

# Sunny-Side Up Pot Holders

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## STRUCTURE

Twill.

## EQUIPMENT

4-shaft loom, 11" weaving width; 12-dent reed; 1 shuttle.

## YARNS

**Warp:** 5/2 pearl cotton (2,100 yd/lb; Valley Yarns; WEBS), #1089 Alabaster, 570 yd.

**Weft:** 5/2 pearl cotton, #1325 Daffodil, 443 yd.

## OTHER SUPPLIES

½" extra-wide double-fold bias tape, yellow, 5½ yd.

## WARP LENGTH

190 ends 3 yd long (includes floating selvages; allows 8" for take-up, 24" for loom waste).

## SETTS

**Warp:** 18 epi (2-1/dent in a 12-dent reed).

**Weft:** 18 ppi.

## DIMENSIONS

**Width in the reed:** 10¾".

**Woven length:** (measured under tension on the loom) 76".

**Finished size:** (after wet-finishing and sewing) four pot holders, 8½" × 8" each plus binding.

*In response to a call for project proposals*, I wove and sewed a set of aprons, the pattern for which can be found in *Handwoven* November/December 2023. To go with the aprons, I also wove sets of potholders using the same twill and yarn. A 1991 *Handwoven* design for thrum pot holders inspired me to double the cloth for heat protection and to use bias tape to bind the edges.

**1** Wind a warp of 190 ends 3 yd long with Alabaster. This includes 2 additional ends to be used as floating selvages. Warp the loom using your preferred method following the draft in Figure 1. Centering for a weaving width of 10¾", sley 2-1 per dent in a 12-dent reed. Sley the floating selvages through empty dents on each side of the warp.

**2** Wind a bobbin with Daffodil. Spread the warp with scrap yarn using plain-weave treadles 1 and 6.


**3** Begin weaving with 4 picks of plain weave for your folding and/or cutting areas. Continue weaving following the draft in Figure 1 for about 9" for the first section, then end with 4 picks of plain weave. Repeat until you have 8 sections. **Note:** Each pot holder has two sections. Change your weft color as desired for one or more sections.

**4** Weave several picks of scrap yarn to protect the weft. Cut the fabric from the loom. Straight stitch or zigzag stitch the ends of the fabric or knot the warp ends to keep the cloth from raveling during wet-finishing. Do not cut the sections apart.

**5** Wet-finish in cold water on the delicate cycle. Line-dry. Steam-press on the cotton setting. Cut the cloth apart in four two-section pieces along the plain-weave areas. Fold the two sections over in the plain-weave dividing area to make double-thickness pot holders.

## ASSEMBLY

**6** It takes about 42" of bias tape to cover the four sides of each potholder. Cut a length of the ½" extra-wide double-fold bias tape. Slip it over the edges of the fabric and topstitch about ⅛" along the edge of the bias tape that meets the fabric.

**7** Cut a 6" length of bias tape, fold it in half into a loop, tuck the raw ends under, and sew onto a corner of the potholder for a hanging loop. 

## RESOURCES

Gaynes, Margaret. "Overshot Thrum Potholders." *Handwoven*, September/October 1991, 53, 91–92.

