"Crackle" Weave Patterns.

Patterns in "Crackle" weave have always been popular. This is probably due to the fact that they are adaptable to modern effects, and also offer much variety in the weaving. For the benefit of recent News subscribers, I will give a brief summary of previous issues and what they have contained about this interesting weave.

In February 1940, the origin of the weave is discussed and its characteristics. The units of the weave are given, and full instruction as to how to write these threading drafts for the four harness loom based on the twill idea. Explanation of the tie-up and treadling of these patterns is also given. This issue really forms the basis for designing your own drafts for this weave. It is still available. Again in November of 1940 issue, more crackle weave tree patterns were sent out. These were adaptations of some of the old drawings given in the "Schelelein" book from the Pennsylvania Museum. The method of using a three block key draft was described, and three large patterns in this weave suitable for rugs, coverlets, couch covers, or large table covers were given. Also the method of designing a tree border, when only the center repeat of the pattern is shown, as was the case with some of these old drawings.

The May 1941 issue contains several threading drafts which have been very successfully used by News subscribers for luncheon sets etc. I wish however to correct the threading draft for Figure No. 2, Page 2 of this copy. I regret that this mistake occurred, the correct draft and arrangement is given below.

Threading draft for Figure No. 2 Page 2 of May 1941 News.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Arrangement of this threading draft for a warp of 420 threads follows. Thread the first heddle double, then from A to B = 91 threads, B to C 12, repeat this 19x for center. C to D is 9 threads, then B to A for end border.

The News for April 1943 contained a useful border pattern for towels, luncheon sets etc. Also two patterns for luncheon sets, chair back sets etc. And different ways of weaving these crackle weave pattern drafts were given; five ways in all. Recently we have woven Pattern No. 1 on Page 3 on a yellow warp set 30 to the inch for a luncheon set place mat with very modern effect. Weft used over this was a dark grey No. 20 linen, we happened to have from pre-war days, for the pattern, and a fine glistening white rayon thread for the plain weave. The napkin was of plain weave alternating the linen and the rayon thread, with just a narrow border on each end woven on 3&4, repeated for about one half inch. The effect was subtle, and looked almost as if it had been "laid-in". A good use of this pattern.

May 1944

Threading Draft for Pattern No. 1

The woven pattern effect has been drawn out below the threading draft above to show what it looks like when woven. Figures on right indicate the tie-up. Note that on the Strutt loom the opposite numbers should be used for the levers, as 1&2 for 3&4, 2&3 for 1&4, 1&4 for 2&3, and 3&4 for 1&2, or on any loom where harnesses rise. To put this pattern on a warp of 420 threads, proceed to thread as follows:—Thread the first double. From A to B is 78 threads, B to C is 16 threads, repeat 17x = 272 threads. Then C to D = 76 threads for the end. Weave this to follow the effect on Page 1. This is an unbalanced pattern with no repeat in the threading draft, and gives a modern effect which many of you have asked for. I hope you will use it and like it, we do.

Figure No. 2

This pattern is a useful one for an all over pattern. It can be used for upholstery, towel or luncheon set borders and in many other ways.

May 1944  Nellie Sargent Johnson  12489 Mendota Ave, Detroit 4, Mich.