

SUMMARY OF PROCEDURE for Sampling

- Select yarn and threading. For weft crimp, wind the warp with any fiber. For warp crimp, wind pull threads, inserted every quarter inch, with the synthetic yarn for the warp. Pull threads get their own heddle, but do not get their own dent when slewing so they should not be included when calculating the ends per inch for the ground cloth.
- Decide on ground cloth. Tie-up treadles accordingly. (“Loom 1”) The ground cloth has to be woven with integrity.
- Decide on pattern. Start with raising half the shafts available for pulling. Tie up in a twill order. (“Loom 2”) The pull pattern can be treadled in any order. The same treadle can be treadled as many times as you want. It is not creating cloth.

Weft crimp

The width in the reed should be double the width you want the crimp cloth to be.

Use thermoplastic (Orlon or polyester) yarn for the weft. Weave four picks of ground cloth. Use pull thread for the fifth pick. Weave the length you want your sample to be, the crimp draw-in is in the width. As a beginning exercise, weave one sample in plain weave ground cloth and a second sample in a twill ground cloth if the threading permits a twill ground cloth. Use the same pull pattern for both samples. These samples will be a nice reference for future project planning.

Suggestions for pull thread experimentation with weft crimp:

Space the pull threads more than 4 picks apart.

Treadle the same treadle several times, then alternate that treadle with another for X number of times. Make up combinations.

Weave a pull thread in a plain weave shed.

Repeat the same treadle for the entire length of the sample.

Lift less shafts per treadle in a twill progression order.

Swap out warp ends exchanging for a stripe of another color. Use the method to replace broken warp threads. Consider the threading when choosing the new color placement.

Think about edge finishes such as ruffles. How are they created?

Warp Crimp

The width of the sample in the reed is the desired width plus draw-in.

Use any fiber for the weft. Weave twice as many inches as you want the crimp cloth to be in length. Hold a pattern treadle (“Loom 2”) down while weaving 4 picks of ground cloth (“Loom 1.”) Hold the next treadle down while weaving 4 picks of ground cloth, etc. If threading permits more than plain weave for the ground cloth, do a sample of plain weave and a second sample of twill ground cloth. Keep the pull pattern the same on both samples. Don't include pull threads in the hem areas.

Suggestions for pull thread experimentation with warp crimp:

Hold pull pattern (“Loom 2”) treadles down for more ground picks creating longer floats. Alternate float lengths.

Change order of treadling.

Change number of shafts being raised at once.

Try raising all the pull pattern shafts for 8 ground cloth picks, then weave 8 picks of ground cloth without raising any pull pattern shafts.

Try stripes of varying widths in the weft.

How do you get ruffles on warp crimp?

Experiment and have fun seeing what else you can come up with. If you are wondering if an idea will work, give it a try. The more sampling you do, the more possibilities you will discover.

Have an enjoyable journey into the magic of crimp cloth.