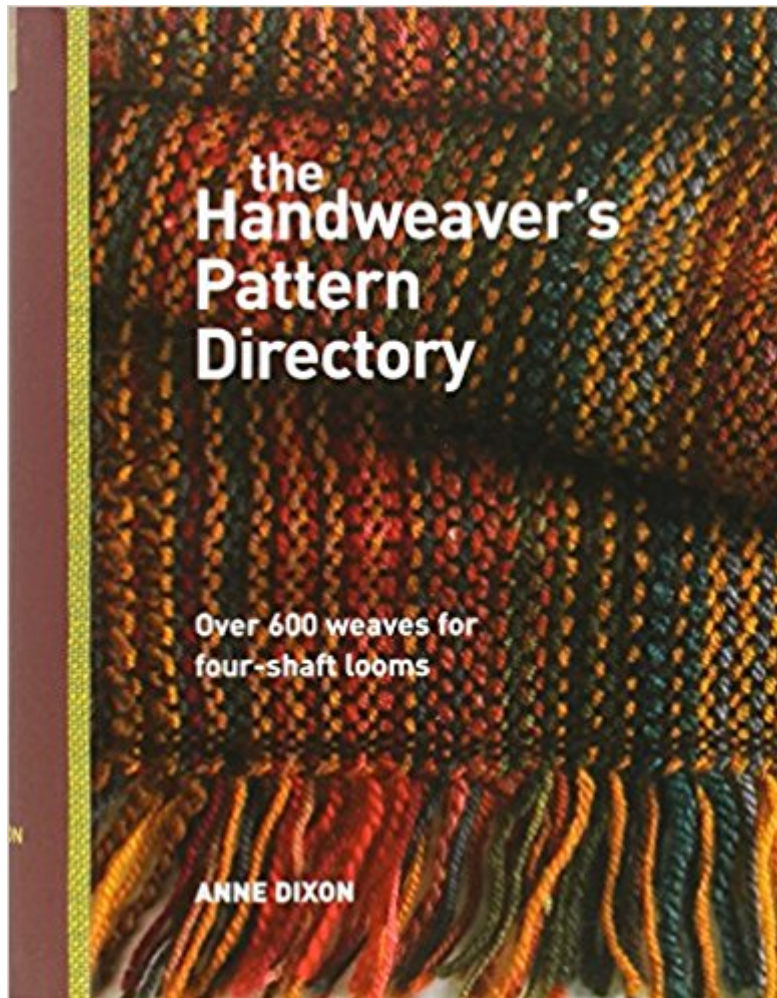




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The Handweaver's Pattern Directory



Synopsis

A comprehensive introduction to the tools, equipment, fibers, and yarns used with four-shaft looms, this reference features patterns for 600 different weaves, including twill, zigzag, diamond, herringbone, and block. Color photographs and large-scale drawings allow weavers to closely examine the details, and the compact size and lay-flat binding is convenient for keeping near the loom. A handbook that is essential for all four-shaft weavers, this manual includes weaving basics, specialized projects organized by degree of difficulty, finishing techniques, resources, and a glossary of terms.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Highly recommended for public libraries and textile collections in academic institutions. If you can buy only one book on handweaving this year, this is the one." —Library Journal, starred review

Anne Dixon is a weaver, a teacher, and a writer. She has published booklets about inkle weaving and has contributed articles to a number of American publications, including *Handwoven*. She is a Guild member of the Association of Weavers, Spinners, and Dyers and a founding member of the Braid Society.

I seldom buy books new, full priced. I'm far too cheap for that (and besides, I'd rather spend my money on yarn or fiber!). But I am SO very glad I splurged on this one and pre-ordered it so I'd get it

as soon as it came out. It is an incredible resource for weavers. Each of the patterns is accompanied by a sharp photo of the sample, with "close up" views of many. The directions are clear and in keeping with standard Interweave publications (as in Handwoven). There are short but valuable chapters on general weaving, supplies, yarns, etc., although the emphasis -- and the value -- is on the patterns. I've been a weaver for about 20 years and I own a fairly substantial library of weaving books and have owned, at one time or another, nearly every issue of Handwoven and Weaver's Journal magazines. Yet there were still many patterns in this book I do not think I've ever seen. The patterns are categorized by types, from simple tabby and twills to complex distorted weft, bronson and even hand manipulated weaves. All are threaded for a four-shaft loom. See "customer images" under the photo above for a scan of a sample page. The physical layout and design of the book is excellent as well. With the heavy duty spiral binding, it lays flat for easy reference and there is even a pull out "flap" in the back with the "legend" for the patterns, so you don't have to flip back and forth to figure out the drafts (although they're very intuitive and standard). This book should serve me well for my next 20 years of weaving, which means it will cost me slightly more than a buck a year! That's an investment well worth making.

I recently became interested in weaving and devoured about a dozen weaving books, including the Chandler's "Learning to weave". This book is my in the top two, on the way of becoming #1. The Chandler book was excellent when I was a total novice, explaining the basic techniques. Now this is the book I am referencing most. This book is written for a four-harness loom. It is well organized, contains not only patterns, but tips and ideas. The explanations are very clear, accompanied by very clear illustrations. The images and illustrations are done in color and the text is written in a font that is easy to read. The images of the patterns show the entire projects along with several close-ups and the stitch patterns. I am attaching an image of a random page from the book for demonstration. Note that book has a spiral binding, so it lays flat and is easy to use as a reference. This book has become my favorite go to reference. I highly recommend it. Ali Julia Review

This book is wonderful. Unfortunately - the binders have yet to find a way to solve the problem of the cover tearing away from the spiral-bound contents. This is my second copy of this book - first one tore in the front and this one is tearing in the back. I'm a former librarian so I am not hard on books or bindings. It's a great idea just not the best execution. But the contents are AMAZING. I am a brand new weaver and I don't understand everything in the book yet but I think it's awesome. 10 stars for the content - 0 stars for the binding.

This is a very good book and I am delighted to have added it to my library. In my opinion, this book replaces Davidson's classic pattern book, which has been the staple for 4-shaft patterns for oh so long. Although the patterns are identical for all intents and purposes (there being only so much you can do with 4-shafts), this book improves upon Davidson in the following important ways:1.

Davidson is in black and white. The beautiful color images in this book add a dimension that hugely enhances the reader's understanding of patterns.2. Davidson's patterns are tiny and the directions are small, hard to read and there are a number of annoying errors that can mislead a beginner. The schematics in this book are really easy to follow and I have not so far found any errors. It is much more user friendly.3. This book has a spiral binding that makes it ideal for leaning on top of the loom open to any page.4. The book includes interesting and very clear explanations of the theory behind the weave structures. I heartily recommend this book to any 4-shaft weaver.

AS a new weaver, choosing patterns is hard - trying to imagine what they'd look like. NOW she does it for you! So well known that Weaving groups refer to their pieces as "page 23 Dixon". A classic every weaver should own.

I'm just getting started as a weaver, and having just completed a class and learned a bit about twills, I wanted to find a directory of patterns to help me move forward. Wow! This book is basically cover-to-cover inspiration. The challenge is to choose just ONE project to start with - the illustrations are so gorgeous that one wants to dive in and tackle them all. The book is set up so that it will be useful to a beginner like me - and still provide tips and inspiration for an advanced weaver. The illustrations are excellent; I suspect that they are scans rather than photographs, as they are consistently sharp and crisp, with no distortions or issues with light and shadow. Both the front and back of a weave or shown - and often, instructions are also provided to create the "reverse" of a weave (e.g., 3/1 twill vs. 1/3 twill). The instructions are clear provided that you actually READ the introduction. If you are a beginner and just try to figure out the drafts, you'll get lost. It's also important to note that this author threads heddles from right to left ("Z") rather than left to right ("S"), so you'll need to adapt if (like me) you learned the opposite direction. I didn't want to take on the expense of getting an 8-shaft (or higher) loom at this point in my "hobby" - so it was wonderful to discover just how much could be done on a four-shaft loom. I'm delighted to have found this early on, instead of wasting time and money on less useful guides. I suspect this book will be on my shelf for many, many years.

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