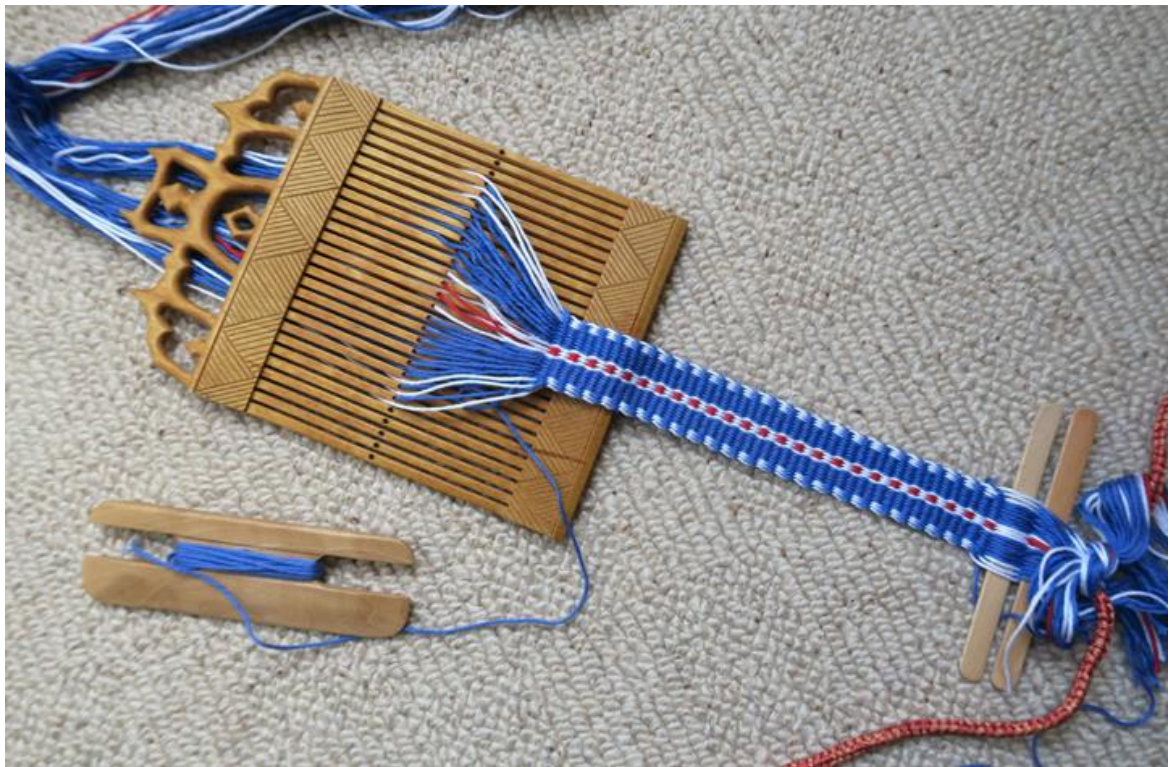


The Braid Society
Online Workshop May 2020 Week Three
More ideas for Designing Stripes

Susan J Foulkes



This workshop was prepared for the Braid Society. <https://thebraidsociety.wildapricot.org/>

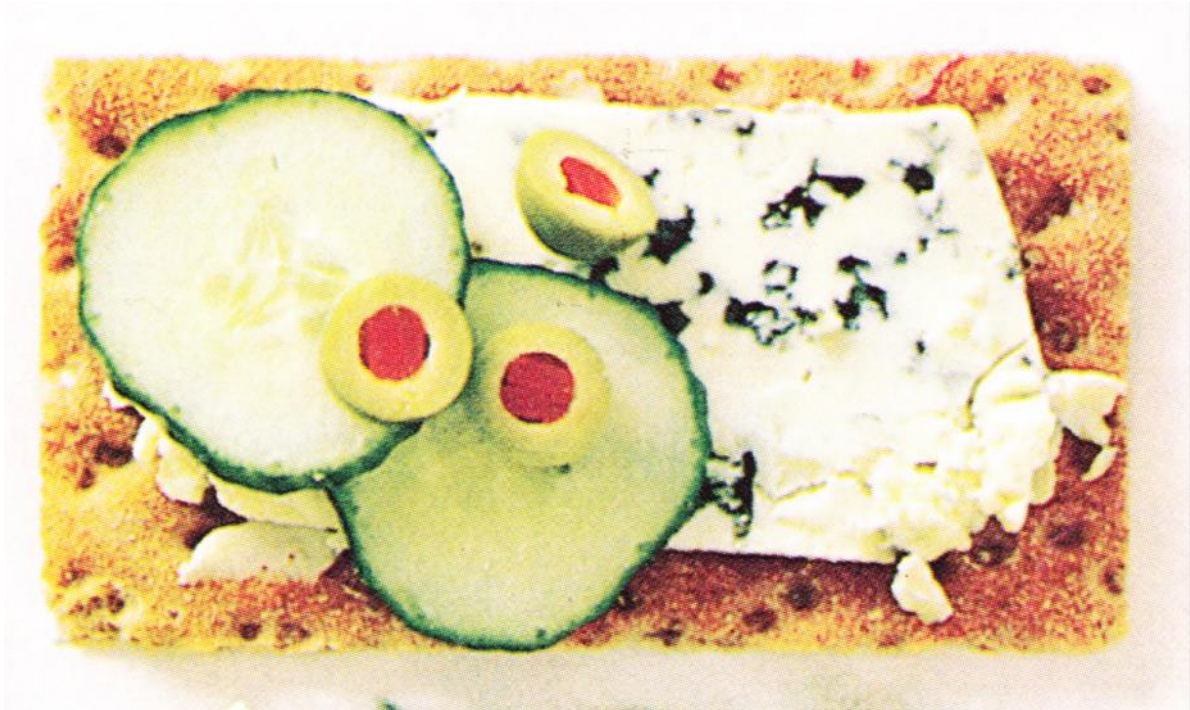
The booklets are available for any interested weaver to enjoy.

Week Three

More ideas for Designing Stripes

Find an inspiring picture. I found this exercise in a lovely book which is now out of print.

Inspirational picture



From: *The Textile Design Book : Understanding and creating patterns using texture, shape and color.* by Karin Jerstrop and Eva Köhlmark, 1988 pub: A & C Black: London UK. The authors are Swedish so perhaps it was originally published in Sweden.

Unfortunately no longer in print. It is *wonderful* source book for ideas on designing stripes etc. Here is one of the examples from page 21. I love the way even your lunch can be inspirational.

I am sure that you will all have favourite pictures, postcards, paintings, or other sources of inspiration.

You do not have to think in regular stripes. One picture or image can be used to produce different yarn wraps.

1. Collect yarns in the right colours for your selected picture.
2. Make a couple of wraps. Let dark colours dominate then light colours dominate. Use narrow vs wide stripes, regular vs irregular patterns. Let your imagination run free.
3. Hold them at a distance and think about it. Is the effect what you want? Stripes can appear very different if they are viewed close up or at a distance. Some colours may fade into the background whilst others may seem too dominant.

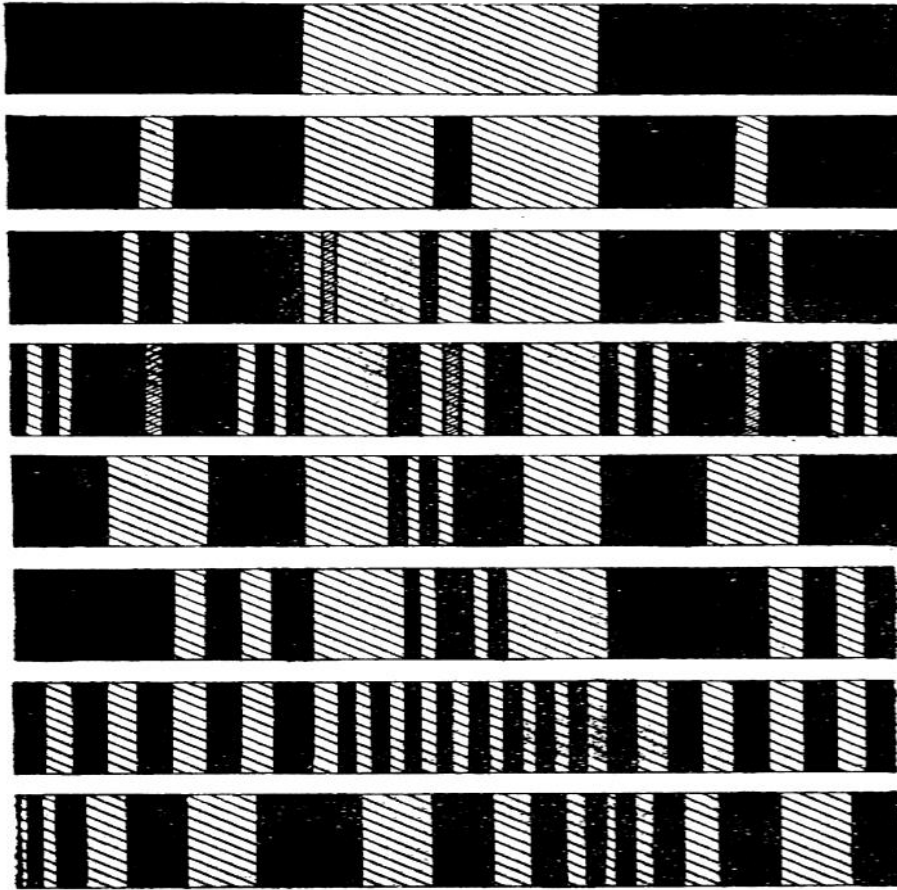
To make a yarn wrap, collect your coloured yarn together and a small rectangle of white card. I place a strip of double sided sticky tape on the back to held the threads as I wrap them around.

Take your first colour and wrap the yarn around the card. Take the second colour and do the same. Make sure that the threads are snug against each other.

Here are three yarns wraps which I made from the picture.



Here are some ideas for regular striped patterns.



This gives some ideas about symmetry and proportion. In one workshop, I used this chart as a basis for designing stripes.

Guild members coloured in the proportion chart with their combination of colours.

Yarns were chosen and made into a yarn wrap to see how the colours and proportions worked together.

This was a warm up exercise to help them think about colours and spacings.

Take a look at my blog page to see the designs that they made. I have copied two of the designs below.

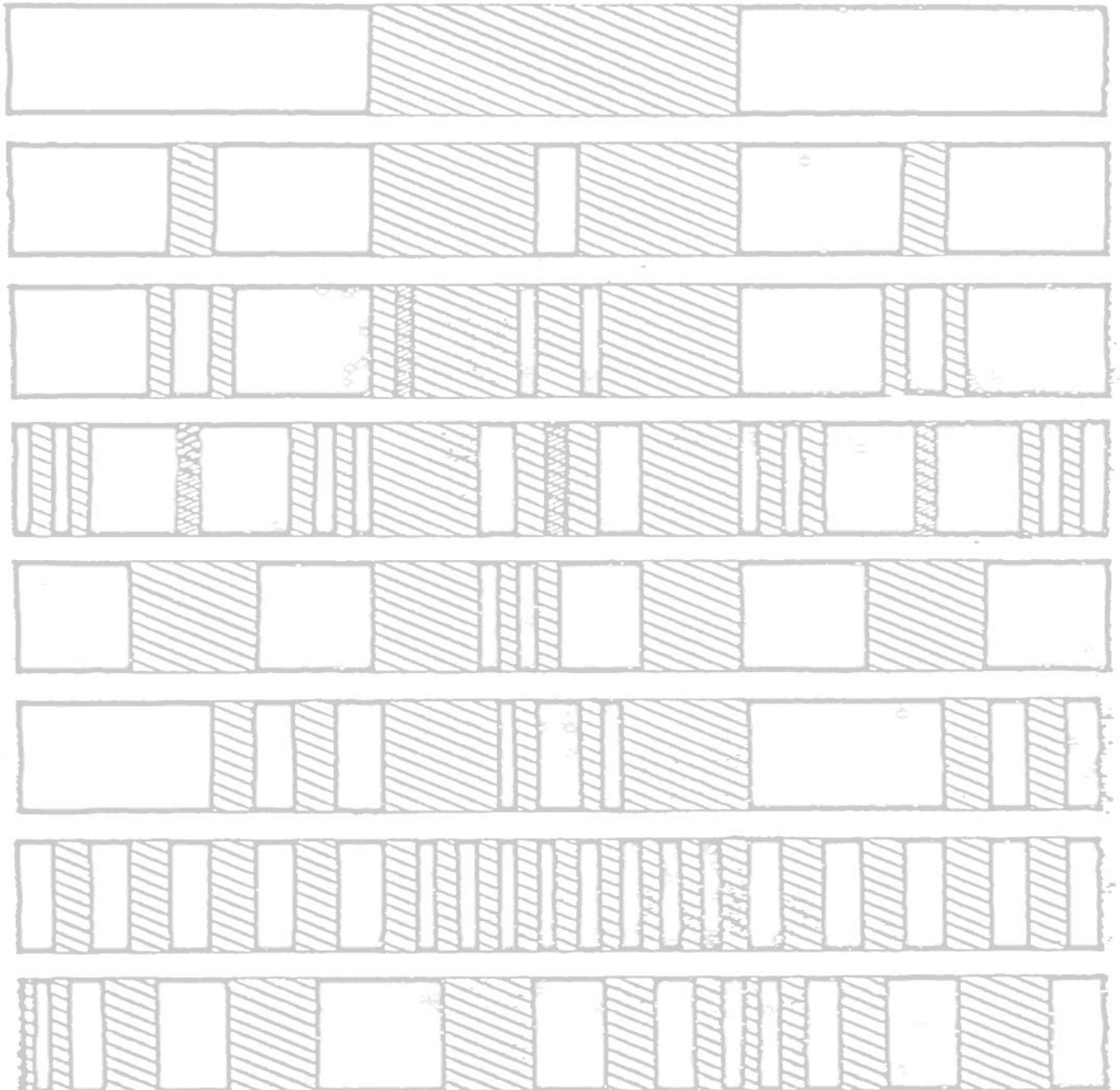
<https://durhamweaver64.blogspot.com/2016/06/designing-stripes-two-further-ideas.html>



Two charts and yarn wraps by members of the Durham Guild of Spinners, Weaver and Dyers.

Exercise 1

A blank chart for colouring in. Choose your favourite colours and see how a pattern develops.



A Peruvian Bag

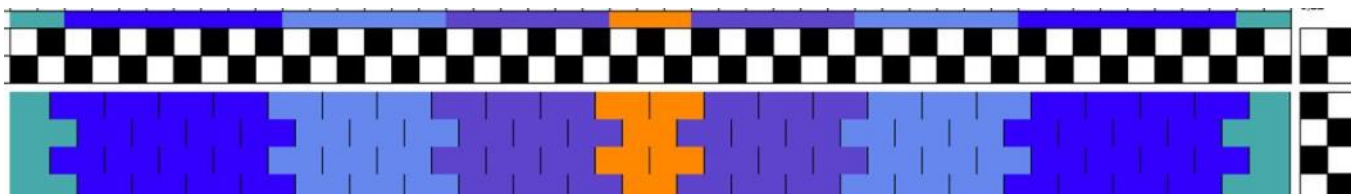


This Peruvian bag is so bright and cheerful. Last week we looked at the bag strap. The woven design has many different stripes. I liked the blue section in the centre so I designed a band.

Of course I have the bag to handle and photographs sometimes do not reproduce colour very exactly. Why not have a go and design your own stripe from this bag.

Think proportion when deciding upon the number of warp ends in each colour stripe. I decided to use 2 ends at each side in a turquoise colour which is closer to the original than the pale blue of the photograph.

The band has 47 ends in wool. I made a second band but this time I used two strands of the orange cotton for the centre three warp ends. This makes the centre more prominent. Can you see the faint view of the turquoise weft which shows in the centre of the two warp ends?



You do not have to follow a design exactly - modify it as you put yarns together.

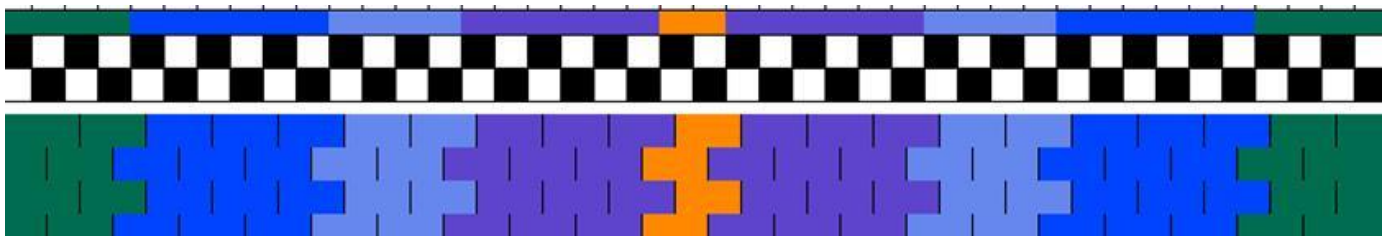


This band has three orange 16/2 ends in the centre of the warp.



For this band I doubled the threads in the centre so that each of the three orange warp ends were two strands of 16/2 cotton. This makes the central pattern stand out. You can faintly see the blue weft in the centre of the two orange warp ends on the surface.

Finally, I altered the pattern to include more green warp ends at the selvedges and only 2 orange warp ends in the centre.



Green	4							4
Blue		6					6	
Pale blue			4				4	
Purple				6		6		
Orange					2			



Exercise 2

Here are three bags I bought in Mexico as presents for friends. Choose a selection of stripes and make your own design., or choose your own favourite picture of stripes.

I love the way the warp ends have been twisted together to make the handles.



Stripes are everywhere. Once you start looking you will find them in the most unlikely of places. Striped skirts, cushion covers, external features of buildings, table linen.....

Look around and find a new source of inspiration.

Exercise 3

Take an image or photograph which has colours you like.

Take two pieces of white card. You can move the cards around the picture until you get a strip of colour that you think might make a good band design. Check out my blog for how to do this and for more patterns.

<https://durhamweaver64.blogspot.com/2017/08/exploring-colour-and-band-weaving-2.html>

<https://durhamweaver64.blogspot.com/2017/08/exploring-colour-and-band-weaving-1.html>



I chose this photograph of the statue in the centre of Durham City with the Town hall in the background, taken a few years ago. In the foreground a balloon seller adds a touch of colour.

There is a more high-tech version of this process. You can upload a small copy of your photograph to a professional colour site and the program analyses the colours for you..

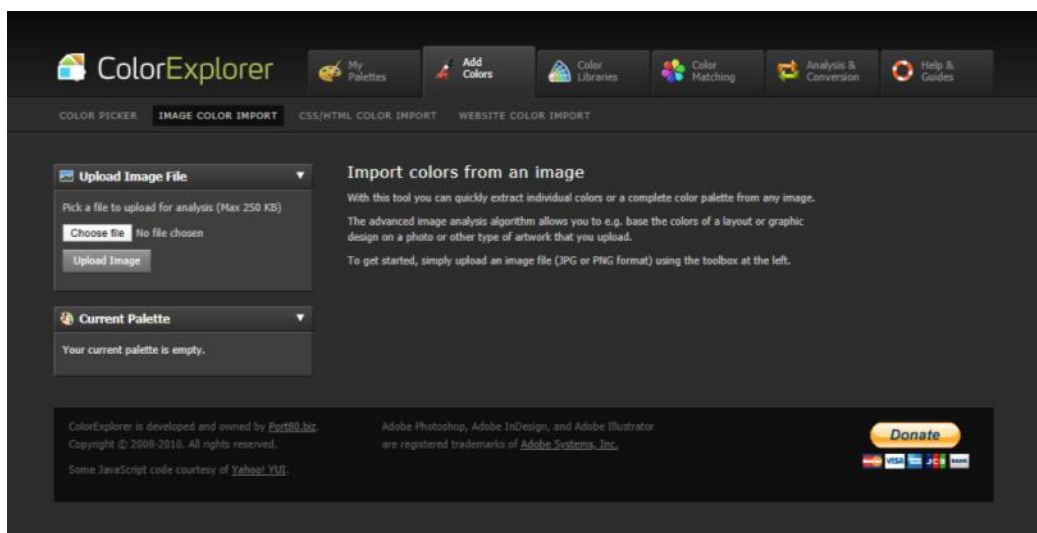
ColorExplorer.

The first analysis is from ColorExplorer at <http://www.colorexplorer.com/>

ColorExplorer.

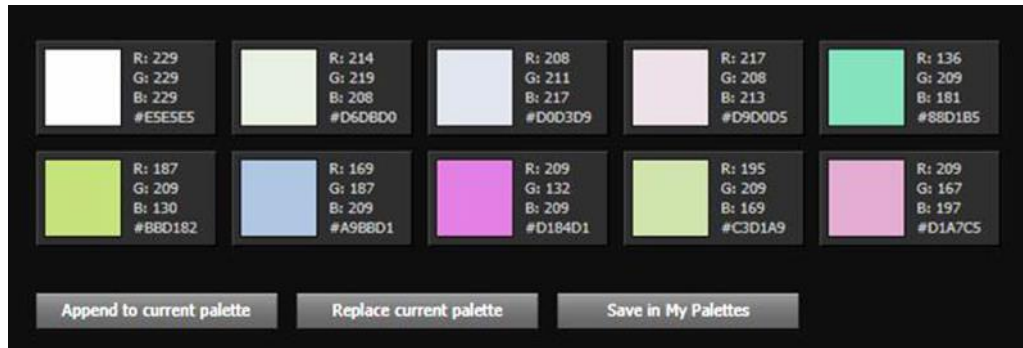
1. Click on chosen file. **NOTE** the picture has to be small.
2. Now click on upload file

Two Screen shots

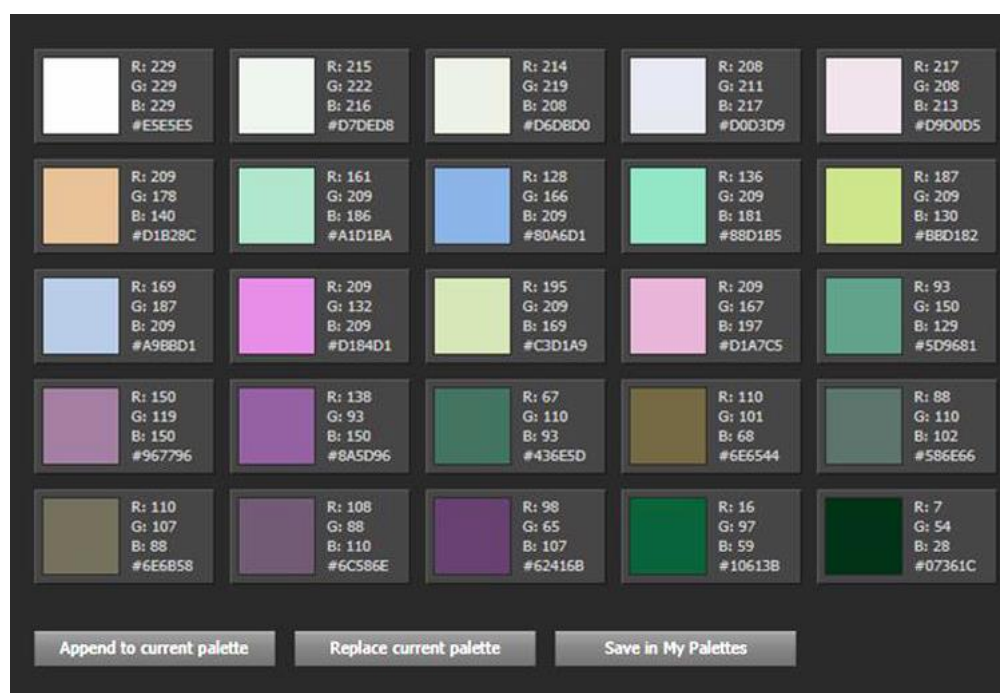


You can decide how many colours to show. Here are three alternatives : 10, 15 and 25. Now you have a colour palette you can design your own band.

Here are the three screen shots.



Three Screen shots



Tin Eye Labs

The second analysis is from Ten Eye Labs. at <http://labs.tineye.com/> I enjoy using this program. When your picture is uploaded you are given a strip pattern using the percentage of each colour in the picture.

1. Click on to Tin Eye Labs at <http://labs.tineye.com/>
2. Now click onto the box **Extract colors with MulticolorEngine**
3. You can now choose a file from your photos on your computer. You can drag and drop it in the box or upload the photo direct.

Color extraction

A TinEye Lab powered by MulticolorEngine

MulticolorEngine will display a color palette for all the colors identified in your image. Color extraction works for JPEGs, PNGs, and GIFs.

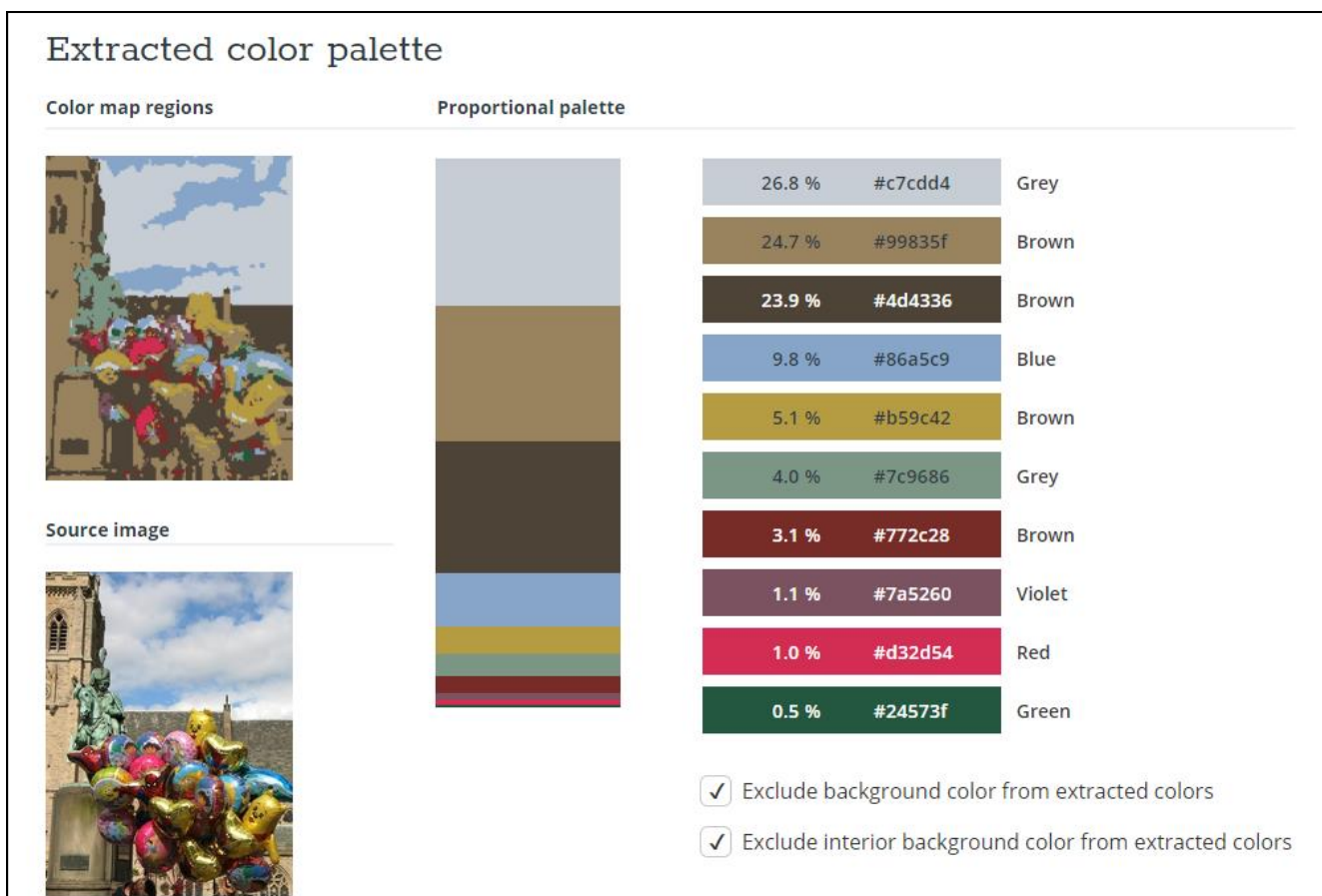
 Choose file

Enter image URL

Extract colors

Drag and drop

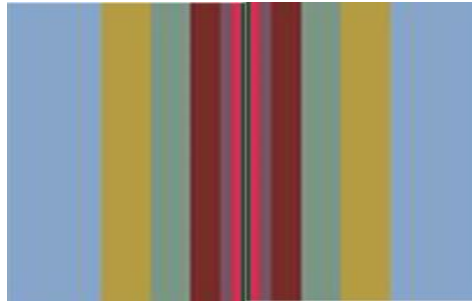
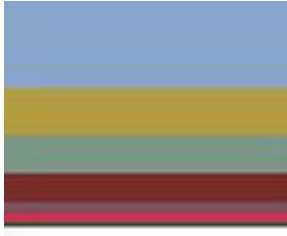
Screen shots



I took part of the stripe pattern.

I copied it and pasted it as a mirror image onto the small section.

I translated this into my weave programme and came up with a band of 87 warp ends in 7 colours.



Total number of warp ends is 87

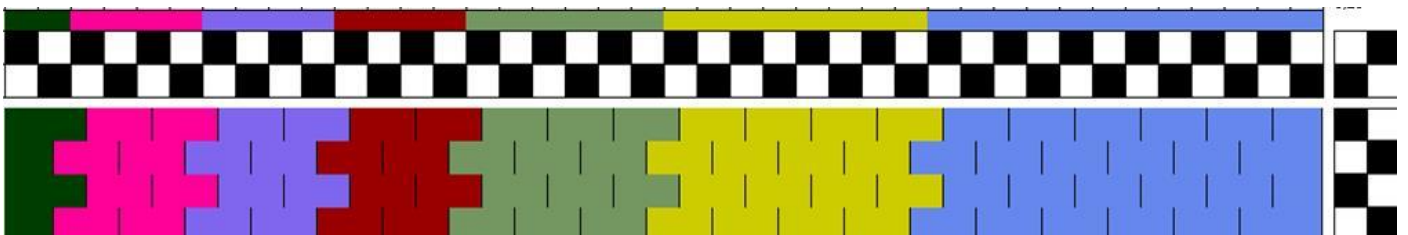
Warp: 7 shades of 16/2 Swedish cotton

Weft: pale blue 16/2 Swedish cotton

The width is approximately 20 mm.



I wanted to vary the pattern and made another bands.



Total number of warp ends is 40

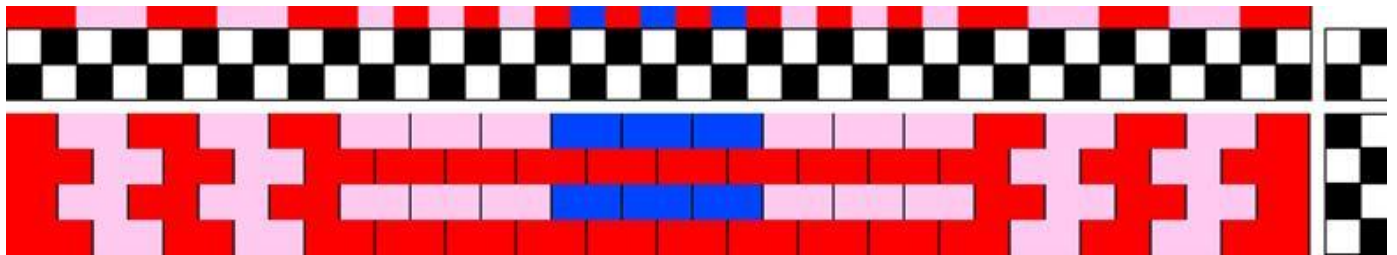
The width is approximately 10 mm.



Bookmarks

This bookmark has 37 warp ends in three colours. I have used the darning wool which comes with the sock yarn from Jawoll.. It is 13 mm (just over half an inch) in width.

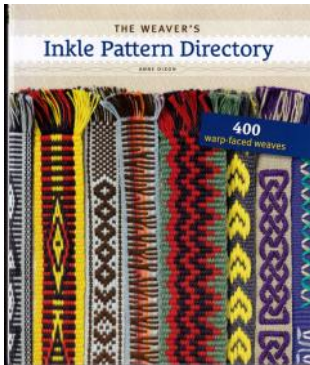
One end has been left as a fringe and the other end is plaited. The plaited end can be placed so that it is outside the book. The wool is fine so the band is not too bulky.



Here are four bookmarks made in 16/2 cotton from the Peruvian pattern. One end is a plait and the other end has been whipped so that a small tassel remains. The fifth bookmark has a plait at both ends. The length of the woven part of the band can be altered depending upon how large the book is. For these book



Books

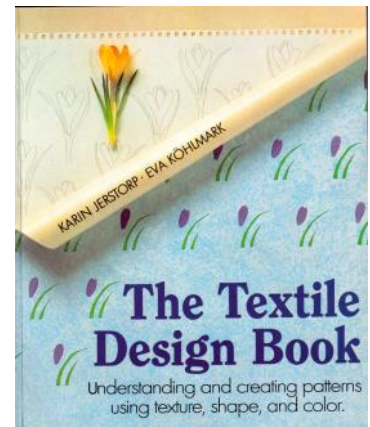


The Weaver's Inkle Pattern Directory by Anne Dixon. Interweave Press: Loveland Ohio.

I love this book as it takes you on a journey through the types of bands which can be woven using an inkle loom.

The Textile Design Book : Understanding and creating patterns using texture, shape and color. by Karin Jerstorp and Eva Köhlmark, 1988 pub: A & C Black: London UK

Unfortunately out of print but you may find a second-hand copy.



Further Ideas

Someone sent me this link. Here is a knitting designer who discovered the joys of handweaving a belt to match her knitwear.

<https://kddandco.com/2020/03/20/land-o-cakes/>

<https://kddandco.com/> If you look at here blog on this page, check out the blogs for march 2020. She has woven a lovely inkle belt to match her knitweav and also made another one in pick up, and OXO design. The blogs are called: Coofle and an OXO belt.

Endnote

Do check out my blog for further patterns.

I do hope you have enjoyed the workshop. The bands from around the world are wonderful examples of the creativity of ordinary weavers. I have only given you a small taste of what is available. Why not goon your own voyage of discovery?

Happy Weaving
Susan J Foulkes May 2020

Nordic Braids and Bands 2022

Demark

The Fifth International Conference on Braiding will be held in Denmark in 2022.

I have attended three out of the four international conferences and they are amazing. Open to Braid Society members, they are an added reason to join the Braid Society. Further details will be available in the Autumn.

***Strands*, the Journal of the Braid Society is published once a year and is a treasure-trove of fascinating articles, as well as examples of different techniques.**

The Braid Society

Do join the Braid Society. Joining is easy on the web site:

<https://thebraidsociety.wildapricot.org/>

Membership is open to everyone, so why not join us? Members receive a quarterly newsletter and the annual journal *Strands* and have access to resources in the members' area of the website.

Membership is renewable annually on 1st November. New members receive a welcome pack, which includes the latest issue of *Strands*. They will also receive the issue of *Strands* published at the end of the membership year.

Full members (Individual or Group/Family members) can participate in a range of activities alongside others who share their braiding interests such as:

The annual Swap: a sample exchange centred on a theme. This is an excellent way to 'think outside the box', see what others are doing and share your own work.

Exhibitions: the Society's annual Travelling Exhibition (which is themed and tours shows and venues around the UK) and/or the Biennial Exhibition of members' work

Come and Try Days: gatherings where you can progress your own braiding project, seek advice from others, or learn a new technique (minimal charge for Society members)

Annual General Meeting: an opportunity to influence the Society's direction, meet with other members and enjoy learning from guest speakers.

Individual full membership..... £21.00

Individual full membership after 1st July..... £27.50

Family/group full membership.....£27.50

Long haul membership.....£12.50

Long-Haul membership is available to residents of Asia, the Americas, Africa, Australia and New Zealand. Long-Haul members are mailed a hard copy of *Strands*; all other communication is by e-mail. They have no voting rights and pay non-member entry fees to Society events. Long-Haul membership does not include participation in the swap or exhibitions. An upgrade to Full membership can be made at any time.