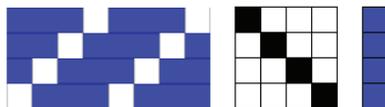
She takes the idea of the Summer and Winter threading on 4 shafts, which gives 2 blocks, and added 2 more design blocks by reversing the threading. Or you could say she looked at the standard 2 blocks upside down and named them as 2 additional blocks. This is very similar to what the Crackle Weave (Jamslandvav) does. Also, this is a technique used frequently by Bateman to achieve more blocks on fewer shafts. I don't know that today we would call Aldrich's threading Summer and Winter, but it is interesting to see what it does.

Here are the four blocks Aldrich uses:

The blocks, separated, read right to left as ABCD, shown without tabby. Notice that the B block ends on shaft 4 and the C block begins on shaft 4. Solution is either to add an incidental thread on shaft 1 or call block D, block C (swap the definitions of blocks C & D). I haven't done that here.

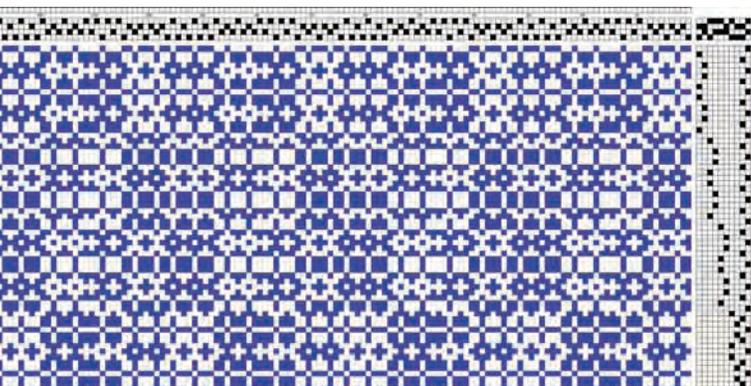
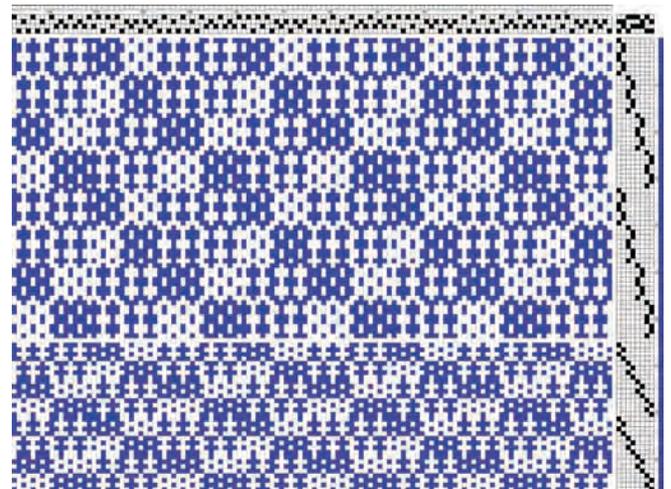


Here is the profile for the 4 Summer and Winter-like blocks.



Here, the blocks as shown above repeated twice (as in the profile) shown without tabby.

The blocks are first treadled in the Summer and Winter type fashion, then in a simple alternating fashion.



And finally, here are the blocks treadled in the Summer and Winter type fashion, with tabby, reversing the order of the tabby in the second section.

Be sure to wander through your weaving library. It is wonderful to learn from the weavers who have gone before.