

Swedish Embroidery Weave

BY MYRA L. DAVIS

THIS weave is made up of blocks of two, three or four warp threads with one thread between, and is woven wrong side up.

After weaving the desired amount of plain weaving, pick up the blocks all the way across the warp using a sail needle and a heavy, dark colored thread. Dividing the warp in this way simplifies the placing of the design. After the first row of blocks is woven, the thread is pulled out and the weft threads pushed together with the point of the sail needle if there should be a space left.

Cross stitch designs may be used, the colored squares representing the blocks, and the verticle lines the dropped thread between them.

To weave: Pick up the blocks as shown in the first row of squares in the design, using the sail needle and the design thread, and follow it with a binder. This row must be repeated times enough to make the blocks square. The ends of the design threads are fastened by weaving them back over and under the threads of the block.

If there are skips of more than two blocks from one part of the design to another, it is better to use separate threads for each part.

The materials used for the designs may be No. 3 perle cotton, linen floss, or wool or silk of about the same size. For the binder use No. 10 perle cotton, No. 14 linen or fabri.

If one wishes to weave the designs right side up, simply reverse the above directions.

If a large piece is to be woven in this way, it makes it much easier if the loom is threaded in a twill, 1-2-3-4, 1-2-3-4, etc., then the blocks may be raised by treadle 1 on a floor loom, or by levers 2-3-4 on a table loom.

On looms having heddles with long eyes (about one and one-half inches) the blocks may be raised by means of a flat stick two and one-half inches wide. With a lease-stick pick up the blocks in front of the beater, press the beater and the stick turned up on edge back against the harnesses. This will raise the picked up blocks sufficiently to put in the wide stick. When weaving the design, pull the stick forward against the harnesses and stand it on edge. This raises the blocks and the design thread may be woven in with the fingers. Then push the stick back and put in the binder as usual.

LUNCHEON SET

One runner and six doilies.

Warp: 1/2 lb. 40/2 white linen, 460 ends 6 yards long, set 24 ends to the inch.

Weft: 1/2 lb. white linen No. 14.

Design No. 6: Linen floss or perle cotton No. 3 in black, green and rose, 1 tube of each.

Weave 1 3/4 inches plain then pick up 2 threads and drop one as directed and place the design in each corner 10 blocks from each edge. After the designs are finished for the doilies, weave 7 inches plain and then the designs in the other corners.

The runner is woven in the same way with 34 inches between the designs. These measurements allow for shrinkage.

Finish the set with a 1/4-inch hem on each raw edge.

BUREAU SET

Warp: 1/2 lb. 20/2 cotton natural, 460 ends 3 yards long, set 24 ends to the inch.

Weft: Perle cotton No. 10, natural No. 1032, 3 tubes.

Design No. 3: Perle cotton No. 3, blues Nos. 1040 and 1041, 1 tube of each.

Weave 5 inches plain, then 3 repeats of the design spaced across the end, picking up 2 threads for the blocks. Weave the center plain, allowing 3 inches to the yard for shrinkage, then weave the second border and the 5 inches plain. Finish with a 2-inch hem.

Pincushion: weave 2 1/2 inches plain, then the design and 2 1/2 inches plain plus enough more to make the back of the cushion. Make a square cushion, and cover the seam with a cord made of the perle cotton No. 3.

