

So far, our main concern with Plain Weave has been with warp and weft showing in equal amounts-or 50/50 Plain Weave. Fabrics with more warp showing than weft, or vice versa, or with no warp showing or no weft showing (not in the same fabric, however!)can be woven for special effects and particular uses. Very different and very interesting effects can be achieved because color and pattern areas become more intensified.

## Warp-Faced Plain Weave

When the warp is set so closely that the weft is completely obscured, the fabric is known as a "warp-faced" fabric. The resulting fabric is often heavy and much less pliable than a 50/50 weave. Some suitable uses of the fabric would be for bands, purses, mats, and rugs. Inkle bands are warp faced fabrics.
For a warp faced fabric, the warp threads are set about twice as close as they usually are. Because of this, it is often difficult to separate the sheds easily. Smooth yarns are advised. Narrow warps or spaced warps are easiest-but wide rugs may be made. If the warp threads can be spread out over more than two harnesses, shedding will be easier. Sometimes the reed is removed and the weft beaten in with a hand beater.



Designed by Helene Bress.


