Check Drafts, Selvages, and How to arrange Actual Threading Drafts for the loom.

Three different arrangements of three block patterns are given above. These are pattern effects with the key draft for these just above each one, and all are woven "as drawn" here, although they can be woven in many other ways as well. No. 1 draft is on the order of a herringbone draft, just various arrangements of 1, 2, 3, 2, and repeat. No. 2 draft jumps from the first to the third pattern block, or the 3rd to the first. And No. 3 is planned to have the third block separate two figures which are drawn on the other two pattern blocks alternately. No. 3 is perhaps more apt to be of the traditional Colonial type of pattern. Any of these orders may be followed when writing the key draft for a three block pattern, vary the size of the units for different patterns.

Actual threading drafts for these patterns are given on the next page. Figure No. 1 (A) is the simplest way to write the threading draft. Two threads are used for each unit of the key draft, and the first three pattern blocks are used namely 1, 2, and 3; or 1 & 2, 2 & 3, and 3 & 4. Note how they over lap each other and that odd numbers of threads have been written on the pattern blocks which repeat back on each other. The check draft below is written for the purpose of catching any threading mistakes, and also to see where the single one thread skips will occur when woven. Compare the sizes of the check draft blocks with those on your pattern effect draft, so as to see whether they are correct as to their size. In this draft the 1 & 4 pattern block has not been written and does not occur at all. Figure No. 1 (B) is another way this same pattern draft may be written. Note how the key draft has been changed to show how to indicate that the pattern is to be woven "ON OPPOSITES". Here the pattern skips from the first pattern block to the third, and then to the fourth. Note the difference on the check draft of Figure No. 1 (A) and that of (B) and see where the single dots come in each draft.

At Figure No. 2 on the next page is the threading draft for No. 2 above. This pattern is also written on the first three pattern blocks, 1 & 2, 2 & 3, and 3 & 4. But the 1 & 4 block had to be added where the pattern skipped from the first to the third pattern block in order to keep the correct tabby alternation, but this 1 & 4 block is not woven at all.

Figure No. 3 (A) is written using pattern blocks 1, 3, and 4; or 1 & 2, 3 & 4, and 1 & 4. Note how the draft at (A) has two thread blocks on 1 & 4 which come in at places where they are not supposed to be. To eliminate these write the draft as at Figure No. 3 (B) with an extra thread on the third harness or on the second harness as is necessary. Study the draft at (B) and also note that the 1 & 4 block has many single dots which gives a third value in the weaving, in contrast to the clear cut blocks where these single skips do not occur as the 1 & 2 and 3 & 4 pattern blocks alternate when woven.
Figure No. 1 (A) Arrange this for 600 warp threads set 30 to inch.
Thread selvage 1, 2, 3, 4.  - 4
then C to B  - 9
" A to D "  55 - 572
" A to C  - 11
left selvage 4, 3, 2, 1.  - 4
Total 600

Note that the check draft for Figure No. 1 (B) is the same as at (A), except that the single thread skips represented by the single dots are arranged differently, either threading draft can be used depending on effect.

Figure No. 2 Arrange this for 240 warp threads. Divide 240 by 50 threads, one repeat, equals 4x.
Then take 4 threads for right selvage and four for end, equals 8 threads, so we have used 208 threads.
The first pattern block of the repeat is of 2 threads, and have 32 threads to be used up, 32 - 32, and 3/2 of 32 = 15. So after thread selvage, begin 15 threads from B, or at C. So thread as follows,
Thread right selvage 1, 2, 3, 4.  - 4
Then C to B once  - 15
" A to D 4x 50 threads  - 200
" A to C  - 17
" Left selvage 4, 3, 2, 1  - 4
Total 240

Figure No. 3 The draft at (A) is written with 2 threads for each unit of the key draft. The 1x4's with the loops around them come as a result of going from 1 to 4 in places where they are not wanted. To avoid this make the 1x2 and the 3x4 blocks with an odd number of threads as necessary, and the draft corrected is as at (B).
Arrange this for 420 warp threads.
Thread right selvage 2, 3, 4, 1  - 4
Divide 420 by 90 = 4x, then 4x 90 = 360 plus 60 over. First block - 8 threads, less the 2 selvages = 52/2 of 52 = 26. So begin to thread 26 threads from B or from C to B = 26
A to D = 98 x 4 392
A to C 34
Threads for both selvages 8
Total 420

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Thus we have several ways of writing key drafts and actual threading drafts for three block patterns. Any combinations of the four harnesses can be used. The pattern blocks may be of any desired size. Two warp threads can be used for each pattern block unit or four if desired. When writing three block patterns with two of these blocks written on the opposite, and the third block to separate these, as in Pattern No. III., on Page 1, write the two blocks "on opposite" with an odd number of threads in each pattern block as necessary, so as not to have to write any two thread blocks which would weave the third pattern block where it was not wanted.

Rule for Writing Selvages for Over-shot Drafts. If the actual pattern threading begins with a warp thread on either harness 1 or 3, write the selvage on harness 1, 2, 3, and 4. If it begins on harness 2 or 4, write the selvage threading 2, 3, 4, and 1. Of course this is reversed for the left end selvage.

Rule for arranging Actual Pattern Threading Drafts for the loom.

Let A to B represent the complete threading draft of one repeat. Let A to B be the first pattern block of this threading. Divide the total number of warp threads by AD. This gives the number of times AB will go into the total. From the warp threads left over subtract S threads for the first and last selvages, and also subtract A, the number of threads in the first pattern block. Divide this result by 2. Then let the distance from B, the end of the first pattern block, to C be this number. C is the point where the threading begins. This should not present any difficulty, once it is understood clearly. Another important point is, do not use the key draft to plan the arrangement of the threads to fit the number of required warp threads, as the actual threading draft and the key drafts will vary, due to the fact that some pattern blocks of the actual threading draft may have one thread more or less than the units of the key draft would indicate. This should clear up a number of questions I have had about the matter of selvages and arrangements of loom threadings. Below are two more patterns for three block key drafts.

Figure No. 4

Pattern blocks are 1&2, 2&3, and 3&4. A to B is 2 threads, A to D is 106. Arrange for warp of 730 threads. Divide 720 by 100 = 7x plus 20 threads Selvage 8 plus AB or 2 equals 10. 7x of 10 is 7. So B to C equal 5. Right selvage 4, then C to B = 5, then A to D = 7x 100 is 700, A to C is 7, and left selvage 4. Total 730 threads.

Figure No. 5

Pattern blocks are 3&4, 3&2, and 1&2. A to B is 5 threads, A to D is 106. Arrange for 240 threads. Right selvage 4, C to B is 7, A to D 2x 154 is 312, A to C is 12, and left selvage is 4. Total 239. To use up extra thread, put 2 in first or last heddle.