Great Gifts for Weavers & Spinners

**For New Weavers**

- **8-shaft Baby Wolf**
  Our most popular loom ($1,795.00)

- **4-shaft Wolf Pup**
  For weavers on the go ($895.00)

- **20” Rigid Heddle Loom with Accessories**
  Affordable, includes instructions ($162.00)

- **18” Tapestry Loom**
  Direct warping, continuous warp ($88.00)

**For New Spinners**

- **4” Hi-Lo Drop Spindle**
  Spin either high whorl or low whorl, 3 oz. ($16.00)

- **3” Hi-Lo Drop Spindle**
  Spin either high whorl or low whorl, 2.2 oz. ($16.00)

- **Matchless Double Treadle Spinning Wheel** ($895.00)

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**A Letter from the Editor**

Hello Weavers and Spinners,

If you’re like me, once Thanksgiving comes and goes, I’m immediately intent on gift giving—weaving something for my friends and family is always high on my list. But how to get it all done? One way is to put on a long warp and weave many of the same thing. Dish towels are useful gifts and always appreciated. Varying the weft color on a plain-colored warp personalizes each one. Another idea, as in the Snow Shawl shown below, is to weave solid white projects and then overdye them a solid color after weaving, customizing each one. This is just what David Burrous, our very own loom assembler, party planner, and guy weaver, does. Check out David’s shawl and get inspired for your holiday weaving project.

Happy weaving,

Jane Patrick

P.S. My BOOK update: I turned in the manuscript for *Time to Weave*, a beginning weaving book, on October 15th. We finished most of the photography with weaving photographer extraordinaire Joe Coca shooting some amazingly beautiful pictures (all done at Interweave founder Linda Ligon’s home). Press date is February 15th, in time for a June release date and, we hope, for a Convergence 2006 debut!

P.P.S. In case you don’t know, Convergence is the biennial conference of the Handweavers Guild of America. This summer it’ll be in Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 25-July 1. To learn more, visit the HGA website at [www.weavespindye.org](http://www.weavespindye.org). It’s the place to be if you’re a weaving and spinning enthusiast.
Great Gifts, continued

**For Kids**

- **Inkle loom** ($69.00) and belt shuttle ($8.50)
- **Mini Loom Weaving Kit**
  Everything you need to get weaving ($29.95)
- **School loom**
  All the equipment you need to weave is included ($49.00)
- **4" Hi-Lo Drop Spindle** ($16.00)
- **Incredible Rope Machine** ($39.75)

**For Rug Weavers**

For a super-performing rug loom, order a **Cranbrook Loom**, 4-shaft prices:
- 48” $4,595.00; 60” $5,297.00; 72” $6,514.00

- **Temples** (stretchers) from 12” to 65” priced from $42.00 to $75.00
- **Ski Shuttles**
  18” ($29.00) and 24” ($29.75)
- **Rug Shuttle** ($27.00)
  14” ($26.00) and 20” ($27.00)

**For Seasoned Spinners**

- **30” Schacht-Reeves Spinning wheel**
  from $1080.00 to $1,500.00

**For Seasoned Weavers**

- **Winding Station** ($225.00)
- **Horizontal Warping Mill** ($305.00) or **Vertical Warping Mill** ($285.00)
- **Double end electric bobbin winder** ($275.00)
- **Auto Reed Hook** ($45.00)
- **12” or 15” End-Delivery Shuttle** ($79.95) with pirns ($16.00/5)
- **Double-Bobbin Boat Shuttle** ($39.50)
Dear Emily,

One of the first things you must consider when beginning a weaving project is the number of warp ends per inch (epi) in your fabric. This is called the sett. (Sett is a noun; set is the verb.) The sett you choose will depend on a number of factors, including the type of yarn you are using, the weave structure, and how the fabric will be used. There is no one “right” sett for a particular yarn. The same yarn in the same weave structure could be used for different types of fabrics, say for a scarf and for a pillow cover. For the scarf, which you want to be drapey, you would probably set the warp threads farther apart (fewer ends per inch) than for the pillow cover (more ends per inch), which would need to be more tightly woven.

A handy method for determining the sett for plain weave is to wrap your warp yarn around a ruler for one inch, making sure the wraps are snugged up close together without overlapping. Count the number of wraps in an inch and divide by two. (The reason you divide by two is that you need to leave room for the weft yarn to go under and over between the warp yarns.) This would be a good estimate of the sett for a plain weave fabric in a balanced weave. A balanced weave is one in which there are the same number of warp ends per inch (epi) as wefts, or picks, per inch (ppi). If the warp consists of more than one type of yarn, wrap the ruler using the different yarns in the same proportion they will be in the cloth; in this case wrap more than one inch and divide the number of wraps by the number of inches to get an average number of wraps per inch, and then divide by two.

There are many weave structures that require a closer sett than plain weave. For example, in a twill weave the weft goes over and under more than one warp end at a time. This causes both the warps and wefts to group together somewhat so that you will generally want a closer sett than for plain weave in the same yarns. For example, a yarn you would set at 12 epi for plain weave might be set at 15 epi for twill.

Rather than a balanced weave you might want a fabric that is warp-faced or weft-faced. In a warp-faced fabric the warp is predominant and covers most or all of the weft, as in rep weave. In this case the sett would be much closer, two, three, or even four times a balanced sett.

For a weft-faced fabric, where the weft is predominant, the warp threads are set farther apart. For example, a weft-faced rug with a heavy wool weft might be set as wide as 4, 5, or 6 epi. A rug with a rag weft might have a cotton warp set at 12 epi.

We’ve included a Sett Chart for tabby (plain weave) and twill (Chart A). This is a good starting point for determining the sett you need. It’s always a good idea to weave a sample before beginning your project and then to wash it as you would the actual fabric. This will tell you if the sett you’ve chosen will give you the fabric you want.
Dear Violet Rose, continued

For weave structures other than plain weave and twill you will need to decide from the description of the weave whether it requires a loose or a close sett. Thread up a small sample to test the sett you have chosen. You may want to resley your sample one or two times to check out several setts.

**Choosing a Reed**

Once you determine the sett for your fabric, you need to decide which reed to use. You don’t want to have too many warp ends in each dent, and it can cause an uneven fabric if you skip dents (although you may be after this special effect). Generally, you would use a reed that matches the sett, for example a 12-dent reed for fabrics set at 12 epi or 24 epi. If your yarns are thin, you might double or triple them in the dents. For example, a 20/2 cotton could be set at 30 epi and threaded 3 per dent in a 10-dent reed. For most yarns the maximum number of warps per dent is about three or four; with more ends the weft won’t pack in well. You also need to consider the character of the yarns you’re using in the warp. For example, if you are using a textured yarn at 12 epi, a 6-dent reed sleyed two ends per dent would be a better choice than a 12-dent reed sleyed one end per dent because there would be less friction on the warps from rubbing on the reed bars.

Chart B shows how to sley the reed for a particular sett and reed size. You may not always have the optimum reed for your sett, but you may have another reed that will work. The top row in the chart gives the different reed sizes (dents per inch), and the numbers in the columns below are setts. You can find your sett under the reed size you think will work and then read over to the lefthand column to see how to sley the warp ends in the reed. For example, if you only have a 12-dent reed and want to set your fabric at 20 epi, you would sley 1 end in the first dent, 2 ends in the next dent, 2 ends in the following dent, and then repeat this sequence all across the warp. You might also decide to slightly change the sett in order to make the sleying easier. For example, you could sley 23 epi in a 12-dent reed, but it would be easier to change the sett to 24 epi and sley 2 ends in every dent.

**Help May Be Close At Hand**

Your yarn store or the place you purchase your yarn is also a good source of information. They should be able to help you decide on a sett and reed for your project. There are also a number of good weaving books available. If you decide to weave a project published in a weaving magazine or book, you will be given suggestions for sett and reed size.

— Suzanne Najarian

Schacht Shipping Manager, weaver, knitter, and painter

### Chart B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order of Sley in Reed</th>
<th>Reed Size in Dents per Inch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-0-1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-1</td>
<td>2 1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-1-1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-1-1-1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-1-1-2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>7 1/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-2-2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
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<td>1-2-2-2</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-3</td>
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<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our expert responds to your Schacht product questions. Have a question about a Schacht Spindle product, or a weaving or spinning question? Our expert Violet Rose is not quite omniscient, but we’re convinced she’s the closest thing to it. Violet Rose will answer as many questions as she can through this column. Write her at violetrose@schachtspindle.com. While she can’t answer your questions directly, look here for the answers.
Snow Shawl
by David Burrous, based on a design by Jean Scorgie

Project Notes: Oversized blocks of plain weave alternate with Swedish lace. The Tencel yarn gives this piece a luxurious feel and drape. Tencel, of natural origins, was designed as an environmentally friendly cellulose fiber to produce fabrics have the comfort and luxury of a natural fiber with the practicality of a man-made fiber. Tencel is the brand name for Lyocell, the fiber’s generic name. Tencel is produced by a highly refined and sophisticated technical process. It glimmers and makes a very nice drape when finished.

By using only one color and a Schacht end-delivery shuttle, you can make 1 or 2 beautiful stoles very quickly. Suspend a 6 oz. weight on each of the selvedges behind the back beam so that they will be taut. I use two 2 ½” carabineers each threaded with two 2 ¼” washers. When using a Schacht end-delivery shuttle, the weights will insure that your selvedges are exactly straight.

Meet Schacht Loom Assembler
David Burrous

David Burrous, the designer and weaver of the Snow Shawl, is a retired high school Russian and Spanish teacher and former World Languages Curriculum Coordinator for Jefferson County Public Schools, Colorado. He currently works here at Schacht Spindle Co. assembling looms, planning parties, and acting as Spanish-English translator. In his “free time,” David hosts a group of Japanese teens each summer, weaves, makes delicious beignets, and practices his bagpipes.

Sometimes you just don’t know where a conversation will lead. In David’s case, it led to a loom, a Christmas gift of weaving lessons at a local weaving shop, a new passion for weaving, and eventually to working at Schacht. (continued next page)
**Snow Shawl, continued**

**Fabric Description:** Swedish Lace

**Equipment:** 4-harness loom, minimum 20” weaving width

**Materials**

Warp & Weft: 8/2 Tencel, in white  
Take-up & Shrinkage: About 10% in width and length

**Warping**

Warp ends per inch (e.p.i.): 24  
Weft picks per inch (p.p.i.): 12  
Width in reed: 20”; Sley 2 ends per dent in a 12-dent reed  
Number of warp ends: 484 (480 + 2 floating selvedges on each side)  
Warp Length: 148” for one stole or 262” for two stoles, which includes 10” for sampling, take-up, shrinkage, and 24” loom waste. Add 114” for each additional stole.

**Weaving**

Hemstitch the fringe in groups of 6, following the weave structure. Weave ½” plain weave, then weave 24 blocks for a total of about 102” on the loom. Beat to square. Weave ½” plain weave. Hemstitch the fringe.

**Finishing**

Hand wash in tepid water with Eucalan. Do not rinse. Lay flat to dry or place in dryer with several bath towels at “ultra low” setting for 50 minutes. Steam press lightly. Trim fringe to 4”.

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David particularly enjoys researching and weaving tartan plaids. This past year, the women in his family enjoyed receiving scarves in the new Madonna tartan plaid, which was registered with the Scottish tartan board after she married Guy Ritchie. Discovering the wonderful qualities of Tencel has encouraged David to branch out. He was introduced into the art of dyeing by another Schacht employee (and author of *Hands On Dyeing*), Betsy Blumenthal. Japanese Ikat (kasuri) is David’s next adventure.