The MULTIPLE-HARNESS Weaver

JASPE’ COMBINED WITH PATTERNS

Among both the Japanese and Guatemalan jaspe’ textiles one finds many examples of the tied-and-dyed designs combined with simple, harness-controlled patterns, usually of the overshoot opposites type. Fabric Number 2 from the Japanese collection, shown here, is typical of this style design; the touch is so light that it seems almost humorous. Draft, tie-up, treadling directions, and also the photograph show a warp-to-weft conversion. The three shots per block of the original are used because the warp is denser than the weft. As the directions are given here, the tabby should be perfectly balanced throughout, with the pattern shots added as in typical Overshot weaving. Pattern weft loops across the undersurface in long floats, making this a single-surface fabric. The warp and background weft of the Japanese fabric are very dark blue, of unusual richness achieved through crossing a dark blue warp with a very dark, warm blue weft which may even be blueish brown. The stripes are tan. Pattern weft is tan and dull yellow, and the jaspe’ spots are white.