

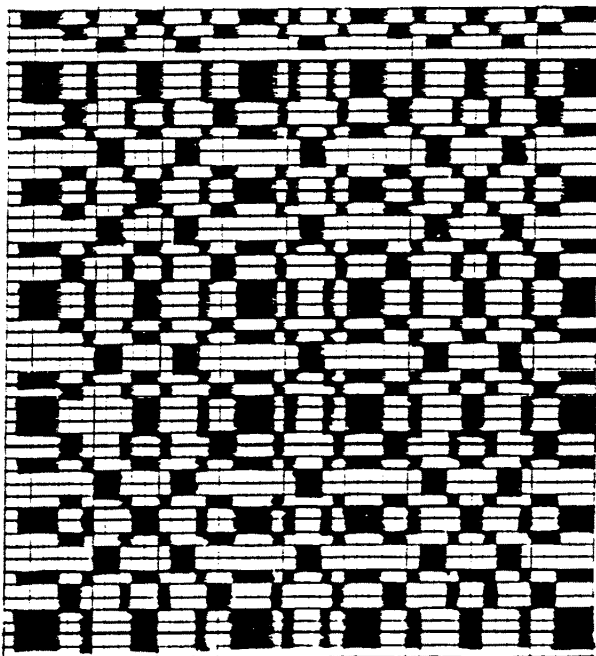


Designing Three Block Patterns.

Designing ones own patterns for the loom is always interesting. Many weavers seem to be afraid to even attempt to do it, but it is not difficult, if you will take the time to really study it seriously, and can spend the effort that it takes to do the drawing. The News for June 1936 contained a method for designing using the simple twill, herring-bone, and rose-path threadings as basic threading drafts, and showed how to build up a variety of pattern drafts with these. The June number for 1937 carried this same idea a little further. While the January 1937, and also the June 1937 gave Mrs. Bratten's method of planning out designs starting with an abstract number of blocks of any size you desire to make them, and then drawing down the blocks below to see what the pattern would be. Those of you who are new subscribers for the News may obtain these back numbers if you wish to have them.

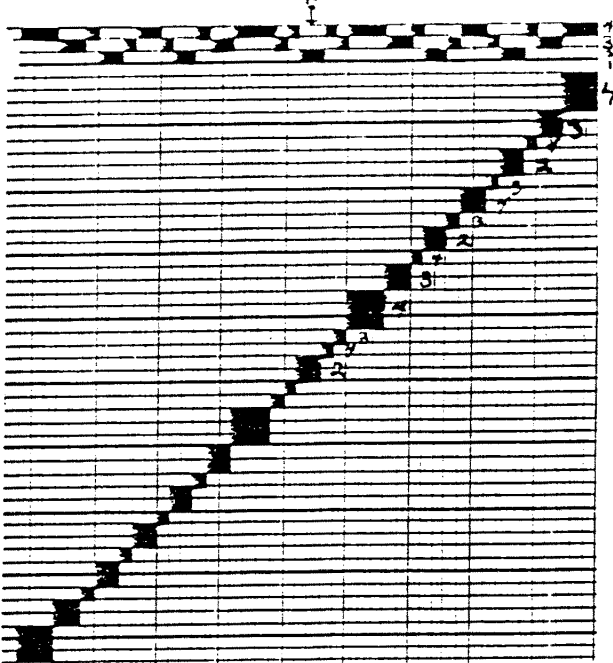
Draft No.1 drawn out below is an original one of Mrs. Florence Bratten's. Using this as an illustration, I will attempt to explain to you how very easy it is to plan and draw out your own patterns and drafts for anything you may wish to weave. Equip yourself with a good drawing board, and for the first work a good pencil. Later if you

Draft No.1



wish you can use a lettering pen, but it is much easier to erase mistakes in the drawing if it is worked out first with a pencil. A pad of cross section paper can be purchased at most of the ten cent stores for 5¢ for 24 sheets. First we will plan the drawing, later we will plan our threading draft from this. Note carefully the draft at the top of the drawing. On your cross section paper, mark off three squares for the size of your first pattern block. Each block of cross section paper represents one unit of your pattern, this is not your threading draft. The next block on the line below contains two units, the next one on the same line as the first, is only one unit. The 4th block is also a two unit block, but on the line two spaces below the one just drawn. As this is to be a three block pattern only three lines across the top of the paper are to be used for these unit blocks. These units may be any size you choose to make them, but if you are planning an over-shot pattern for the 4 harness loom, do not make these units too large. In order to have your pattern balance, you must have one block as a center, and have the blocks the same size on each side of this center. This is important.

Draft No. 2. Figure 2.



The center block on this drawing is marked with a 3. It is also much easier to balance your pattern draft for threading into the loom if you know where the center of your draft is. Draw out the full repeat on each side of your center. This is your "key draft," from which you can plan out many different threadings. On a four harness loom, you may have only four pattern blocks, we have drawn only on three lines, representing only a three block pattern. We will call the top row of the draft, block 4, the one below block 3, and the one just above the drawing block 2. Block 1 is not shown. The drawing on Page 1, follows the same order as the blocks were drawn on the key draft. When the pattern is woven in this same order, it is called weaving "as drawn in", or in other words the pattern is woven as it was drafted, and the order of the woven blocks is the same as on the draft. This will be further explained later. To draw down your pattern blocks, start with the 3 unit block on the top line or pattern block 4. You can draw these blocks right down on the diagonal as they occur in the key draft, as shown at Figure No. 2 on this page. Or draw your first block 3 units square, and at every point on your paper where there is a unit on the top line, draw down the corresponding units of block 4. The dark blocks of Figure No. 3, show the diagonal blocks which govern how deep each of the other blocks are drawn down, all across the width of the paper. Note that the order in which the blocks are drawn is block 4, which is drawn down 3 units square, then block 3, which is 2 units square, then block 4 again, but this time only one unit square, then block 2 which is two units square, block 3, one unit square, block 4 which is 2 units square and so on to the center which is block 2, also 2 units square. When these are all drawn out across the paper, you have as a result the drawing on Page 1.

Figure 3.

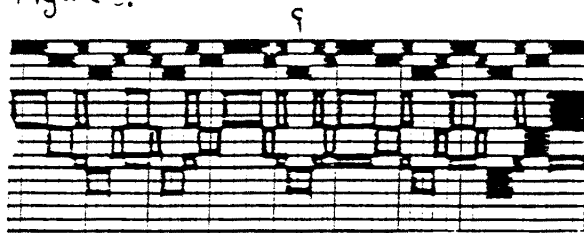
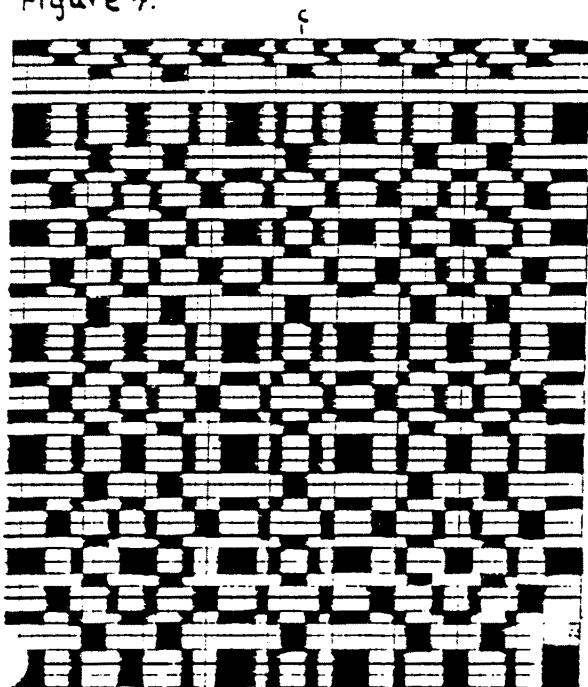
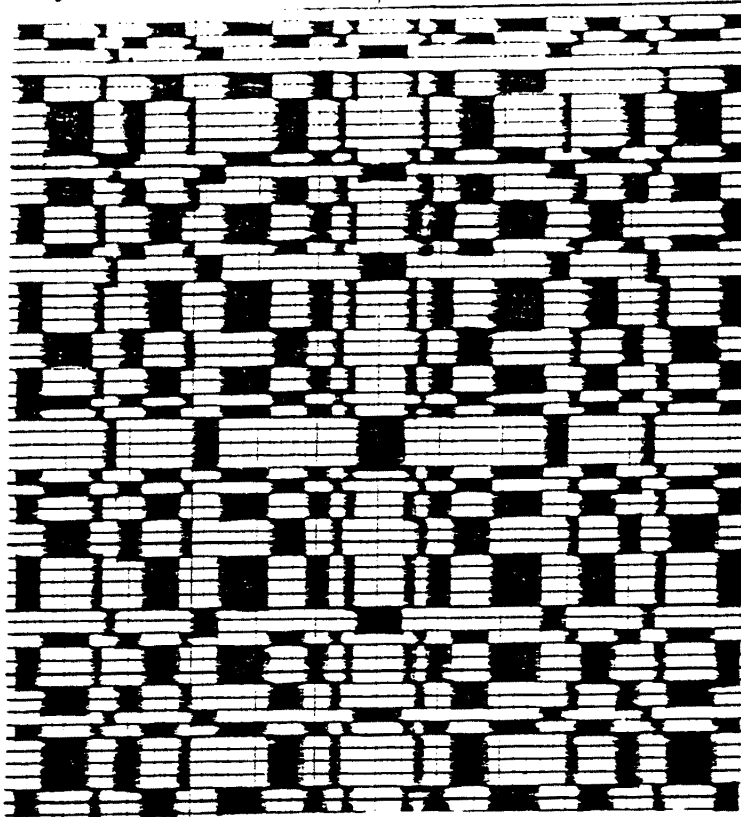


Figure 4.



There are many variations which can be woven on this threading. One of these which was woven and drawn out by Mrs. Bratten is shown at Figure No. 4. Compare the drawing on Page 1 with this, and you will see that just using the order of the drawing down of the different pattern blocks in another way, produces quite a different pattern from the one shown at Page 1. The numbers at the side of the pattern 4-3x, for instance mean block 4 drawn down 3x, 3-2x 2-2x means block 2 drawn down twice; 4-1 means block 4 drawn down once; 3-2x means block 3 drawn down 2 times; and so on. Try different ways of drawing down the blocks, and work out other borders. The same pattern blocks can be drawn down more or less times as you prefer. For instance if you wish you can draw down a 3 unit block 5x, or even 10x, if you wish. On the next page, you will see what will happen when you write the unit blocks in different sizes from the unit blocks on Page 1, but keep the same order for the pattern blocks. This is another phase of pattern planning and the resulting pattern quite different from the original one as you will see.

Figure 5



Figures No.5 and 6 on this page show what happens when you change the sizes of the unit pattern blocks, but keep their order just the same, as on the original at Figure No.1 on Page 1. Compare carefully No.1 with No.5. Note that the order of the blocks on this draft is as follows;-
 Block 4, Block 3, Block 4,Block2,
 " 3. " 4. " 3, " 2,
 " 4, " 3, " 4, " 3,
 " 4, " 2; center.

The order of the unit blocks is the same on both drafts, but the sizes of the unit pattern blocks are entirely different.

Figure No.5 and No.6 on this page give quite a different pattern effect when they are drawn down on their diagonals, but the order in which the unit blocks were originally drawn is the same, but the sizes of the blocks are different. For comparison these are written out below. Read down.

Figure 6

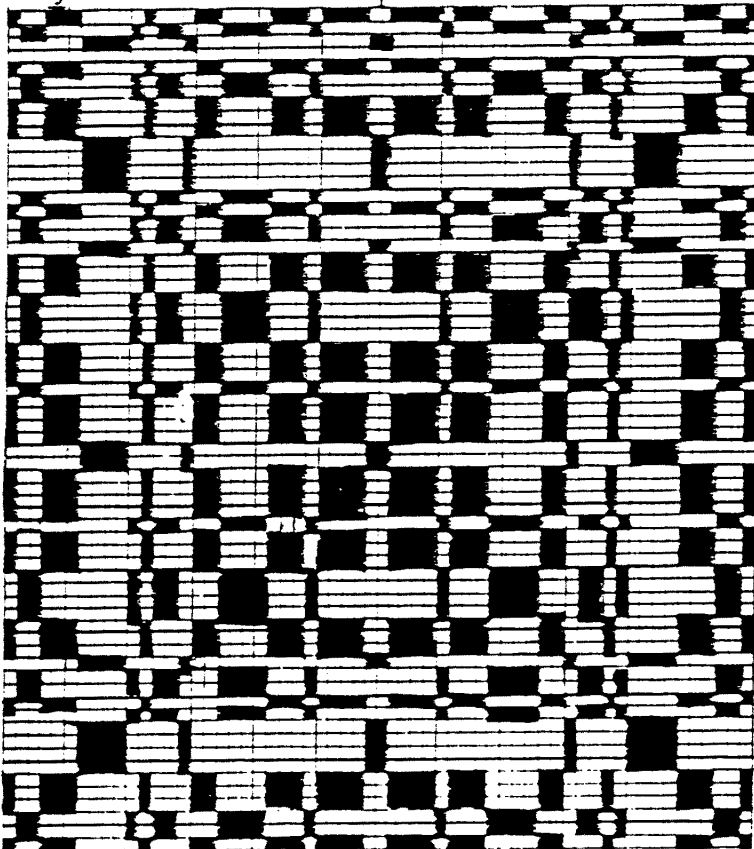


Figure No.5 Figure No.6.

Pattern block	No. of Units		
4-	2.	4-	1
3-	4	3-	2
4-	1	4-	3
2-	1	2-	4
3-	2	3-	1
4-	3	4-	1
3-	1	3-	2
2-	2	2-	1
4-	4	4-	2
3-	3	3-	4
4-	2	4-	3
3-	1	3-	1
4-	1	4-	4
2-	4	2-	2
	center.		

These drafts have only been written out to show one repeat. If you will write out two repeats, you will see that there is also a second center for the pattern on the first and the last unit pattern block.

Try drawing down Figure 5 and 6, in the same order as No.4 on Page 2, and see what the effect of the same pattern is when drawn out that way.

Also try planning out borders in the same way with these unit drafts.