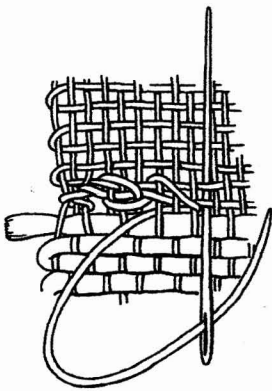


HEMSTITCHING

Hemstitching makes a neat, secure finish that prevents the raw edges of a fabric from raveling. Although hemstitching can be worked after the cloth has been cut from the loom, it is easier to work on the loom while the warp is under tension. All you'll need is a blunt needle that slips between the threads rather than piercing them. Hemstitching may be done a variety of ways.

At the Beginning of a Piece: Weave a heading of heavy waste yarn to space the warp evenly. If you're right handed, start the cloth's weft from the left selvage, leaving a tail 3 1/2 to 4 times the width of the web, and weave several



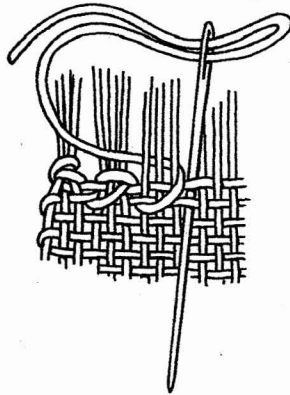
Hemstitching at the beginning of a piece.

rows before stopping to work the hemstitching. Thread the tail in a blunt needle, doubling the tail back on itself to shorten, if desired.

Step one—With the needle pointing toward the left, take a stitch under the first three ends at the left selvage. Pull to cluster the ends and create a space next to it. Holding tension on the clustered group with your left hand, flip the loop of thread *away from the reed*.

Step two—With the needle pointing *away from you*, take a stitch under the first two rows in the space beyond the cluster. Again, pull the thread and, holding the cluster under a little tension with your left hand, flip it *away from the reed*. Repeat on the next group of ends.

At the End of a Piece: If you are right handed, end with the weft at the left selvage. Cut the weft, leaving a tail 3 1/2 to 4 times the width of the web. Thread the tail in a blunt needle, shortening it by doubling the tail back on itself, if desired.



Hemstitching at the end of a piece.

Step one—With the needle pointing toward the left, take a stitch under the first three ends at the left selvage. Pull to cluster the ends and create a space next to them. Holding tension on the clustered group with your left hand, flip the loop of thread *toward the reed*.

Step two—With the needle pointing *toward you*, take a stitch under the first two rows in the space beyond the cluster. Again, pull the thread and, holding the cluster under a little tension with your left hand, flip the loop *toward the reed*. Repeat on the next group of ends.

HEMSTITCHING OFF THE LOOM

After a fabric is off the loom, hemstitching may be worked along a raw edge that has a fringe an inch or longer or within the body of the fabric before raveling weft to create a fringe. It is easier to work within the fabric because the web holds the ends in place.

Orient the fabric or edge with the fringe (or future fringe) pointing away from you, clamped between your first and second fingers held straight to provide tension. Then follow the method for ending a piece with hemstitching.

PLIED FRINGE OR CORD

Plying by twisting one group of strands around another is often used to strengthen fringe and give a bold look to the edge of a scarf or runner. Several long strands may be plied to make a cord for finishing the edges of a pillow or garment.

To ply a fringed edge, decide on the number of strands to be included and divide them into two groups. Holding a group in each hand, twist each group tightly clockwise until it kinks. Put both groups in one hand and secure the end of the bundle with an overhand knot. Release the bundle to allow the groups to twist around each other counterclockwise. You may prefer to twist and ply at the same time, interrupting the twisting to exchange the groups from one hand to the other counterclockwise to produce a tightly twisted bundle.

To ply a cord, measure a group of strands 1 1/2 to 2 times the finished length, tie one end of the bundle in a knot, and secure it to a doorknob. Divide the strands into two groups and twist each group tightly clockwise. Continue as for plied fringe.

YARN CHART

Use this yarn chart to help identify yarns and make creative substitutions in your weaving.



Size 8/4 cotton carpet warp at 1,600 yd/lb (3,225 m/kg)

Size 5/2 pearl cotton at 2,100 yd/lb (4,230 m/kg)

Size 8/2 unmercerized cotton at 3,360 yd/lb (6,775 m/kg)

Size 20/2 mercerized cotton at 8,400 yd/lb (16,935 m/kg)

Six-strand cotton embroidery floss at 9 yd/skein (8 m/skein)

Size 22/2 cottolin (50% cotton/50% linen) at 3,175 yd/lb (6,400 m/kg)

Size 22/2 cottolin (60% cotton/40% linen) at 3,175 yd/lb (6,400 m/kg)

Size 20/1 linen at 6,000 yd/lb (12,085 m/kg)

Size 40/2 linen at 6,000 yd/lb (12,085 m/kg)

Three-ply rug wool at 260 yd/lb (520 m/kg)