

SECTION 2 – WEAVING RATINGS

As a service to its members, the Guild offers a weaving ratings program in four levels:

*Apprentice
Journeyman
Master*

Ratings are a valuable study guide for serious weavers who are interested in developing their knowledge and skills. They offer the weaver a rare opportunity to have work undergo critical and constructive analysis.

General

I. RATINGS CHAIR

- A. Appointed by the Dean biennially
- B. Must be a Master Weaver
- C. Arranges Jurying
 - 1. Establishes the date by which the articles are to be submitted, usually the regular February Guild meeting
 - 2. Selects a jury, providing them with jurying criteria and information
 - 3. Schedules the places and dates for judging (once a year)
 - 4. Collects submissions and mails back as needed
 - 5. Maintains anonymity and privacy of jurors and those submitting work
- D. Answers all questions pertaining to clarification of the requirements or terms
- E. Maintains all records and forms
 - 1. Registration
 - 2. Updating forms, yearbook
 - 3. Presents certificates
 - 4. Keeps a record of expenses.
- F. Publicizes the program
 - 1. Announces reminders of due dates and any changes in the requirements through the newsletter, website, and at the Guild meetings
 - 2. Reports as needed to the membership and Board
 - 3. Announces ratings awards at the Annual Meeting

II. JURY

- A. Appointed by the Ratings Chair

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- B. Three knowledgeable and experienced weavers who are willing to act as anonymous jurors. Ideally, at least two of the three should be members of WGB. They should be Master Weavers, from WGB or another program, or weavers with similar qualifications.
- C. Each member works independently and privately
- D. Gives constructive suggestions for growth and improvement along with points of strength

III. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

A. SUBMISSION FEES

- 1. For Apprentice: \$45.00 per application
- 2. For Journeyman: \$45.00 per application
- 3. For Master: \$45.00 per application
- 4. If any pieces are submitted for immediate re-jurying at any level, a second fee of \$45.00 will be assessed.

B. GENERAL

- 1. Every article has been woven by the applicant who is submitting material for a rating.
- 2. Credit is given only if workmanship, function, design, and originality are acceptable to the jury.
- 3. Only one rating may be passed per year. An applicant must be approved as a WGB Apprentice before being eligible for Journeyman, and as a WGB Journeyman before submitting for a Master Weaver rating.
- 4. Work submitted for one rating may not be resubmitted for a subsequent higher rating.
- 5. If the candidate's entry is not accepted by the jury, those pieces which were not accepted may be fixed or re-woven and submitted for re-jurying with the pieces which passed. The reason for submitting all required pieces is that not only are all requirements judged independently, all of the requirements are viewed and assessed as a "body of work." The candidate has two choices:
 - a. Correct and resubmit the rejected articles within a timeframe established by the Ratings Chair and in time for them to be re-juried prior to the announcement of ratings passed at the Annual (generally May) meeting.
 - b. Submit the pieces which passed and the replacement pieces at another year's jurying.
- 6. Candidates must inform the Chair in writing or by email by February 1st or earlier when a decision has been made to submit a rating.
- 7. Written materials and articles from passed ratings will be exhibited at the Annual meeting (generally in May) when ratings are announced. If you are not present a guild member will help arrange the display under the direction of the Ratings Chair.

C. NOTEBOOK

- 1. All paper work must be placed in a notebook. Information for each item should be kept together (the written information, photo, yarn samples, and drawdown).
- 2. All paper work must be placed in plastic sleeves (page protectors).
- 3. All paper work must be neatly typed, written in ink (not pencil—with the exception of required hand-drawn drawdowns), or computer-generated.
- 4. All information must be visible without removing pages from protectors.

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5. Include all information required on the OFFICIAL RECORD SHEETS.
 - a. Record sheets showing a sample layout may be downloaded from the WGB Website. *Create your own sheet* using software of your choice (or a typewriter and handwriting in ink).
 - b. Be sure to include all information required on the OFFICIAL RECORD SHEETS as well as within this document.
 - c. Use your GUILD NUMBER on record sheets. Do not write your name on record sheets. Signed statements from Apprentice Level candidates are removed prior to judging.
 - d. Include the WEAVE STRUCTURE and SOURCE of the design.
 - e. Attach YARN SAMPLES to the page for each piece, sampler, or gamp. Include information on warp and weft size, fiber, color, and yarn source.
 - f. Attach 4" square or larger woven SAMPLE, COLOR XEROX, or COLOR PHOTO of work.
 - g. DRAWDOWN for each piece (hand or computer generated as directed in the different levels). Note the ends per repeat and the number of ends used to balance.
 - h. DENTAGE (reed used and denting scheme). Include the REED, SETT, SLEY, and total number of ends.
 - i. FINISHING INFORMATION (measurements before and after finishing, how the article was washed, pressed, etc. Shrinkage.)
 - j. Write the name of the article (e.g. mat, scarf, runner) at the upper left of the record sheet.
 - k. LABEL the pages of the notebook and the tags on each article to correspond with the number and/or letter of the requirement (e.g. II.E.2a).
 - l. Include a BRIEF discussion of your DESIGN PROCESS for each piece.
 - How were you inspired?
 - How did you modify the idea?
 - What makes this piece yours?
 - Where might you go with this idea in the future?
 - Include any additional comments you wish to make.
6. Complete INVENTORY SHEET. An inventory sheet is a list of all the items in your submission, including the Notebook, and should be placed at the front of the Notebook. It is a simple list used to be sure all pieces are accounted for, when submitted and when returned to the weaver.
7. Specific REFERENCES for each project should be noted on individual record sheets.

D. WOVEN WORK

1. DO NOT ATTACH YOUR NAME IN ANY WAY TO YOUR WOVEN WORK. USE YOUR GUILD #.
2. Tag each woven item with the number and letter of the requirements (e.g. II.E.2a) along with your Guild #.
3. All articles must be finished appropriately, clean, and in new condition.
4. All stitching must be done by hand or as specified for a commercial-type pattern. Pillows may have machine-stitching as long as it is not visible.
5. If someone else does the sewing, s/he must be given credit and named on the record sheet.
6. No knots in warp or weft.
7. Pillows may be left unstuffed. If stuffed, the pillow must be able to be opened. Zippers are not required.
8. Wall hangings must be ready to hang.
9. Repair snagged threads, cut off thread ends, and check over carefully.

E. TRANSPORTATION OF ENTRIES

1. Mail (UPS, USPS, an Air Cargo Service, etc.) or hand deliver your entries to the address designated by the Chair so it arrives by the date specified, usually the date of the February meeting.
2. Hand-delivered entries should be in a plastic box with a lid for ease of transport.
3. If the weaver is unable to deliver the work at the Guild meeting, she/he will be notified of the address to which the entry is to be sent.
4. Mailed packages must include postage or label for return shipping.

Definitions

An **article** is a usable, finished item.

A **finished** item means that the woven piece has been hemmed, washed, pressed, and submitted to any other process necessary to make the article complete and ready for use (see Zielinski, Reference Material List).

A **sampler** is a piece of weaving done on the same threading which shows variations of pattern, color, and/or texture in the warp, weft, and/or tie-up. A sampler is one continuous piece.

A **gamp** is a sampler in which a specified width (e.g. 3") is threaded multiple (e.g. 5) times across the width of the warp with, for example, 1) the same structure at different setts; or 2) different colors; or different color combinations (color and weave). Woven as drawn in, a gamp illustrates a variety of possibilities in both warp and weft as specified in the individual requirements. (See Mary Black)

A **draft** is a graphic representation of: (a) threading, (b) tie-up, (c) treadling (or liftplan), and (d) resulting fabric or drawdown (not always shown). Drafts should employ standard symbols.

A **profile draft** is a short form of a threading draft; each square of graph paper is equal to the group of threads representing one repeat or block.

A **drawdown** is a graphic representation of a weave structure, both warp pattern and weft treadling. It is a picture of what the weave will look like. Conventionally black squares represent a warp thread on the surface of a thread-by-thread draft, or a block weaving pattern in a profile draft. The purpose of the drawdown is to help visualize the pattern and to check that the desired interlacing occurs without long floats or other peculiarities. On a symmetric repeating pattern it is enough to show 1 1/2 times the repeat in warp and weft. In addition, borders and other parts of the pattern not otherwise detailed, should be drawn down fully.

Mirrored means that one side is a mirror image (or reversal, or left and right-handed version) of the other. For example, a point threading or treadling is mirrored, whereas straight draw is not.

Originality means your interpretation of a weave. For example, in a Summer and Winter project, your choice of material, color, sett, arrangement, combination, and number of repeats per block, and function make the work original. Copying the instructions in a book or workshop exactly is not original.

Amalgamation Weave is related to satin construction and the concept of multiple tabby weave. For more information see Alice Schlein's book, Network Drafting.

A **Balanced Weave** (woven square) has the same number of weft picks per inch as warp ends per inch. For some structures it may be defined as the same number of pattern picks per inch as warp ends per inch.

A **Balanced Twill** is any twill with the same amount of warp and weft showing on each face. It may or may not have a 45° angle as part of the design when beaten square.

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A **Braided Twill** (also called plaited or entwining twills) contains sections of right and left twills which meet at right angles (usually) to give the effect of braided ribbons. See *Twill Weaves and Derivatives* by I.C.S. Staff (available on handweaving.net)

A **Fancy Twill** generally consists of lines of a regular twill weave separated by areas of other twills at different angles, small spots, or other small weaves. See *Twill Weaves and Derivatives* by I.C.S. Staff (available on handweaving.net).

Embroidery weaving is the process of ornamenting a web as it is being woven to make a decorative design of supplementary weft threads which pass back and forth where they are needed for the design. True embroidery weaves are done on plain weave, with a design placed at the will of the weaver. By this definition, double weave pick-up, leno, Brook's Bouquet, etc. are not included, but brocading, and inlay are (see References).

Network Drafting terms (initial, telescoping, and digitizing) and construction may be found in Alice Schlein's book, *Network Drafting*.

A **Handloom** is any loom where each step is initiated by the weaver. It includes the gamut from backstrap, frame, and warp-weighted looms, to common floor and table looms, to draw, doobby (mechanical or computerized), and simple jacquard looms. A handloom will not operate when the weaver walks away. It is dressed by the weaver, and the weaver must initiate the opening of each shed (by hand, levers, treadles, buttons, etc.), the passage of the weft through the shed (by hand, shuttle, or pulling a fly-shuttle cord), the placement of the weft (by hand, hand beater, beater bar), etc.

An **Unassisted Handloom** does not use the auxiliary equipment noted below.

Auxiliary equipment includes any device or mechanism added, either temporarily or permanently, to an unassisted handloom. Examples include fly shuttles, automatic cloth advance, mechanical doobby devices, and computer doobbies. Double warp beams, temples, and sectional beams are considered standard. When in doubt call the Ratings Chair.

A **Shed** is an opening caused by lifting (and or lowering) some set of threads. In a shaft loom, it is a combination of shafts. There are a number of ways to fulfill the Master requirement I.B.7: Use direct tie, use levers on a table loom, re-tie the treadles for different parts of the piece, do some pick-up, use a doobby loom of some sort, etc.

Helpful References

This list is not current. All references mentioned are good, but there are many more recent references that are good as well.

BASIC and GENERAL WEAVING

The Art of Weaving, Regensteiner, Else

Encyclopedia of Hand Weaving, Zielinski, S.A.

Fabric Analysis, Posselt, E.A.

Fibre Facts, Hochberg, Bette

The Final Steps: Traditional methods and contemporary applications for finishing cloth by hand, Gordon, Beverly

Finishes in the Ethnic Tradition, Baizerman, Suzanne

Finishing Touches for the Handweaver, West, Virginia

Learning to Weave, Chandler, Deborah

Magic in the Water, Fry, Laura

Manual of Swedish Handweaving, Cyrus-Zetterstrom, Ulla

Section 2 - Weaving Ratings

Mastering Weave Structures, Alderman, Sharon

New Guide to Weaving Number 1: How to Wind a Warp & Use a Paddle, Osterkamp, Peggy

New Guide to Weaving Number 2: Warping Your Loom & Tying On New Warps, Osterkamp, Peggy

New Key to Weaving, Black, Mary

Opening a Door to Two Harness Techniques, Francisco, Irene

The Primary Structures of Fabrics, Emery, Irene

Processing and Finishing Handwoven Textiles (The Weavers' Guild of Boston, Monograph #3), Merrill, Mudge, Koob, Ewert-Taylor, and Wright (eds.)

Textile Arts Index 1950 - 1987, Wilson, Sayde, and Jackson, Ruth

Warp and Weft - A Dictionary of Textile Terms, Burnham, Dorothy

Weaver's (formerly A Prairie Wool Companion), Golden Fleece Publications

The Weaver's Book, Tidball, Harriet

Weaver's Study Course, Regensteiner, Else

Weavers' Wisdom (The Weavers' Guild of Boston, Monograph #2), Corey, Rosita and Mary Elizabeth Shannon (eds.)

The Weaving Book, Bress, Helene

Yarn, Cloth, and Draft Calculations, I.C.S. Staff

DRAFTING

Complete Book of Drafting for Handweavers, van der Hoogt, Madelyn

Designing and Drafting for Handweavers, Frey, Berta

Designing with Blocks, Keasbey, Doramay

Network Drafting, Schlein, Alice

STRUCTURE

8, 12....20: An Introduction to Multishaft Weaving, Wertemberger, Kathryn

1000 (+) Patterns in 4, 6, and 8 Harness Shadow Weaves, Powell, Marion

Complex Weavers Journals and Newsletters

The Crackle Weave, Snyder, Mary

Designing with Blocks, Keasbey, Doramay

Double Two-Tie Unit Weaves, Barrett Clotilde and Eunice Smith

Double Weave in 4-8 Shafts, Arn-Grischott, Ursina

Embroidery Weave Workshop, Jones, Jeanetta

Four Harness Huck, Neher, Evelyn

The Handloom Weaves, Tidball, Harriet

A Handweaver's Pattern Book, Davison, Marguerite P.

Handwoven Decorative Trim: An Introduction to Weaving Passementerie Trims, Robyn Spady

Handwoven Embroidery Weaves, Beck, Dorothy and Hazel Chase

Handwoven Laces, Muller, Donna

Lace and Lacey Weaves, Snyder, Mary

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Loom-Controlled Double Weave: From the Notebook of a Double-Weaver, O'Connor, Paul R.
Master Weaver Library, Zielinski, S.A.
Monographs, Tidball, Harriet
Patterns for Tapestry Weaving, Harvey, Nancy
Parallel Shadow Weave (The Weavers' Guild of Boston, Monograph #6), Voolich, E. and Lang, E.
Point Twill With Color-and Weave, Windeknecht, Margaret B.
Rep Weave and Beyond (The Weaver's Studio series), Tallarovic, Joanne
Rugweaving Techniques: Beyond the Basics, Collingwood, Peter
Shuttlecraft Monographs
Structure of Weaving, Sutton, Ann
Summer and Winter & Beyond, Barrett, Clotilde
Summer and Winter: A Weave for All Seasons, Sullivan, Donna
Tapestry Weaving, Harvey, Nancy
The Tapestry Workbook, Russell, Carol K.
Techniques of Rug Weaving, Collingwood, Peter
The Techniques of Woven Tapestry, Beutlich, Tadek
Versatile Bronson (The Weavers' Guild of Boston, Monograph #5), Burton, Dorothy
Weave Construction and Cloth Analysis, I.C.S. Staff
Weft-Faced Pattern Weaves: Tabby to Taqueté, Hoskins, Nancy
Woven Structure and Design: Part I - Single Cloth Construction, Goerner, Doris
Woven Structure and Design: Part 2 - Compound Structures, Goerner, Doris

DESIGN

Advanced Textile Design, Watson, William
Complex Weavers Journals and Newsletters
Designing with Blocks, Keasbey, Doramay
Exploring Multishaft Design, Inouye, Bonnie
Falcot's Weave Compendium, Falcot, P. (Ann Sutton)
Forgotten Pennsylvania Textiles of the 18th and 19th Centuries, Thompson, Marjie et al.
Fundamentals of Textile Designing, I.C.S. Staff
The Gartner Manuscript, Valk, Gene
A Handbook of Weaves, Oelsner, G.H.; revised by Dale, Samuel S.
The Handweaver's Pattern Directory: Over 600 Weaves for 4-shaft Looms, Dixon, Anne
A Handweaver's Source Book, Davison, Marguerite P.
Huck Pattern Collection, Weavers Guild of Boston, Ciaranello, Rita, Jayne Flanagan, and Marjie Thompson (eds.)
Ideas in Weaving, Sutton, Ann
Jacob Angstadt, His weaver's patron book, Holroyd, Ruth and Ulrike Beck (eds.)
The Liftplan Connection: Designing for Dobby Looms with Photoshop and Photoshop Elements, Schlein, Alice
Multiple Harness Patterns from the Early 1700's: The Snavelly patterns, Abel, Isabel

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On Weaving, Albers, Anni

Pattern Techniques for Handweavers, Keasbey, Doramay

Selected Writings on Design, Albers, Anni

16 Harness Patterns - The Fanciest Twills of All, Wood, Irene K.

Symmetries of Culture: Theory and practice of plane pattern analysis, Washburn, Dorothy and Donald Crowe

Textile Design and Color, Watson, William

The Textile Design Book, Jornstrop, Karin and Eva Kohlmark

Twill Weaves and Derivatives, I.C.S. Staff

Weave Construction and Cloth Analysis, I.C.S. Staff

A Weaver's Book of 8-Shaft Patterns: From the Friends of Handwoven, Strickler, Carol (ed.)

Weaving Designs By Bertha Gray Hayes: Miniature Overshot Patterns, Smayda, Norma et al. (eds.), WGRI

The Woven Pixel, Schlein, Alice and Bhakti Ziek

COLOR

The Art of Color, Itten, Johannes

Color Perception in Art, Birren, Faber

Color and Fiber, Lambert, Patricia, Barbara Staepelaere, and Mary Fry

The Elements of Color, Itten, Johannes

The Eye and the Brain, Gregory, E. L.

The Interaction of Color, Albers, Josef

Principles of Color and Color: A Survey in Words and Pictures,

Birren, Faber

Principles of Harmony and Contrast of Colours and Their

Applications to the Arts, Chevreul, M.E.

Theory and Use of Color, DeGrandis, Luiguina

NOTE: Many of these books are available in the WGB Library or online at <http://www.handweaving.net/>

Requirements for Apprentice Rating

The purpose of this rating is to demonstrate competence in the basic techniques of weaving.

- I. WOVEN ARTICLES (TOTAL REQUIREMENT OF 6 FINISHED ARTICLES, plus 3 GAMPS or 2 GAMPS and 1 COLOR WHEEL. (A gamp is not a finished article, just as a sampler is not a finished article.)

Present six well-woven finished articles on six different warps. You must include all the requirements below.

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A. FIBER requirements

1. At least one entirely in cotton
2. At least one entirely in linen
3. At least one entirely in wool. Please note that alpaca is not wool.
4. At least one with a combination of two or more threads of different fibers

B. STRUCTURE requirements

1. Balanced straight twill, beat square (ppi=epi)
2. Overshot of your choice with fine tabby and heavier pattern weft
3. A structure different from the above, where structure and pattern are the primary design elements.

C. COLOR requirements: One piece in at least THREE of the following color harmonies (3 separate articles):

1. Monochromatic
2. Analogous
3. Extended Analogous
4. Complementary
5. Split Complementary
6. Triadic

D. EQUIPMENT

1. You must use a hand loom where each step is initiated by the weaver
2. Record the loom, any auxiliary equipment, and any design software used for each piece: number of shafts, model, loom type, fly shuttle, auto-advance, dobby, computer dobby, etc.
3. Use an unassisted hand loom for at least two pieces where the selvages show.

E. OTHER Weaving Requirements

1. All pieces must be ORIGINAL. Work copied from published directions is not considered original.
2. Minimum size of each piece when finished must be 150 square inches excluding any fringe.
3. Selvages must show on at least two of the articles.
4. Stress the following points:
 - Accurate threading and treadling
 - Even beat
 - Even edges
 - Proper finishing
 - Pleasing effect
 - Appropriate to function
 - Good note and record keeping

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II. WOVEN GAMPS (3 GAMPS or 2 GAMPS plus COLOR WHEEL)

A. SETT GAMP

1. Use at least 5 different setts in the warp
2. Beat at the same ppi as setts
3. One yarn in warp and weft except for divider threads (use contrasting color for divider threads)
4. Your choice of colors, fiber, texture, structure. Include this information in your writeup.
5. Minimum of 3" per section in warp and weft.
6. WRITTEN: Evaluate each section and suggest uses for this sett/ppi combination for this yarn.

B. COLOR and WEAVE GAMP

1. WRITTEN: Define Color and Weave Effects. How do they differ from plaids and checks?
2. Use two contrasting colors in the warp and weft, threaded and treadled in at least 5 different color sequences. For example, with A and B as your two colors, sequences could be repeats of A,B; A,2B; 2A,2B; etc.
3. One smooth yarn in your two contrasting warp and weft colors plus a third smooth contrasting color for divider threads: three colors total.
4. Your choice of colors, fiber, and structure
5. Minimum of 3" per section in warp and weft.
6. Include a drawdown of your gamp and all information mentioned in III.C.5 of the GENERAL section of this document.

C. COLOR GAMP or COLOR WHEEL (see IV.B)

D. EQUIPMENT

1. You must use a hand loom of any type where each step is initiated by the weaver.
2. Record the loom, any auxiliary equipment, and any design software used for each piece: Number of shafts, model, loom type, fly shuttle, auto-advance, dobby, computer dobby, etc.

E. OTHER Weaving Requirements

1. Selvages must show on the gamps.
2. Stress the following points:
 - Accurate threading and treadling
 - Even beat
 - Even edges
 - Proper finishing
 - Pleasing effect
 - Appropriate to function
 - Good note and record keeping

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III. DRAFTING

A. HAND DRAFTED

1. Pattern thread drawdown of an overshot design (do not include tabby picks). This can be any overshot design, not necessarily the one woven for I.B.2.
2. Describe (in words) the relationship between twill and overshot. OR convert the threading used in III.A.1 to a twill, and draw it down tromp as writ.

B. Your choice of hand or computer drafted

1. A complete drawdown for each article woven and for the color and weave gamp (total of seven). See Definitions: drawdown

IV. COLOR THEORY

A. DEFINITIONS (Written): Define briefly in words:

1. Monochromatic
2. Analogous
3. Extended Analogous
4. Complementary
5. Split Complementary
6. Triadic
7. Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary (Intermediary) Color
8. Tint, Tone, Shade, and Value
9. Hue and Chroma (Saturation)

B. COLOR GAMP or COLOR WHEEL

1. Use at least 12 steps around the full color wheel in pure hues (3 primary, 3 secondary, and 6 tertiary).
2. Use plain weave for the gamp, or wrapping, paint, or other methods as desired for the color wheel.
3. if you weave a gamp, include all relevant information from III.C.5 of the GENERAL section of this document.
3. Minimum dimensions of gamp 18"x18".

V. BURN TEST

Burn a sample of cotton, wool, silk, linen, rayon (or tencel), and acrylic yarns and describe the results.

VI. LOOM KNOWLEDGE

A. Define or describe briefly in words. You may illustrate with your own drawings if desired.

1. Jack, Counterbalance, and Countermarch loom mechanisms
2. Inkle Weaving, Tablet Weaving, and Backstrap Weaving.

B. Sign a statement that you can warp and dress a multi-shaft loom and put it in a separate sleeve in the notebook.

Requirements for Journeyman Rating

The purpose of this rating is to broaden the weaver's knowledge and understanding of structure (interlacement) and color.

I. WEAVING: 13 FINISHED ARTICLES, plus a SET of 4 identical finished ARTICLES (or matched panels), 1 GAMP, and 1 SAMPLER

A. STRUCTURES (structures may not be combined with each other)

1. Twill of your choice woven with one shuttle and no tabby (one article)
2. Overshot design, woven star and rose in the traditional manner (one article)
3. Describe four or more embroidery weaves and submit two different ones as separately woven articles, each at least 100 square inches. Do not carry the embroidery from border to border. (two articles)
4. Describe four or more hand-controlled lace weaves and submit an article in one of them. (one article)
5. Submit one article each in any eight of the following weaves. If you wish to use a non-traditional version of a structure, write a precise description of how it differs from a traditional version, why you want to use it, and clear it with the ratings chair prior to submission.
 - a. Warp faced - no weft showing on front or back
 - b. Weft faced - no warp showing on front or back
 - c. Supplementary Warp, Warp velvet, or Warp Brocade
 - d. Lace or Spot Bronson
 - e. Summer and Winter
 - f. Crackle
 - g. Blended or Turned Draft
 - h. M's and O's, Multiple Tabby Weave, or Amalgamation Weave
 - i. Shadow Weave, Echo Weave, Moiré, or other Interleaved weave
 - j. Damask or False Damask (Broken Twill Blocks)
 - k. Huck or Swedish Lace
 - l. Tied Weave other than Summer and Winter or Laces (e.g. Quigley, Bergman, Half-Satin, etc.)

B. DESIGN (combine with a structure requirement)

Design and submit one ARTICLE with a loom-controlled patterned border all around, using the same pattern on all four sides.

C. APPLIED COLOR THEORY (combine with a structure requirement)

1. Define briefly and discuss importance to weaving
 - a. Red-Yellow-Blue primary colors vs. Magenta-Yellow-Cyan primary colors
 - b. Additive and Subtractive color mixing
 - c. Optical Mixing
 - d. Simultaneous contrast
 - e. Relationship of yarn characteristics (such as fiber, texture, size, reflectivity) to color perception

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- f. Relationship of structure to color perception
2. Illustrate one or more of these concepts with a woven ARTICLE

D. SAMPLER and GAMP (1 SAMPLER, 1 GAMP)

1. TREADLING SAMPLER

- a. Pick one of the structures from Section I.A.5 that you did not use for a finished article.
- b. Weave at least 6 treadling variations from this list or similar options:
 - Honeycomb
 - On Opposites
 - Woven As (woven as huck, woven as summer and winter, woven as twill, etc.)
 - Polychrome
 - No Tabby
 - Swivel
 - Shadow
 - Thick and Thin
 - Boundweave
 - Spetsväv
 - Italian-style
 - Echo
 - Flame
 - Bargello-style
- c. Make each sample at least 36 square inches (e.g. 6x6")
- d. Separate each sample with an area of plain weave
- e. Wash and press the sampler.

2. TWILL GAMP

- a. Use at least 5 different twill threadings, and five different treadlings (could be tromp as writ or other treadlings)
- b. Each threading and treadling must be at least 3" wide finished
- c. Use one smooth yarn with a contrasting color in the warp and weft (dividers should be a third contrasting color)
- d. Finish with hemstitching or any other hand-done warp protection
- e. Wash and press

E. 4 IDENTICAL ARTICLES or A PIECE WITH MATCHED DESIGN PANELS.

Choose one loom-controlled structure not used in I.A. and submit either a set of four identical articles or a piece with joined, matched design panels such as a coverlet or tablecloth.

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F. OTHER

1. All pieces must be ORIGINAL. Information on all of the required techniques can be obtained from books, classes, or experimentation, however, workshop and in-class pieces may not be submitted.
2. Unless otherwise specified, all articles should be at least 150 square inches.
3. Submit at least one piece that is 20" or more wide by 36" or more long.
4. Articles appropriate to use.
5. Articles demonstrate good weaving techniques (good selvages, even beat, no knots, no errors).
6. Articles demonstrate pleasing effect.

G. EQUIPMENT

1. You must use a hand loom where each step is initiated by the weaver
2. Record the loom, any auxiliary equipment, and any design software used for each piece, number of shafts, model, loom type, fly shuttle, auto-advance, dobby, computer dobby, etc.
3. Use an unassisted hand loom (and note on the record sheet) for at least two pieces where the selvages show.

II. DRAFTING

A. HAND DRAFTING (3 drawdowns) (May be done neatly in pencil)

1. Design a profile or use a historic profile and draw it down.
2. Choose two appropriate block weaves and convert the profile to two thread-by thread drawdowns. Check float lengths.

B. Hand or Computer Drafting

1. Include a complete profile drawdown and threading key or drawdown for each block weave article, gamp, or sample submitted
2. Include a complete drawdown for each nonblock weave article, gamp, or sample. See Definitions: drawdown

III. PRODUCTION ASSESSMENT (written)

- A. Estimate the amount of yarn, cost, and time needed for one of the finished articles which you are submitting.
- B. Calculate the amount of yarn, cost, and time needed to produce six of the same item on the same warp. In other words, if your project is a scarf, then your estimate will be for six scarves on the same warp.
- C. Include samples and sources of the yarn used.

IV. LOOM KNOWLEDGE (written) Define or describe briefly in words. You may illustrate with your own drawings if desired.

- A. Rigid Heddle loom
- B. Draw loom, Long-eyed heddles, and Jacquard loom
- C. Mechanical Dobby and Computer Dobby
- D. Fly-shuttle and Auto-advance

Requirements for Master Weaver Rating

The purpose of this rating is to extend the design skills and creativity of the weaver, while filling in a few special techniques. The weaver is encouraged to simultaneously explore new structures, techniques, and design ideas.

All work must be original. A Master Weaver applicant must create independently. In other words, the applicant should not seek assistance from teachers, friends, or colleagues in the form of ideas and/or constructive criticism. Completed pieces may be shown but not changed as a result of feedback. All questions and concerns having to do with ratings should be directed to the Ratings Chair who will answer all reasonable questions.

TOTAL of 12 FINISHED ARTICLES and 4 SAMPLERS (beginning with February 2026 submissions, 13 finished articles will be required)

I. FIBERS (8 ARTICLES)

A. Design and weave eight different articles:

1. All cotton
2. All wool
3. All singles linen
4. All plied linen
5. All silk
6. At least 25% novelty yarn
7. All synthetic yarn (rayon, tencel, and other regenerated fibers acceptable)
8. Combination of yarns (weights, fibers, and textures)

B. Requirements

1. Emphasize creativity and originality.
2. Use a variety of yarns from fine (6000+ ypp) to coarse (1000 or less ypp).
3. Minimum size 225 square inches.
4. At least four of the articles must be woven using eight or more shafts.
5. Include one or more articles designed without repeats in warp and weft. These can be without pattern repeats, repeats in block size or order, or thread-by-thread repeats, etc.
6. Include one or more articles with two or more structures.
7. Include one or more articles using more sheds than 2 plus the number of shafts in use. For example, 6 shafts can be used with 9 or more different sheds.

II. SPECIAL TECHNIQUES (2 SAMPLERS, 2 ARTICLES)

A. RUG SAMPLER

1. Make one sampler at least 8" wide
2. Use four or more shafts
3. Sample six different techniques, each sample at least 8" long.
4. Half the techniques are to be in knotted or looped pile, half in flat weave.

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B. WEAVING MORE THAN ONE LAYER (Double Weave, Triple, etc.)

1. TWO or MORE LAYER SAMPLER

- a. At least 36 square inches per sample (e.g. 6x6").
- b. Your choice of fibers, sett, textures, subsidiary structure, colors.
- c. The sampler must be one continuous length.
- d. Include at least 6 of the following or similar techniques:

Double width

Two (or more) separate layers

Tube

Pockets

Stuffed

Exchange layers

Tucks

Stitched

Four-color

Pick-up technique such as Finn Weave or Mexican method

2. Double or Multiple Layer FINISHED ARTICLE

- a. Your own choice
- b. At least 225 square inches

C. TAPESTRY

Make one completely weft-faced tapestry or item which includes at least 50 square inches of weft-faced tapestry.

1. Include curves, diagonals, hatchings, and straight lines (with any slits closed properly) in your design.
2. Minimum size is 50 square inches.
3. The tapestry must be submitted with its cartoon or design.

III. DESIGN (2 SAMPLERS, 2 ARTICLES)

A. Make TWO SAMPLERS on different warps with two different repeating threading patterns

1. Use more than 4 shafts.
2. One threading must have mirrors, the other must not.
3. Each sampler must be at least 10" wide.
4. Include enough repeats to show the effect of the pattern.
5. Weave 12 samples on each sampler showing the possibilities of each threading.
 - a. At least six all over patterns on each sampler, minimum length 6".
 - b. At least six borders on each sampler. (Do not repeat a sampler pattern as a border.)
 - c. Include some treadlings with mirrors and some without.
6. Each sampler must be one continuous length. Each treadling must be delineated in some way from the previous one (area of plain weave, contrasting color, etc.)

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B. Choose one treadling from each sampler and make a complete ARTICLE from each.

C. WRITTEN: Discuss briefly the following terms and their importance in woven design:

1. Proportion
2. Rhythm
3. Focus

IV. FABRIC ANALYSIS

Analyze a piece of fabric selected by the Ratings Chair.

- A. Analysis to be done by hand - not computer generated. You may enlarge by scanning or xeroxing if needed.
- B. Give threading, treadling, tie-up, and drawdown.
- C. Include information about the yarn (including a burn test), sett, beat, etc.

V. DRAFTING

A. HAND DRAFTING (3 options - PICK ONE) (May be done neatly in pencil)

1. Network Drafting
 - a. Design a curve for a network draft.
 - b. Telescope and digitize it to a smaller number of shafts.
 - c. Choose an appropriate initial, and drawdown each version (3 complete drawdowns).
2. Design and draw down a Braided Twill. Two repeats in warp and weft
3. Design and draw down a Fancy Twill. Two repeats in warp and weft

B. Hand or Computer Drafting

1. Include a complete profile drawdown and threading key or drawdown for each block weave article submitted
2. Include a complete drawdown for each non-block weave article. See Definitions: drawdown

VI. COMMUNICATION (Choose one)

As a demonstration of a Master Weaver's willingness and ability to impart knowledge, prepare on paper and in detail, ONE of the following teaching tools or techniques:

- A. Course outline
- B. Lesson plan
- C. Lecture
- D. Short talk
- E. Article or chapter on some segment of textile history, technique, structure, etc.
- F. Any other form of communication you can describe or outline.

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VII. EQUIPMENT

- A. You must use a hand loom where each step is initiated by the weaver
- B. Record the loom, any auxiliary equipment, and any design software used for each piece, number of shafts, model, loom type, fly shuttle, auto-advance, dobby, computer dobby, etc.
- C. At this level your body of work will be juried for demonstrating mastery of the range of capabilities of the equipment you choose.

VIII. MASTERPIECE (1 ARTICLE) – required starting with February 2026 submissions

Weave an original article of outstanding quality using your own design, with fiber, structure, and color of your choice. Pay particular attention to your design process. Document any study or research you do, and document the thought process that brought you to your design. This piece should be the culmination of your ratings study and other experience, standing above the other submitted master ratings work.

The Master Weaver Plus Rating has been discontinued.

*Note from the ratings chair: The changes and clarifications in the revised ratings requirements strongly reflect our efforts to be inclusive of the changes in weaving technology. The amount of weaving is approximately the same as the prior ratings requirements although some requirements have changed. It is expected that you will wish to combine requirements where possible, but minimum numbers of articles are specified. Submit your questions to the ratings chair. **Revision accepted unanimously 4/22/2010. Revision committee: Deborah Watson (chair), Marlene Marchilena, Barbara Herbster, Marjie Thompson, Eileen Goldman and Laurie Autio.***

Minor clarifications made by Deborah Watson, August 2013.

Additional clarifications made by Deborah Watson with the assistance of Ruth Buchman, July 2018.

Minor revisions made by Ruth Buchman, June 2020.

Revised by Ruth Buchman in consultation with Deborah Watson and Laurie Autio, June 2021.

Minor additions made by Ruth Buchman, June 2022.

Revised by Ruth Buchman in consultation with Deborah Watson, Barbara Herbster, Laurie Autio, Eileen Crawford, and others, June 2023.

Minor revisions made by Ruth Buchman, June 2024.
