

HANDSPUN GALLERY OF Spaced-Out Felted Scarves

Editor's note: This gallery came about when Liz Gipson (managing editor of *Handwoven* and *Knitting Daily TV* cohost) came bounding into the *Spin-Off* office (well, truth be told, she scooted on her chair through the doorway that separates our offices) to show me a scarf made with handspun singles and using Jane Patrick's draft for a Spaced-Out Felted Scarf. One thing led to another—and suddenly (with Jane's blessing) we were posting a quickie challenge in Ravelry's Rigid Heddle Group to see what others would do with the same pattern. Several people were able to complete the challenge within the teeny-weeny window of time that we gave them—below are the results! Now Liz is flying off to Cleveland with the scarves carefully packed into her bags so that she can show them on *Knitting Daily TV* as examples of what people can do with spinning and weaving.

Spaced-Out Felted Scarf for harness loom or rigid heddle loom

BY JANE PATRICK

Editor's note: From the Winter 2008 *News You Can Ewe* (Schacht On-line Free Newsletter), reprinted with permission from Schacht Spindle Co.

I designed this scarf for the Weave-a-Scarf-in-a-Day workshop I taught at the TNNA conference in Long Beach in January. It is easy for beginners, but has appeal to more seasoned weavers as well. Here's the basic idea: spaced warps and wefts are woven in an open weave to create a grid. The scarf is then felted in the washing machine. I love the way felting makes a fabric that is interesting and never the same from one end of the scarf to the other and from crafter to crafter. Believe it or not, I designed, warped, and wove this scarf in an evening—and threw it into the wash as I went to bed.

Fabric description: Spaced warps and wefts, plain weave, felted.

Finished Size: 5½" × 72".

Equipment: Table loom, floor loom, or rigid heddle loom with at least a 9" weaving width. Two 1" × 9" strips of cardboard.

Warp and weft: Brown Sheep's Nature Spun Sportweight Wool (184 yards per ball). 1 ball each of purple, Boysenberry (color 157S) and green, Limestone (color 144S). Any similar size wool yarn that felts will work.

Warp length: 120", which allows 18" loom waste and take-up on a rigid heddle loom. If you are weaving on a floor loom, you should allow another 12", or whatever you generally allow (you may need another ball of yarn of each color, depending on the additional length).

Width in reed: 9".

Total warp ends: 50 (30 purple and 20 green).

Ends per inch: Use a 10-dent reed or 10-dent rigid heddle reed.

Threading guide:

You can also use a ruler as you weave to see if you are weaving the correct number of picks per inch. If there is any unevenness in the weaving, it will be completely masked when the fabric is felted. This is one of the reasons this project is so great for beginners. Once you have it woven and felted no one will ever know if your selvages were uneven or your beat somewhat irregular.

Weave in this way for the length of the scarf: weave an inch, leave an inch unwoven, weave an inch, leave an inch unwoven, and so on. I alternated stripes of purple and green throughout. To leave an inch unwoven, I inserted a 1" strip of cardboard the width of the weaving and then wove the next inch and inserted a second strip of cardboard. After weaving the next inch, I took out the first cardboard strip and inserted it in the shed, in essence leapfrogging the two pieces of cardboard between each inch of weaving.

Note: In a rigid heddle reed, you will either thread or skip both slots and holes, for a width of 1".

Weaving: Weave a balanced weave. That is,

Threading Guide

Purple	1 inch 10 ends				1 inch 10 ends				1 inch 10 ends
Green			1 inch 10 ends				1 inch 10 ends		
Open		Skip 10 dents		Skip 10 dents		Skip 10 dents		Skip 10 dents	



Jane Patrick's handspun version of her Spaced-Out Felted Scarf.

short fringe with the warp ends. I left my fringe too long and it matted up more than I had expected.

FELTING THE SCARF

If you've ever accidentally thrown your beloved wool sweater in the washing machine and found that what went in a size 12 came out a size 6, then you're an experienced, if accidental, felter. This is what you are going to do to your scarf—on purpose. To prepare the scarf for washing, roll it up in cotton dishtowels, being careful not to let it bunch up on itself. Make sure that there is a layer of towel between each layer of scarf, otherwise the parts will felt together. When you reach the end, make sure you have the entire end of the scarf contained within the towel. Tie the bundle in several places with string and place in a laundry bag. Wash the scarf bundle on the hot water setting in your washing machine. I used a front-load washing machine and didn't check it during the wash. For top-load machines, I suggest you use a gentle cycle and check your scarf midway through the cycle as top-load machines are a bit less gentle and the felting process can happen quite quickly. Once you feel that it is sufficiently felted, remove the scarf from the machine, rinse in lukewarm water, and lay flat to dry. Steam-press using a lot of pressure. Trim ends and fringe as necessary.

Project Notes

weave as many weft rows (or picks) per inch as warp threads per inch. In this project, ten picks per inch should give a balanced weave. The spaces between the warp and weft threads should be square.

Weave until you can't weave any longer. Your weaving will seem overly long, but once it is washed, it will shrink about 20% in length and about 40% in width.

Finishing: Remove the fabric from the loom and carefully lay it out on a table or floor. Trim all weft tails to about 1" (if you leave them too long, they will mat and felt into the scarf). I recommend a twisted, fairly

Fiber: 4 oz. millspun mohair/wool batt, novelty yarns spun from millspun yarns, 2 fine 20/2 worsted wool yarns, and a metallic yarn.

Drafting method: Woolen.

Wheel: Schacht double treadle.

Wheel system: Scotch tension.

Ratio (singles/plying): 11:1/13:1.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Singles wraps per inch: 17.

Total yardage: 625.

Yards per pound: 2,500.

Yarn classification: Fingering weight.

Yardage used: 547.

Loom: Flip rigid heddle loom with a 10-dent reed.

Width on loom: 6".

Warp Length: 2½ yards (allowing for 18" of loom waste).

Sett: 7–8.

Finished size: 5½" x 66" (after washing).

Charlotte Keathley of Corryton, Tennessee

Rainbow Scarf

I used handpainted wool roving for the weft and the warp. I split the roving length-wise into three sections, and I split these sections into color sequences running from violet to red. This kept an order to the colors. As I spun, each piece of roving began with violet and ended with red. I Navajo-plied the singles to keep the colors true. I felt that this benefited the weft more than the warp because the warp looks like I have just used a different color with each threading, while the short width of the weft really shows the color transitions. I almost didn't weave this scarf because I didn't like the colors—they were a little bright for me—but I am glad I completed it, because now I love it. I felted it in the washing machine with hot water, taking it out a couple of times to rinse in cold and then putting it back in the washer. The weft felted more than the warp, but I like a long scarf.



Project Notes

Fiber: 4 oz handpainted wool roving from Woolies Fiberworks in the Rainbow colorway.

Drafting method: Semiworsted.

Wheel: Lo uet Victoria.

Wheel system: Scotch tension.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Number of plies: 3 (Navajo plied).

Plied direction spun: S.

Plied twists per inch: 4.

Plied wraps per inch: 17.

Total yardage: 312.

Yards per pound: 1,250.

Yarn classification: Sportweight.

Yardage used: 283.

Loom: Ashford Knitter's Loom (I used a 10-dent reed, although I could probably have used a 7.5-dent reed).

Finished size: 6" × 80" (after fulling).

Susan Fricks of Paige, Texas

Pucker-Up Scarf

I spun this weft yarn some time ago without any project in mind. I had handpainted the camel down/silk warp, and then put it aside when I couldn't decide on a project. When this challenge came up, these two yarns just seemed to want to be put together! I finished both yarns by soaking them in mild detergent and hanging the skeins to dry on a drying rack.

I fulling the scarf in the washing machine between towels (until the bundle wiggled undone), then finished felting by hand until the scarf was uniform. Differences between the fibers resulted in large purple puckers in every row and nice barely felted stripes of handpainted camel down/silk.

While it was quite a shock to see the difference between the scarf just off the loom and the felted scarf, I'm very pleased with the results.



Project Notes

Warp

Fiber: 2½ oz natural camel down/tussah.

Preparation: Spun and measured warp, then handpainted using fiber-reactive dyes.

Drafting method: Short-draw.

Wheel: Schacht Matchless.

Wheel system: Double drive.

Ratio (singles/plying): 11:1.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Twist angle: 40°.

Number of plies: 3 (Navajo plied).

Plied direction spun: S.

Plied twists per inch: 5.

Plied wraps per inch: 24.

Total yardage: 408.

Yards per pound: 3,000.

Yarn classification: Laceweight.

Warp length: 3 yds.

Weft

Fiber: 2 oz purple 80% Merino/20% bombyx silk top.

Preparation: Spun directly from the prepared top.

Drafting method: Short draw.

Wheel: Schacht Matchless.

Wheel system: Double drive.

Ratio (singles/plying): 11:1.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Twist angle: 40°.

Number of plies: 3.

Plied direction spun: S.

Plied twists per inch: 4.

Plied wraps per inch: 22.

Yards per pound: 2,500.

Yarn classification: Finger-ing weight.

Yardage used: 200.

Picks per inch: 12.

Loom: Schacht Flip 20" rigid-heddle loom.

Width in loom: 14.33".

Sett: 12-dent reed and 136 ends.

Finished size: 13" x 80" (before fulling), 5" x 76" (after fulling), 3¾ oz.

Notes: Threading: (2, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 8 dents empty) x 4 (2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 8 dents empty, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2) x 4 (thinking that I'd get some cramming and spacing effect). I wove 12 picks per inch for 1" and left about ⅔" open, then repeated to end. Holes were squared up in the weaving.

Terri Bibby of Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, Canada

Even though I have very little handspun yarn, I decided to participate in the handspun challenge that Liz Gipson put to the Rigid Heddle Group on Ravelry.com. The brown yarn (at each edge) that I spun at the DreamSpin retreat at Lake Cowichan (my first time spinning in many years) was spun from the fold (which I had just learned how to do). Many, many years ago I spun the blue two-ply in the middle of the warp. The weft is a singles yarn (again spun many years ago) handpainted blue, green, yellow on Dye Day as part of our Weavers Guild program this summer. I used some millspun as I didn't have enough handspun to complete the project. The white in the warp is from Gulf Islands Spinning Mill on Salt Spring Island—it is local island wool.

So, in Saori style (befitting my Saori loom), this was put together from odds and ends of various weights and colors that I had in my stash. It is based on the Spaced-Out Felted Scarf by Jane Patrick, though the threading is modified and it



Project Notes

Warp

Brown yarn

Fiber: The brown yarn is from multicolored Merino top from Ashland Bay in the Sandalwood colorway.

Preparation: Spun from prepared top.

Drafting method: From the fold.

Wheel: Ashford Traditional.

Wheel system: Scotch tension.

Ratio (singles/plying): 6:1.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Number of plies: 2.

Plied direction spun: S.

Plied twists per inch: 3.

Plied wraps per inch: 10.

Yards per pound: 650.

Yarn classification: Bulky.

White yarn

Fiber: Local Salt Spring Island millspun wool.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Number of plies: 2.

Plied direction spun: S.

Plied twists per inch: 3.

Plied wraps per inch: 10.

Yards per pound: 450.

Yarn classification: Bulky.

Blue yarn

Fiber: Romney wool.

Preparation: Dyed blue in

the locks and blended on handcards.

Drafting method: Short backward draw.

Wheel: Ashford Traditional.

Wheel system: Scotch tension.

Ratio (singles/plying): 6:1.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Number of plies: 2.

Plied direction spun: S.

Plied twists per inch: 4.

Plied wraps per inch: 12.

Weft

Fiber: Handpainted wool roving.

Drafting method: Short

backward draw.

Wheel: Ashford Traditional.

Wheel system: Scotch tension.

Ratio (singles/plying): 6:1.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Singles wraps per inch: 13.

Yards per pound: 950.

Yarn classification: Worsted weight.

Loom: Saori SX-60.

Finished size: 7" × 60" (before fulling); 6" × 52" (after fulling).

Melissa Ludden of Boulder, Colorado

As a weaver, spinner, and year-round bike commuter, I am always looking for a good scarf that provides warmth and protection without too much bulk. With Jane's Spaced-Out Felted Scarf as inspiration, I decided to create my own version. This scarf is felted, so I incorporated pearl cotton with the warp to give the final piece an element with some definition as well as a bit of pucker. The pearl cotton serves an additional purpose—because cotton doesn't felt, the scarf has more flexibility than if all the elements had been felted. I used millspun yarns for the warp and handspun for the weft.

Warp: 200 yards 3/2 pearl cotton in #7 Oak, 200 yards Designer Homespun Tweeds from Tahki Imports. Thread inches 1 and 11 as TTPPTTPPTT (T=tweed, P=pearl cotton), and inches 3,5,7, and 9 as PPTTPPTTPP. Inches 2,4,6,8,10 are skipped to create the spaces in the scarf.

After each 10 picks of weft, I inserted a lease stick to create a space of about the same width as the segment of cloth I had just woven. This was continued throughout the entire piece creating a spaced weft crossed with a spaced warp.

To finish, I tied overhand knots in each 1" segment, spread the scarf out on a towel, safety pinned each fringe segment to the towel, and rolled up the towel. I then secured each end of the towel and threw the whole thing in the washer to full it in one cycle.

Project Notes

Weft

Fiber: 2.5 oz handpainted Merino from Spunky Eclectic in the Forecast colorway.

Preparation: Divided lengths of roving into three thinner segments.

Drafting method: Woolen.

Wheel: Schacht Matchless double treadle.

Wheel system: Scotch tension.

Ratio: 11:1.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Singles wraps per inch: 14.

Total yardage: 350.

Yards per pound: 2,240.

Yarn classification: Fingering weight.

Yardage used: 215.

Loom: Schacht Baby Wolf.

Ends per inch: 10.

Sett: 1" spaces separating each 1" of warp.

Width in reed: 11".

Threading/treadling: Plain weave.

Finished size: 5" x 96" (after fulling).





Ginger Balch of Torrington, Connecticut

I was reminded by seeing a scarf on Ravelry.com that I wanted to weave Jane Patrick's Spaced-Out Felted Scarf, so I started digging through my fiber stash to see what would work. I didn't find any sportweight colors to my liking, so I chose a sportweight Icelandic singles. But I didn't think the singles thing all the way through, so I didn't realize how "lively" my scarf would be until I took it off the loom. I also was reminded during the felting process how natural white fibers tend to felt more readily than the darker ones. I love the final result of kinky dark singles against the white felted singles. I can't stop looking at it! Now, I can't wait to try other yarns (especially my handspun singles) in my projects.

Project Notes

Warp and Weft

Fiber: 4 oz Icelandic pencil roving from Louise Heite (equal amounts of black and white).

Preparation: None.

Drafting method: Very lightly drafted the pencil roving.

Wheel: Ashford Traditional.

Wheel system: Single drive.

Ratio: 6.5:1.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Singles wraps per inch: 21.

Total yardage: 438.

Yards per pound: 1,750.

Yarn classification: Sportweight.

Yardage used: 328.

Loom: Ashford Rigid Heddle with a 10-dent reed.

Ends per inch: 10.

Width in reed: 12".

Threading/treading: Plain weave.

Finished size: 8" x 72" (after fulling).

Diane Mulholland of London, England

I spun the warp on my Wee Peggy last Easter at Mum's, with particular care taken to make it smooth and even, but I spun the weft with much less care (more character) on my Ashford Joy.

This scarf took me only about five hours to weave, start to finish! The original pattern is designed to be completely full, but I wanted to keep the character of the yarn, so I scrunched it a fair bit by hand in the wash water—just enough to meld the squares a bit and let the scarf bloom.

Project Notes

Warp and Weft

Fiber: 3 oz Merino/silk combed top.

Preparation: Predrafted.

Wheel: Wee Peggy (warp); Ashford Joy (weft).

Singles direction spun: Z.

Number of plies: 2.

Plied direction spun: S.

Plied twists per inch: 6.

Plied wraps per inch: 25.

Total yardage: 487.

Yards per pound: 2,600.

Yarn classification: Laceweight.

Yardage used: 406.

Loom: Kromski rigid heddle.

Ends per inch: 10.

Width in reed: 10".

Warp length: 98".

Threading/Treading: Plain weave.

Finished size: 10" x 83" (before fulling); 8½" x 74" (after fulling).

