

# DRAFTING THREADED-IN CARD WEAVING PATTERNS

Class notes by Lady Aibell ingen Dairmata  
<http://www.eg.bucknell.edu/~lwittie/sca>

Threaded-in card weaving is the variant of card weaving where the pattern is coded into the individual cards and the deck of cards or each of a few sub-decks of cards are turned together as a set.

## Setup

Here are some basic assumptions

- Your cards have four holes punched in a square and are labeled A, B, C, D.
- On the loom, the labeled side of the cards faces to your left.
- Turning the cards forwards turns them away from you.
- Turning the cards backwards turns them towards you.
- Cards threaded from the right to the left are S-threaded (Card forms the letter S when the far side is tilted to the left).
- Cards threaded from the left to the right are Z-threaded (Card forms the letter Z when the far side is tilted to the right).

## S and Z Threading

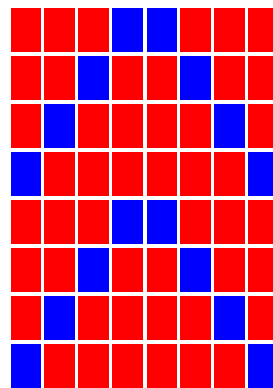
When cards turn forwards or backwards, they make a diagonal stitch to the left or the right depending on their threading.

	Forwards	Backwards
S-threaded	↗	↖
Z-threaded	↖	↗

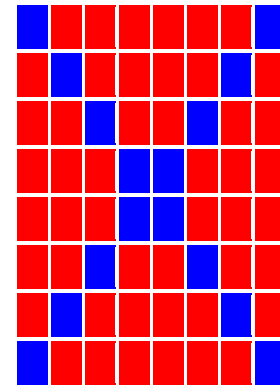
## Stitch Color

The color of a stitch depends on the color of the thread that goes over the top when the card is turned. Read the pattern from the bottom up and turn the cards forwards so A, B, C, D go over the top in that order.

Color going over the top	D	Red	Red	Red	Blue	Blue	Red	Red	Red
	C	Red	Red	Blue	Red	Red	Blue	Red	Red
	B	Red	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Red	Blue	Red
	A	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Blue
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Card Numbers							



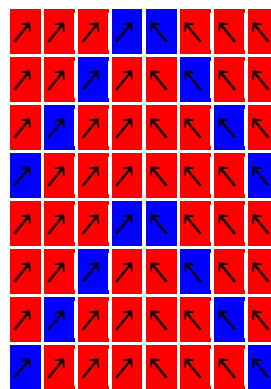
8 turns forwards



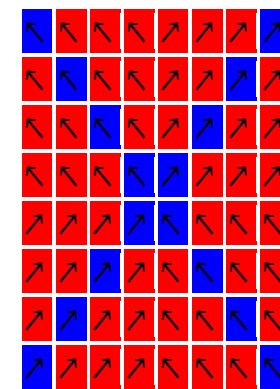
4 turns forwards,  
4 turns backwards

## Putting S and Z Threading together with Stitch Color

		Threading							
		S	S	S	S	Z	Z	Z	Z
Color going over the top	D	Red	Red	Red	Blue	Blue	Red	Red	Red
	C	Red	Red	Blue	Red	Red	Blue	Red	Red
	B	Red	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Red	Blue	Red
	A	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Blue
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Card Numbers							



8 turns forwards



4 turns forwards,  
4 turns backwards

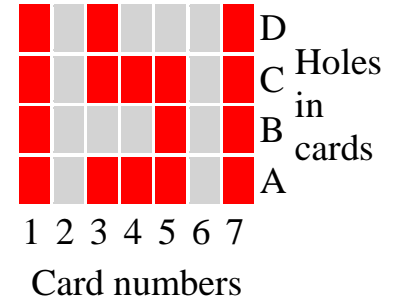
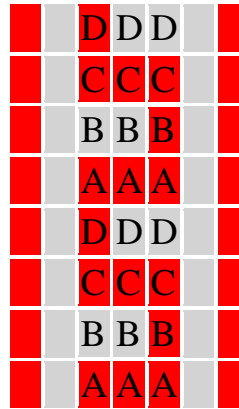
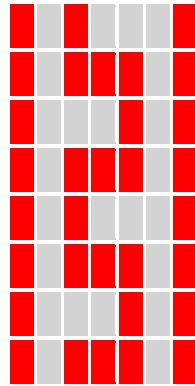
## How to draft patterns

1. Draw your pattern on graph paper by coloring in the boxes. You can have at most 4 colors per horizontal row.
2. For each column, label the bottom box as A and see if you can assign A B C D in order backwards and forwards to fill in the rest of the column. When you reverse direction, you repeat the letter you just used. Example: ABCDDCBA
3. For the threads which have a definite slant, draw a diagonal in the box to match the slant.
4. A set of ABCD rows shows your threading diagram. Use the S and Z threading shown by the slants. Use the pattern of forwards and back shown in each column.

# Example: Drafting a primproms<sup>1</sup> pattern



Photo and weaving by Eqos<sup>1</sup>  
 Note: this picture is actually an inkle weave.



1) Draw picture

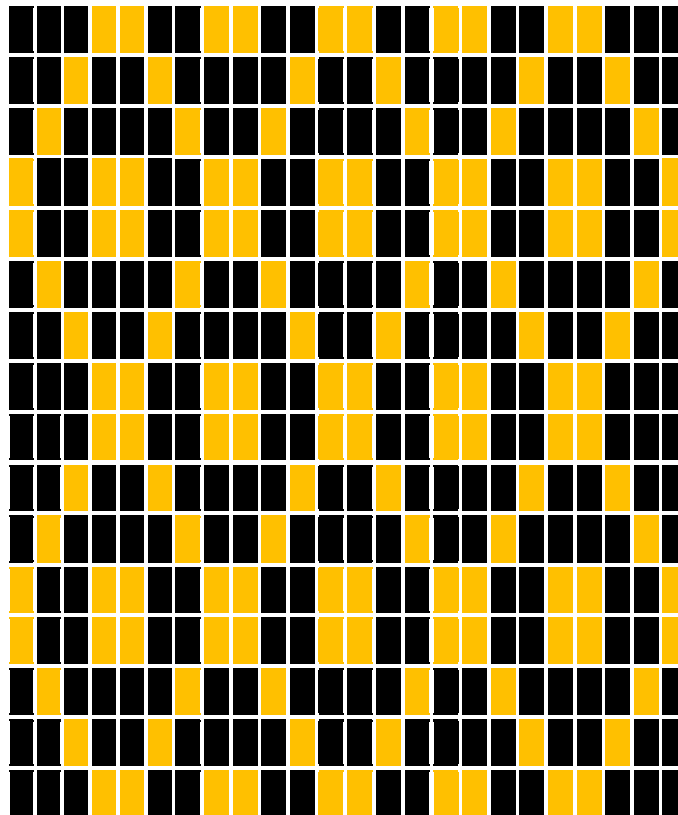
2) Label each column with A B C and D.  
 See if all columns have the same pattern.

4) The pattern is all forwards.  
 Use all S or Z threading.

## You try it: Label each column with A B C and D and find the pattern



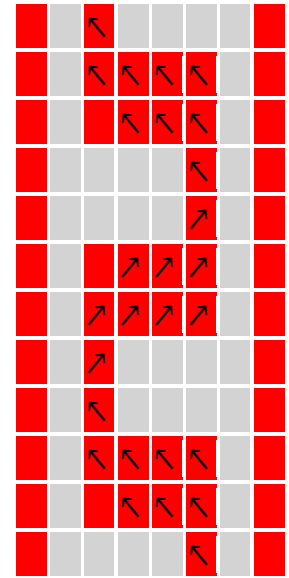
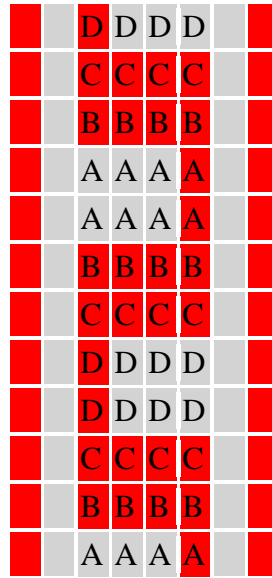
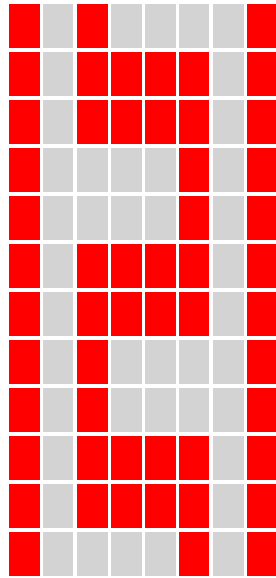
Photo, pattern, and weaving by Aibell



# Example: Drafting a different primproms<sup>1</sup> pattern



In this primproms, the horizontal parts are thicker than the vertical parts. Picture by Eqos<sup>1</sup>



Z Z Z Z

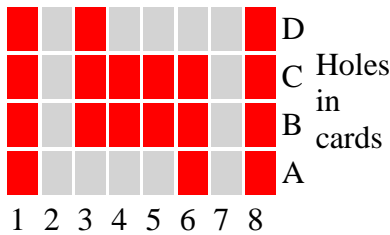
1) Draw picture

2) Label each column with A B C and D. See if all columns have the same pattern.

3) For the threads which have a definite slant, draw a diagonal in the box to match the slant.

Threading

Z Z Z Z

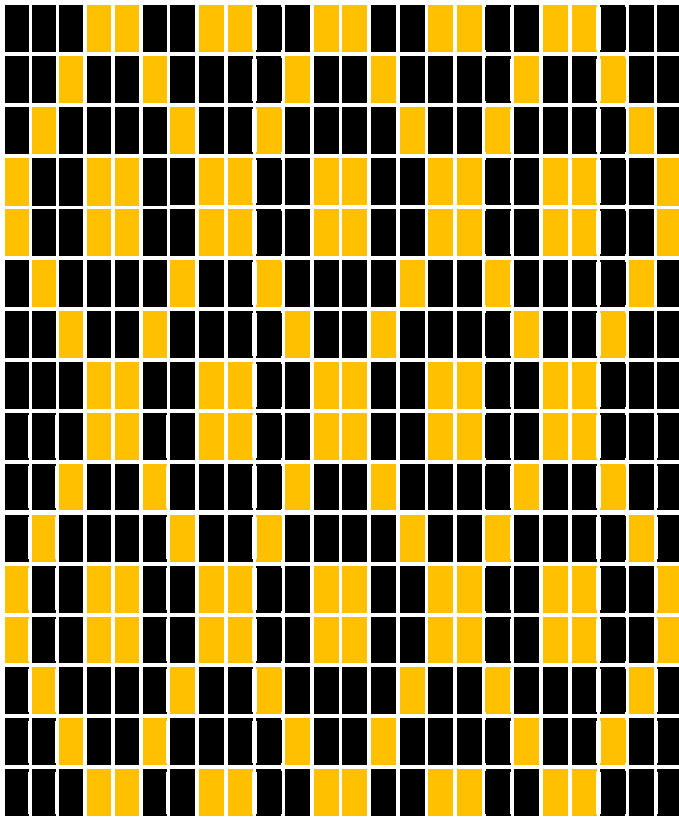


1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Card numbers

4) The pattern is 4 forwards, 4 back. Use all Z threading.

**You try it:** For the threads which have a definite slant, draw a diagonal in the box to match the slant.

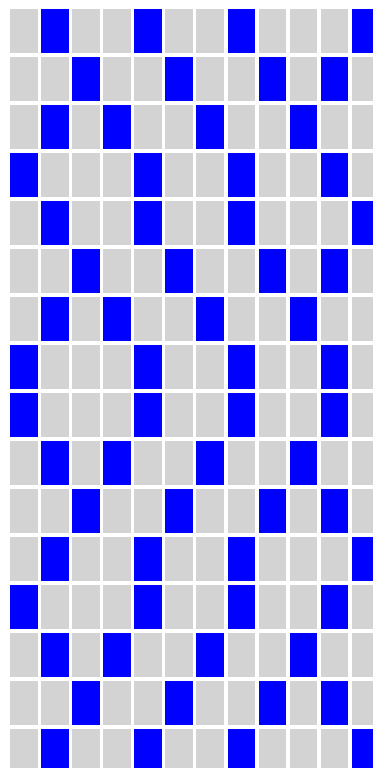


Photo, pattern, and weaving by Aibell

**You try it: Drafting a fluez<sup>1</sup> pattern**



Pictures and weaving by Eqos<sup>1</sup>



2) Label each column with A B C and D. See if all columns have the same pattern.

3) For the threads which have a definite slant, draw a diagonal in the box to match the slant.

4) What is the pattern?

Threading

																D
																C
																B
																A
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12					

Card Numbers

## You try one: Drafting a derima<sup>1</sup> pattern



Picture by Eqos<sup>1</sup>

1. Draw picture
2. Label each column with A B C and D. See if all columns have the same pattern.
3. For the threads which have a definite slant, draw a diagonal in the box to match the slant.
4. Combine turning and threading with the bottom 4 rows to see your pattern

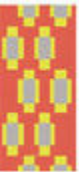
## You try one: Drafting a strantivitus<sup>1</sup> pattern



Picture by Eqos<sup>1</sup>

1. Draw picture
2. Label each column with A B C and D. See if all columns have the same pattern.
3. For the threads which have a definite slant, draw a diagonal in the box to match the slant.
4. Combine turning and threading with the bottom 4 rows to see your pattern.

## You try one: Drafting a suago<sup>1</sup> pattern



Picture by Eqos<sup>1</sup>

1. Draw picture
2. Label each column with A B C and D. See if all columns have the same pattern.
3. For the threads which have a definite slant, draw a diagonal in the box to match the slant.
4. Combine turning and threading with the bottom 4 rows to see your pattern.

## You try one: Drafting a themesh<sup>1</sup> pattern



Picture by Eqos<sup>1</sup>

1. Draw picture
2. Label each column with A B C and D. See if all columns have the same pattern.
3. For the threads which have a definite slant, draw a diagonal in the box to match the slant.
4. Combine turning and threading with the bottom 4 rows to see your pattern.

## You try it: Drafting a pattern from a photo



Photo and weaving by Emortalcoil<sup>2</sup>

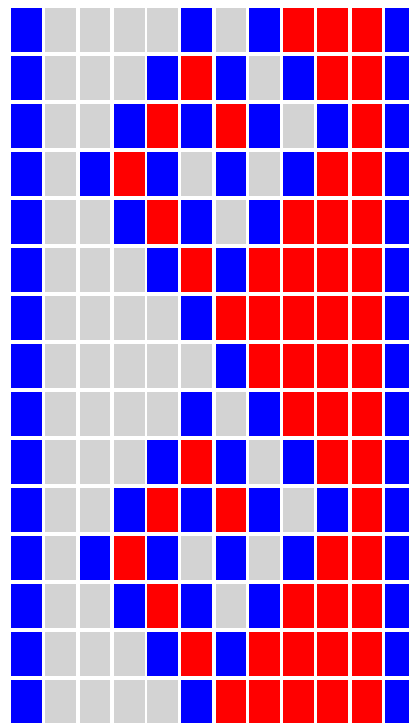
1. Draw picture
2. Label each column with A B C and D. See if all columns have the same pattern.
3. For the threads which have a definite slant, draw a diagonal in the box to match the slant.
4. Combine turning and threading with the bottom 4 rows to see your pattern

## A more difficult pattern: Waves

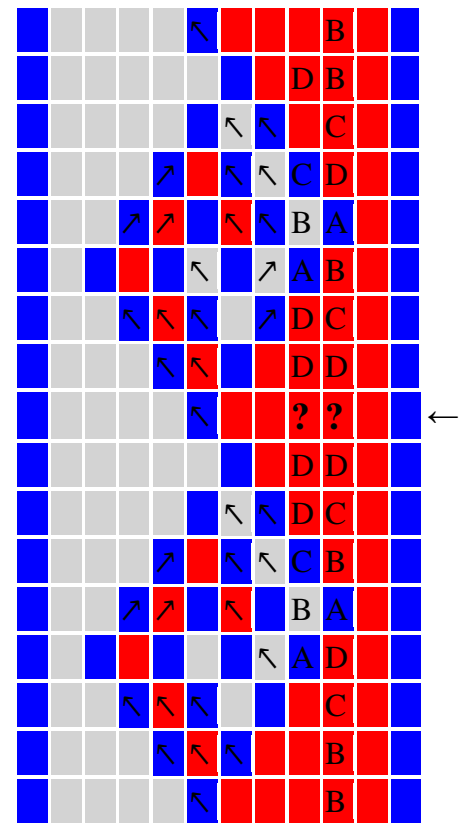
The patterns done thus far had all the cards turn together as one deck. The next pattern has two decks and is thus more difficult. I show how I drafted a pattern for it. This pattern is related to the Ram's Horn.



Photo and weaving by Mim<sup>3</sup>



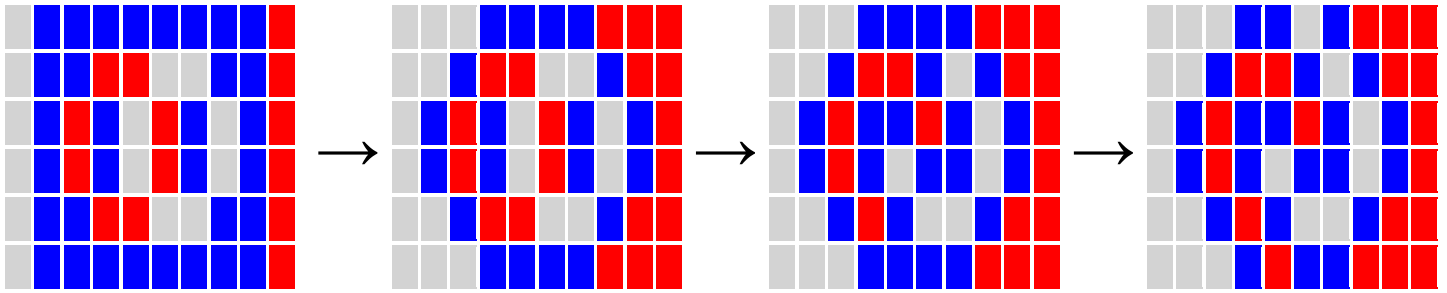
1) Draw picture.



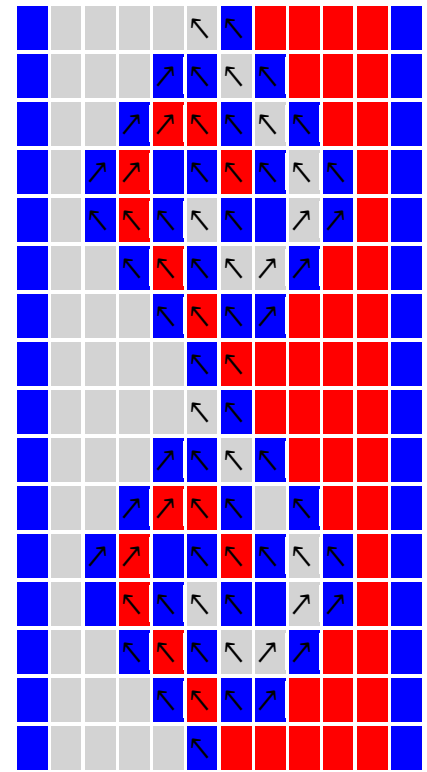
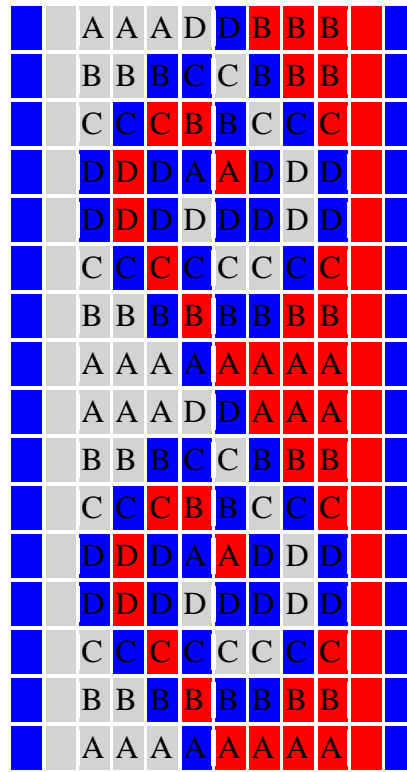
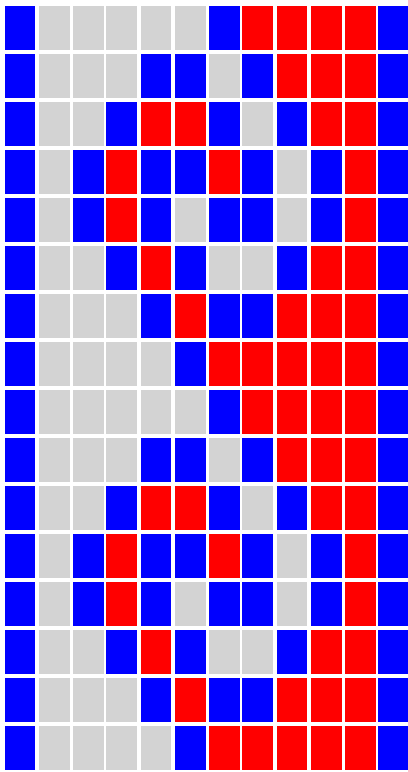
- 2) Label each column with A B C and D.
- 3) Find the slant

The turning pattern isn't working. See the marked row (←) where no card works? One solution is to add an identical row there. The threading isn't working either. See the marked column (↑) where the threading changes directions but the cards are still turning forwards? There is not an easy solution to this! The photo has smoother edges and the middle looks like interlocking rounded squares so I'll try again using that idea.

Drafting Threaded-In Table Weaving Patterns



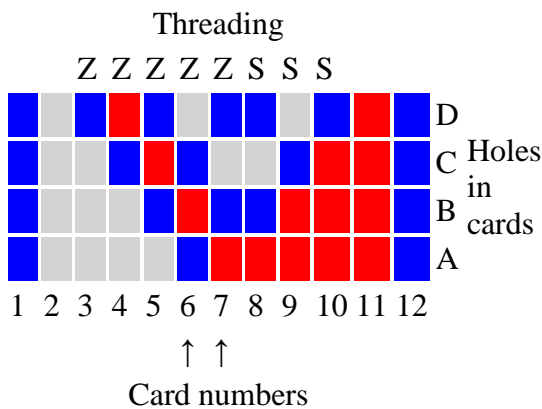
Will this new wave work? I needed to add two rows between each wave so they fit together.



1) Draw picture.

2) Label each column with A B C and D. Notice the middle two rows (marked ↑) are different.

3) For the threads which have a definite slant, draw a diagonal in the box to match the slant.



4) The pattern is 4 forwards, 4 back for the unmarked cards and all forwards for the marked cards (6 and 7). Use either all Z or all S for the cards without a definite threading.

Since the marked cards always go forwards, they will eventually built up twist. You can release twist using fishing swivels or by periodically untying those cards.



## References

1. Eqos [eqos.deviantart.com](http://eqos.deviantart.com)
2. Emortalcoil [emortalcoil.deviantart.com](http://emortalcoil.deviantart.com)
3. Mim [mimbles.com](http://mimbles.com)
4. All other pictures drawn by Aibell

Copyright © 2013 Aibell ingen Dairmata. Permission to reproduce this article is freely given as long as all attributions remain. Seperate permission may be needed for any images not labeled as owned by Aibell ingen Dairmata. Permission to reproduce any images made by Aibell ingen Dairmata is freely given. I'd like a copy if you reprint this article anywhere.