

Hearts 'n Bones Scarf

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PHOTO BY JOE COCA

STRUCTURE

Point twill, treadled as straight twill and as rosepath.

EQUIPMENT

8-shaft loom, 11" weaving width; 12-dent reed; 3 shuttles.

YARNS

Warp: 8/2 Tencel (3,360 yd/lb, Yarn Barn of Kansas), Black, 725 yd.

Weft (for twill and tabby): 8/2 Tencel, Black, 440 yd.

Pattern weft: Rayon Slub (1,600 yd/lb, Earth Guild), natural, 15 yd. Satin Bamboo 5.24/4 (1,050 yd/lb, Halcyon Yarn), Red Hot #011, 16 yd.

OTHER SUPPLIES

Color Gallery beads, #968040, available from craft stores.

WARP LENGTH

241 ends 3 yd long (allows 4" for take-up, 32" for loom waste; includes 2 floating selvages; loom waste includes fringe).

SETTS

Warp: 24 epi (2/dent in a 12-dent reed).

Weft: 20 ppi in plain weave and twill areas; 10 ppi pattern/10 ppi tabby in areas with pattern weft.

DIMENSIONS

Width in the reed: 10".

Woven length (measured under tension on the loom): 72".


Finished size after washing: 8½" × 69" plus 5" hemstitched fringe at each end.

A trip to the Mercado, or market square, in San Antonio, Texas, inspired these playful skeletons, woven in honor of the Mexican *Día de los Muertos*, the Day of the Dead. Celebrated on November 1st and 2nd, this holiday's decorations often feature cheerful skeletons dressed in fine clothing and playing in mariachi bands or enjoying other activities. I wanted to weave scarves for my daughter and her roommate, both of whom enjoy quirky, original clothing. Weaving whimsical skeletons for them seemed the perfect choice!

I wanted a soft, drapable scarf, so I chose an 8-shaft twill pattern for the body and used one of my favorite yarns, 8/2 Tencel. The completed scarf has a wonderful hand and a soft luster. While the designs appear only on the front of the scarf, the back is not unattractive. The body of the scarf weaves up quickly, but

the tie-ups must be altered in order to weave the border patterns. The skeletons require twelve different pattern sheds and two tabby treadles to weave, so I devised (what else?) a skeleton tie-up that uses ten treadles with two treadles depressed at once. The border designs can be altered if desired: for example, the skeletons could be unadorned or wear hats and boots woven of different colors.

RESOURCES

Strickler, Carol. *A Weaver's Book of 8-Shaft Patterns*. Loveland, Colorado: Interweave, 1991, pp. 28, 30-31. 

1 Wind a 3 yd warp of 241 ends in 8/2 black Tencel, and set aside 2 ends for the floating selvages. Warp using your preferred method, following the threading in Figure 1. Center for a 10" weaving width and sley 2 threads per dent in a 12-dent reed, for 24 epi. Sley the floating selvages 1/dent.

2 Allowing 6" of unwoven warp at the beginning for fringe, weave 3 picks of plain weave in black Tencel and hemstitch. Weave 2" of twill pattern in black Tencel, following the tie-up and treading for the body of the scarf (Figure 1a).

3 Change tie-up to weave the hearts (Figure 1b) and weave first row of hearts, following the draft but reading it from the bottom up and using the black Tencel for the tabby picks. After completing hearts, weave 1/2" of plain weave using black Tencel.

4 Change to the tie-up in Figure 1c and weave skeletons, following the draft from

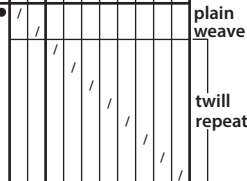
1. Draft

1a. Plain weave and twill

17x									
	8								
	7	7						7	7
	6		6					6	6
	5			5				5	5
	4				4			4	4
	3					3			3
	2						2		2
	1							1	1

● floating selvedge / 8/2 Tencel, black
■ Satin Bamboo, red ■ Rayon Slub, natural

Weave Plan
Weave 3 picks plain weave and hemstitch.
Weave 2" twill.
Re-tie and weave hearts, reading draft from bottom up.
Weave 1/2" plain weave.
Weave skeletons, reading draft from bottom up.
Weave 1/2" plain weave.
Weave a second hearts row, reading draft from bottom up.



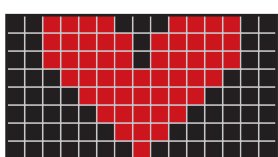
plain weave
twill repeat

1b. Heart tie-up and treading

	8							8	8
	7								7
	6	6							
	5	5	5						
	4	4	4	4					
	3	3	3	3	3				
	2	2	2	2	2	2			
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		

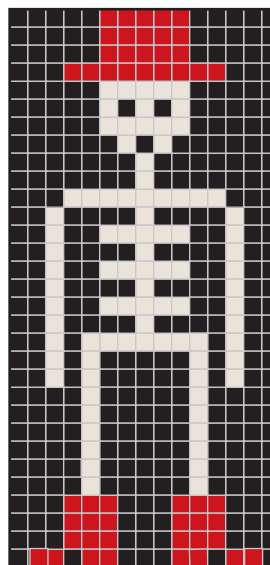
tabby

use tabby



1c. Skeleton tie-up and treading

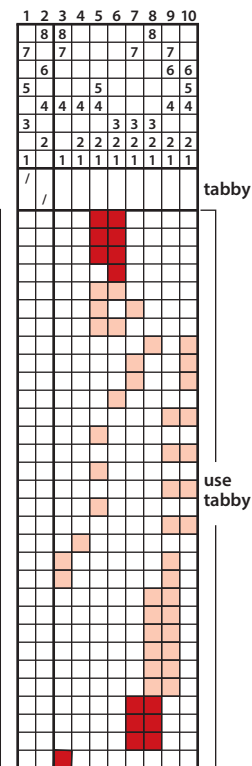
Use tabby: throw a tabby pick before each pattern pick, alternating treadles 1 and 2.
Each row of the pattern treading represents one pattern shed. Depress all treadles indicated in a row to make the shed.



	8	8							
	7	7						7	7
	6							6	6
	5			5					5
	4	4	4					4	4
	3				3	3			
	2					2	2	2	2
	1						1	1	1

tabby

use tabby



bottom up and using tabby. Note that 2 treadles must be depressed together to produce most of the pattern sheds. Follow with ½" of plain weave in black Tencel.

5 Change to the tie-up in Figure 1b and weave the second row of hearts, again following the draft from the bottom up. Change back to tie-up 1a and weave 58" of point twill pattern using black Tencel.

6 For the second border, all patterns are woven reading and following the treadlings from the top down. Change to tie-up 1b and weave hearts, then weave ½" plain weave; change to tie-up 1c and weave skeletons, then weave ½" plain weave; finally, change to tie-up 1b and weave the last row of hearts.

7 Change to tie-up 1a and weave 2" of twill pattern in black Tencel, followed by 3 picks of plain weave. Hemstitch.

8 After removing fabric from the loom, handwash and dry flat. The borders may draw in more than the twill areas; this can be avoided by gently blocking the scarf as it dries. Press through a damp cloth, again gently evening out the edges. Embellish fringe with beads as desired.

