

Weaver's Challenge 2016

Sue Ulrick

Doubleweave Runner

Table runner in four shaft, four-block doubleweave.

Color ; black & white using 8/2 cotton with ribbon added and twisted fringe. The ribbon was added to the fringe and twisted in it.

Draft came from Handwoven Summer 1985 (see next page)



RUNNER IN FOUR-SHAFT, FOUR-BLOCK DOUBLEWEAVE

JEAN SCORGIE WITH GLORIA MARTIN

PROJECT NOTES

Color-and-weave effects with doubleweave can work together for exciting, complicated-looking fabrics. With just four shafts, you can achieve designs that look like they'd require many more shafts. It's all in the way the colors alternate in the threading!

Here's how it works: It takes two shafts to weave plain weave, so you can weave two layers of plain weave, one above the other, on a 4-shaft loom. Any two shafts can be used to weave the upper layer, the other two the lower layer. If the upper layer is woven with shafts 1 and 2, the lower layer is woven with 3 and 4. But the upper layer can be woven with shafts 2 and 3, the lower layer 1 and 4, and so on. In all, there are six different possibilities for the upper layer: 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, 4-1, 1-3, and 2-4; the lower layer is the opposite pair.

The fun begins when dark and light yarns are placed on different pairs of shafts across a threading. Let's say, for example, light warp threads are on shafts 1 and 2, dark threads on shafts 3 and 4. If you weave with shafts 1 and 2 as the upper layer (and a light weft), the block will be solid light. If you weave with shafts 2 and 3 as the upper layer, there will be light and dark stripes (with slight differences depending on whether the weft is dark or light). Shafts 3 and 4 will produce a solid dark block with a dark weft, etc. Varying the shafts on which light and dark threads appear can create all of these effects across the cloth.

When two blocks of doubleweave are woven on eight shafts, the layers change faces independently in each of the two blocks; a weft may weave in the upper layer in one block but on the lower layer in the other. On four shafts, however, the same pair of shafts weaves on top all across the warp for any given pick of weft. Therefore the same weft color weaves all the way across the top, the same color all the way across the bottom (red weaves on top in the solid red areas in the runner, ecru on the bottom in those areas; compare the big photo and the inset on page 2).

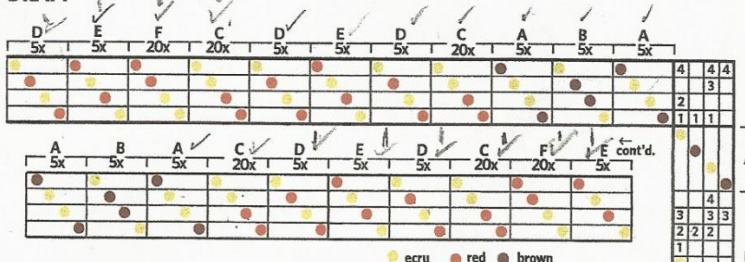
For the runner, the six possible combinations of color orders in the threading are treated as "blocks," and pairs of blocks alternate in symmetrical series—ABA, CDEDC, FEDEF, etc.—to create solid areas next to striped areas.

FABRIC DESCRIPTION

Doubleweave with color-and-weave effects.

FINISHED DIMENSIONS 18" by 32" plus 4" fringe.

DRAFT



WARP and WEFT

8/2 unmercerized cotton (3,360 yd/lb): 160 yd brown, 1,000 yd red, 1,150 yd ecru. (You could also use 10/2 pearl cotton.) Both yarns are available from most weaving retailers.

TOTAL WARP ENDS 780.

WARP LENGTH

2 yd (allows take-up, shrinkage, and 34" loom waste).

E.P.I. 36. **WIDTH IN REED** 19½". **P.P.I.** 36–38.

TAKE-UP and SHRINKAGE

About 8% in width and 10% in length.

WEAVING

With 1 strand each of brown and ecru, warp 30 pairs of warp threads (30 brown and 30 ecru). Then with 1 strand each of red and ecru, warp 330 pairs. End with 30 pairs brown and ecru. Sley 4/dent in a 10-dent reed and thread following the draft.

Allowing 6" for fringe at each end, follow the treadling order, repeating Blocks A–F the number of times indicated. The treadling shows changes to make in the tie-up for each block. You can use a direct tie-up throughout and step on more than one treadle to raise the shafts indicated. Cross the wefts at the selvages to stitch the layers together. When you change blocks, make sure that the beater hits both the top and bottom layers perpendicularly for clean lines at the intersections.

FINISHING

Twist the fringe with two groups of 10 ends each and secure with an overhand knot. Machine wash, gentle cycle, and air-dry. Iron while slightly damp.

TREADLING

ORDER

