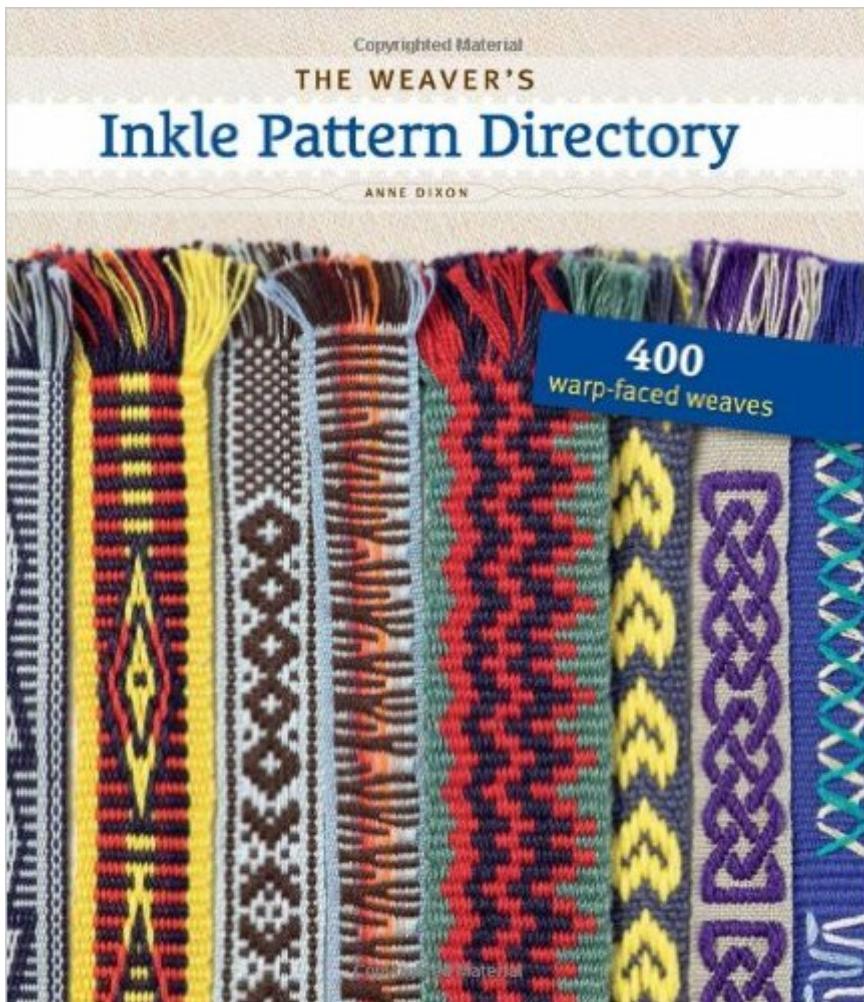


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The Weaver's Inkle Pattern Directory: 400 Warp-Faced Weaves



Synopsis

From expert weaver Anne Dixon is The Weaver's Inkle Pattern Directory--the ultimate resource for inkle weavers. Inkle weaving is a simple technique that offers ample opportunity for experimentation by beginners and experienced weavers. This book provides 400 patterns for loom enthusiasts and is the most comprehensive tool available to weavers. You'll discover: An overview of inkle weaving's history and traditions. Instructions for loom set-up and simple techniques. An astonishing 400 woven patterns--some making their first debut. Illustrated samples and charts. Drafts provided throughout the entire guide. An incomparable guide, Anne Dixon offers all of the tips, tricks, and techniques to these traditional and modern patterns and introduces a bounty of new, innovative designs as well. Inkles can be used for a variety of projects ranging from belts and braces to trims and neckpieces. They can be stitched together to make bags, mobile-phone purses, cushion-covers, table-mats, and much more. Also included is a foreword by Madelyn van der Hoogt, the editor of *Handwoven* magazine and the author of *The Complete Book of Drafting* and *The Weaver's Companion* (Interweave). She opened the Weaver's School in 1984 and teaches weaving workshops throughout the United States and Canada.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I had a copy of Helene Bress' book for years, then gave it away to a new student when I moved on to other things. When I decided to start inkling again I looked and looked for the Bress book, but it was tough to find and expensive when I got lucky. Then THIS book came out! I don't care if I never see the Bress book again...this book is the absolute best book for inkling that I could imagine! First off, the binding is excellent...flat-opening spiral binding that makes keeping a pattern page open as

simple as possible. The paper is sturdy and medium glossy, making the photo examples as beautiful as possible. The photography is excellent, with necessary close-ups and nice, thoughtful displays. The threading patterns are sensible and easy to read. And, bottom-line, the price is more than reasonable considering the work that went into this comprehensive volume. This truly can be the first and last inkle book a weaver would need, with enough patterns and variations to keep one busy for a very long (and satisfying) time.

This book is much easier to understand than most other inkle weaving books; it lays flat, the diagrams are clear, and the techniques interesting and well presented. The charts are a joy to follow! It's easy enough for a new weaver to follow, set up, and start weaving very quickly. However, the section on South American Pebble weave left me scratching my head, as I had just warped up my Swedish heddle to do a Sami pattern, and the instructions were absolutely identical even if the pattern wasn't. A check of the classic South American warp faced weaving books soon explained what had puzzled me, and this is the sole reason for the four stars. The Peruvians, Bolivians, and others, who live south of Mexico, use a different technique to the one Anne Dixon describes, which is far closer to the "pebble" weave that occurs in European band weaving, particularly from around the Baltic Sea and is not usually described as pebble weave, except in Europe. Apart from that it's an excellent resource, and with all the different techniques and patterns in the book it represents value for money. There is enough here to keep any weaver happy for a long time, particularly if you try the patterns using the many different techniques in this book! Most of them are generic so are not limited to inkle weaving either, so if you want to get ambitious on a rigid heddle or four shaft loom and weave a wider fabric, there are some wonderful inserts and trims to experiment with, including Krokbragd, a wonderful runic pattern, plenty of Baltic and South American motifs and the use of tablet weaving combined with heddle weaving, as well as trims and passementarie. For the tiny price of this book you will not find anything better and the author is to be congratulated!

The Weaver's Inkle pattern Directory is an in-depth resource for inkle weavers of all skill levels. Rather than being a simple visual compilation of inkle band patterns, it goes into detailed explanation of various techniques including some which are more commonly seen on other types of looms or in other types of weaving such as tablet weaving or monk's belt. I think this is a great book, and you won't regret your purchase.

I've been weaving for years and bought this book because it had a pattern that I was looking for. So

far so good. It's a very good thing that I know how to weave already because the drafting patterns don't give the correct warping patterns. For an example, look at page 45. The pattern of warping a heddled color between 2 white heddled threads will never give a stripe of color necessary to produce the letters. It produces a speckled line instead. Speckles are nice, I use them some time and do pick up from them, but you can't produce the pattern she is supposed to be describing. There are several more places in the book where her confusing drafting patterns don't produce the warp that she is describing. I don't know if this is a case of bad editing, or what but it is very confusing. Most of the material in this book can be found for free in various places on the internet with less confusing drafting patterns. I can't in clear conscience recommend this book to anyone. Save your money. There are better books elsewhere.

If you don't already know how to do basic inkle weaving and pickup patterns, get another book. A good one is *Inkle Weaving*. If you already do know how to do pattern weaving, and are looking for new patterns, you may be disappointed. There is little in her striped-background and "Baltic" sections that is not already available free online if you look hard enough. Likewise, several things in the "Pebble Weave" section are taken from Mary Meigs Atwater's inkle tutorials published in the 1940's, again, available free online. There are absolutely no pattern charts for the dukagang or inlay designs. The monk's belt pattern section is nice, but note that many of them could be woven more quickly on a shaft loom than as pickup patterns. My other issues with this book are as follows: First, there is a LOT of filler material. Plainweave stripes? Check. Pages of adding beads, embroidery, fringes, loops, knots? Check. Scant glossing over (about a page or less) of how to do "artsy" things like shibori, gather your band, add tablet weaving to the edge, etc. My second issue is with the ability to actually use some of the charts to produce the bands pictured. While some are a reasonable size with appropriately contrasting colors, why on earth do I need a large drawdown of plainweave? It's plainweave! Then, for more complex pickup patterns when you DO need a drawdown, let's take page 89 as an example, they compress 21 pattern threads into just over an inch wide, and make the pattern YELLOW on a tan and white striped background. So forget about even being able to enlarge it on a copier, you will need to enlarge it with markers, graph paper and a magnifying glass if you actually hope to use it. What on earth were they thinking??

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