You are interested in what other Guild Weavers are doing. They are equally interested in you. Send your letters and photographs to THE SHUTTLE.

FALL 1953
TO PREVENT FRINGES FROM FRAYING IN THE WASHING MACHINE

1. Make a bag of Maysville Warp with a draw string of upholstery rope. Put the soiled rug into this bag and close the opening with the drawstring. Fill your washing machine with warm suds, made from flakes or powder of a mild toilet soap. Insert the bag and run the machine for 3 to 5 minutes. Rinse and remove from machine. Shake the rug and spread it on the ground to dry.

2. Fold the fringes at both ends back over the body of the rug, laying them straight. Then fold a narrow strip of cheesecloth or muslin over each end of the rug and extending about an inch beyond the width of the rug on both sides. Close the ends of the fold with a basting thread, to prevent the fringes from poking out. Wash in your machine 3 to 5 minutes. Hang on clothes line until dry but be sure not to permit the wind to whip it out of shape.

3. Put your rug into a pillowcase and wash in machine 3 to 4 minutes. Rinse, shake rug side-ways, lay flat until dry. Then brush to restore nap.

4. Dip fringes into a thick starch or liquid nail polish. Wash in machine not to exceed 4 to 5 minutes. Rinse. Lay flat until dry. By starching the entire rug you will prevent wrinkling and assure that the rug will lie flat on your floor.

The foregoing are only a few of hundreds of suggestions all of which indicate the ingenuity and cleverness of Maysville Guild weavers. In every instance the suggestion for preserving the fringes was accomplished by insistence upon using only Maysville Warp in all your weaving.

The prize was awarded to
Mrs. Frank Marshall of Connecticut

Mrs. Marshall had plenty of competition. For example:

Mrs. Ben Redhead of Iowa who warns all weavers never to leave their rugs in the washer more than 3 to 5 minutes and not to hang them on the clothes line to be whipped by the wind.

Mrs. Richard Scott of West Virginia who shakes her rugs gently and straightens the fringe warp by hand.

Mrs. Liela Freeland of Ohio who knots every strand of fringe — a rather tedious job which she leaves to her children.

Mrs. Roman Stupeck of Indiana who sent us a sample of the knots she tied in her fringes.

Mrs. Martina Hurlburt of Michigan who swears by the instructions that are printed on the labels for Maysville Guild rugs.

Mrs. E. D. Crabtree of Iowa advocates stitching the warp selvage close to the edge—one row straight and one row zig-zag.

Mrs. E. H. Wilson of California has been starching her customers' rugs for fifteen years. A starched rug lies flat and does wonderful service where people get mud on their shoes. Wipe off the mud, then sweep it from the hard surface of the rug.

Mrs. Harvey Myers, Sr., guarantees that there will be no frayed fringes on her floor coverings and she sends a strip of carpet, 14 years old, to prove it. Her guarantee is backed up by four rows of machine stitching at both ends of every floor covering she weaves.

Mrs. Georgia E. Browning of Michigan takes no chances but runs one or two rows of machine stitching at each end; then she removes the strip of cloth, leaving the fringe in perfect shape.

A gentleman weaver down in Maryland named Clarence Roberts is a staunch upholsterer of the pillowcase method. "Put 'em in a pillow case or a bag; tie the top. The rugs will wash clean and the fringes will not fray."

"Simply hem the ends, bringing in and under the fringes and completely enclosing the fringes with bastling stick. When dry, just remove the stick and shake out—perfect fringe!" That is the formula of Mrs. Kaufman of Illinois.

From New York came a wonderful letter, unsolicited but very welcome. Mrs. G. S. Nease says: "I certainly consider the Shuttle as something of importance. I have two adult education classes and the Shuttle is welcomed with interest by all my students. I use my copy of Adventures in Weaving as a class text book. The color plates add to the usefulness of all your publications." (Send 25c for your copy.)

Before leaving this subject of fringes that will not fray in the washing machine, we must include the following from Mrs. A. T. Hinchley, a volunteer worker in the occupational therapy department of the Veterans Hospital in northern New York. Mrs. Hinchley writes:

"The enclosed sample illustrates my method for solving the problem of machine-washing a hand-woven rug without fraying the fringes. In beginning a rug I weave about a half-inch more than the width of the heading I desire. This half-inch is to allow for turning under and hemming down. Then I lay a strip of heavy folded paper in each of the alternate sheds, each strip as wide as the desired fringe. Then I weave the heading I had planned and start the actual rug. After the rug is woven, the process is reversed, that is, the planned heading is woven and the two folded strips of paper are inserted. The second heading is woven and the extra half-inch additional to allow for turning under and hemming down.

"When the rug is taken off the loom it goes at once to the sewing machine where a single line of stitching firmly holds the end edges of both headings. Then remove one of the paper strips and stitch along the edge to keep the threads from wandering. Remove the second strip of paper and stitch also. This operation is done on both ends of the rug. Next, the outer heading is turned under and folded back, to coincide with the regular heading, and hemmed in place.

"Last of all, the outer edges of the upper and lower headings are matched carefully and stitched on the right side to hold the loop fringe firmly and neatly. This method of rug finishing gives a firmer heading which also has thickness nearer to the weight of the body of the rug. It gives a loop fringe twice as thick as the usual single warp fringe and it cannot be jagged and irregular. True, it takes a bit more warp but the whole process consumes no more time than neat hand-knotting requires and the weaving qualities are greatly increased both on the floor and in the washing machine."
You just can’t live with a weaver and not weave. Weaving is as contagious as measles so my husband came down with a bad case of weaveritis. He built himself a loom that is 29 inches over-all so that it will easily go through a thirty-inch door, making it movable to any place in the house.

Like Moses of Old, he used what he had at hand, solid black walnut for the frame, gears with quarter inch plywood for the core, covered on each side with heavy aluminum. He cut these on his hand saw. I had many a laugh but when he even made the dogs and levers out of flat malleable iron, turned the rollers on his lathe and made the straps over the rollers of 2-inch ladies’ black belt stiffening, I gave up! It sounds like a joke but that is one of the most practical little floor model, two harness looms I ever saw and I have seen hundreds of them.

Then he wanted a simple pattern and, man like, he wanted something very colorful. So I am sending you the pattern he chose, set up with Maysville Fast Color Warp. He has been making bath mats 22” and 32” and selling them for $2.50. The new pencil-thick Kentucky All Purpose Yarn filler that January & Wood is putting out is wonderful.

Men like to do things that work up rapidly. He takes no interest in 4 harness pattern weaving with fine thread. So he makes shopping bags, bath mats, slipper cases, etc. I am sending you some pieces he wove using the pattern he chose for you to try. He says, “I think this is direct proof that anybody can weave.”

Of course, the little table model looms can be threaded up to any width that is a multiple of two inches. We use a fifteen dent reed and make the pattern 2 inches wide or thirty threads for each section, repeating it for the desired width, eleven times for his 22-inch loom, six times for the little 12-inch table loom.

If you want to get really ambitious, you can weave enough to make a pair of slippers like the case. Make the soles of plain weave black carpet warp for filler, cover a piece of heavy cardboard and then the tops of the Luster spun, like the case. A pattern for large and small slippers and a case can be bought for fifteen cents (Simplicity Pattern Number 7238) at almost any Dime Store.

This pattern can surely be adapted to making many things. It is colorful, practical, pretty and profitable. No wonder Mr. Cripps likes it. It really was his choice.
TWO HARNESS LOOM

BAG 12 1/2" x 22"
Kentucky All Purpose Rug Filler
Fold in center

TRAY CLOTH 18" x 22"
All Maysville Warp
No tabby
Make 2 at a time—split in center

SLIPPER CASE 10" x 32"
Lusterspun Yarn
Fold both ends to center

BATH MAT 22" x 32"
Kentucky All Purpose Yarn
Colonial Blue warp tabby