

March Weaving Sample by Doreen McLaughlin

Structure: Point twill

Warp: 14/2 cotton

Weft: 14/2 cotton

Sett: 30 epi, 2 per dent in a 15 dent reed

Maximum Finished Width: 56"

Warp length: 12 yards

I learned several lessons with this warp. First, if you are not totally confident that you have enough warp yarn, start warping the sectional beam from the center out, rather than from either end to the middle. That way, if you do run out of warp yarn, you don't have a different color stripe running down the center of your fabric. This is particularly important if you want to use the fabric to make a jacket in a class at the John C. Campbell Folk School, as you don't want your classmates snickering at you.

Since I had to use my weft yarn as warp, see above, I also ran out of the same-dye-lot weft yarn. So, I changed the tieup and treadling, and wove a new pattern to "cover up" my mistake. When I ran out of that weft yarn, I again changed the tieup and treadling, and wove a third pattern. This month's sample is pattern #3.

The sewing pattern I chose for my jacket was very detailed, with darts, and lots of pieces and seams. Too many to get the jacket done in time for show-n-tell at the school on Friday morning. Consequently, Thursday night, at about 10pm, I relearned the lesson that acetate lining cannot be ironed at the same temperature as the cotton outer garment. Luckily, the instructor is a wiz at "hanger appeal" and we managed to arrange the garment so that the gaping hole I burned in the lining didn't show. Below are pictures of the sample and the unfinished jacket.

