

Triangle Weavers Beast in a Bag Challenge

May 2015, due May 2016

Jean Johnson with Yarn from Virginia Carson

150 yards of light green mohair bouclé

195 yards purple mill end novelty flake (49% rayon, 38% cotton, 13% linen), 1580 yds/#

small ball of dark green singles wool – superfine: used doubled!

plus curls of paper gift wrapping ribbon in yellow, blue, pink, lavender and gold

Decided to try to weave a scarf in plain weave using Leslie Voiers' draft of three weights of yarn and three colors in the warp and the weft, which creates an interesting color and weave pattern. The paper ribbon will be used for a woven paper greeting card.

Minimum warp length for a scarf = 2.66 yds

With 30 ends of each of the three yarns, this will require 80 yards for warp, leaving 70 yards for the weft (based on yardage available for the bouclé). Weft requirements should be just less than warp – weaving everything but the loom waste, which will be fringe, at about 12 ppi.

90 ends at 12 epi will be 7.5 inches in the reed.

Tried starting with six picks of dark green and hemstitching over three using the green. Too dark – changed to three picks hemstitching over three. Still not good – changed to hemstitching with purple over one pick of bouclé and one pick of purple.

Wove for 69 inches, carrying each color up along the sides and keeping the shuttles in the same ordered position throughout: bouclé, purple, singles on the left (left to right and closest to farthest from me) and bouclé, purple, singles on the right (left to right and closest to farthest from me). Always wove bouclé, purple, singles in that order. Used stick shuttles with entire weft wound on at the start so no joins had to be made.

Width on the loom = 7.5 inches. Almost no take-up with the open sett and with the weft ends carried up the side creating in effect extra warp ends. Eleven yards bouclé remaining when weaving was finished.

Off the loom: 8 x 67

Washed by hand, air-dried and pressed: 8 x 66

Tried twisted fringe on one end – looked terrible with bouclé loops sticking out. Went to just a soft combed fringe with all fibers showing. Not particularly sturdy, but lovely.

