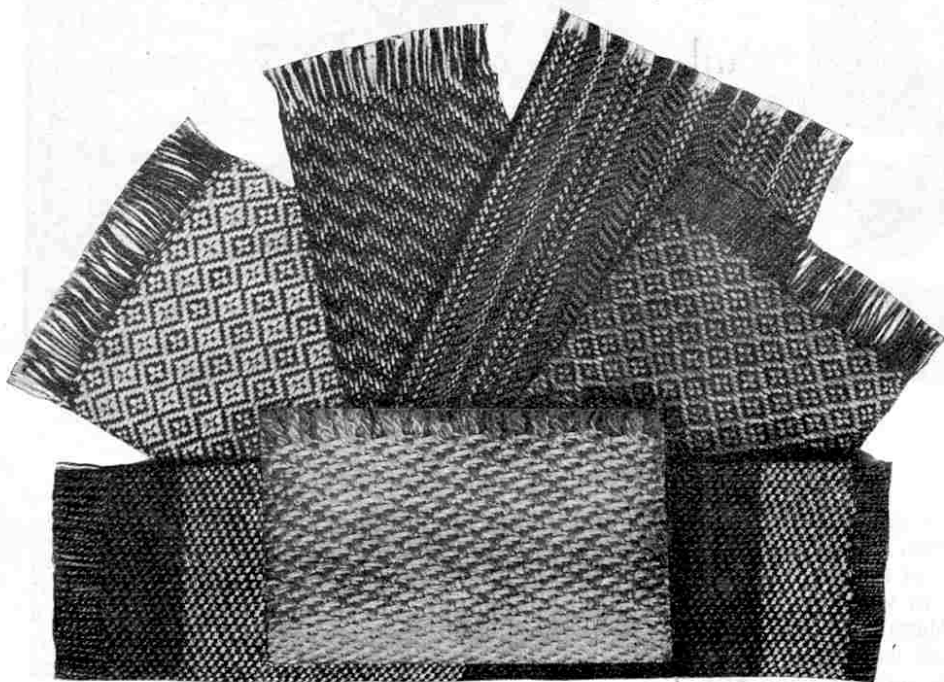


Weaving with the Meccano Loom

Make Hat-bands and Neck-ties for your Friends



The above illustration shows some of the beautiful material that may be made with the Meccano Loom. Unfortunately, it is not possible to reproduce the finished product in colours, so that the illustration gives but a poor idea of the attractive appearance of the finished fabric, the patterns of which are worked in blue, orange, gold, red, etc.

These fabrics were woven entirely on a Meccano Loom from silks such as you buy in the hank or in bobbins. They represent only six of the infinite number of patterns obtainable, the designs of which depend entirely upon the mechanical skill and the artistic ability of the person working the Loom.

If it is desired, fabrics that are entirely plain may be woven, or a simple or intricate pattern introduced at will, in any chosen colour. The width of the material depends upon how you construct your Loom. On all Meccano Looms the fabric may be woven to any desired length, however, for when the threads of the warp are exhausted they may be joined to more threads carried on a second beam, and the process continued indefinitely. Similarly, when the weft in the shuttle has all been used, a new shuttle may be slipped into position in an instant and the weaving continued. The process need not be completed at one operation, as weaving may be stopped at any time and re-started when required, without the continuity of the material being broken.

The Story of Metals—(cont. from page 189)

very suitable for the manufacture of spoons, forks and similar articles. It soon tarnishes, however, and for that reason it is usually electro-plated. German silver has a high electrical resistance and on that account is largely used for making resistance coils.

Copper is very largely used in the world's coinage. The British bronze coinage is composed of 95 per cent. copper, four per cent. tin and one per cent. zinc.

Weaving with the Meccano Loom is delightfully simple. All that is necessary is to turn a crank handle—the model does the rest. There is a certain knack in turning the handle, however, but this is soon acquired. Perhaps the only difficulty is to get the edges of the material even, but this comes easily after a little practice.

Fabric woven with the Meccano Loom makes beautiful hat-bands or neck-ties. Tastefully woven, these make excellent gifts for your friends. Imagine their surprise when you tell them the fabric is made to your own design on a model loom of your own construction.

You cannot buy the Meccano Loom, for it is built of Meccano parts—the same Meccano parts that make the Clock, the Chassis, and hundreds of other Meccano models. It is great fun building the Loom and even greater fun weaving with it. Full instructions for building the Loom are contained in a well-illustrated leaflet on art paper, price 4d. post free from this office.

Silver and gold coins both contain copper as a hardening alloy, "standard silver" having 7.5 per cent. copper and "standard gold" 8.33 per cent. Nickel coins used in the British colonies and elsewhere contain 75 per cent. copper and 25 per cent. nickel.

NEXT MONTH:—
THE STORY OF LEAD

OUR MAIL BAG



In this column the Editor replies to letters from his readers, from whom he is always pleased to hear. He receives hundreds of letters each day, but only those that deal with matters of general interest can be dealt with here. Correspondents will help the Editor if they will write neatly in ink and on one side of the paper only.

R. J. Brown (Walthamstow).—"I hope that you will increase the number of pages in the 'M.M.' with the New Year, even though this means increasing the price. I would not miss it for anything, no matter what the price is." You will find the present issue a step in the right direction, R. J.

D. S. Waite ("Eversley," 4, Elmers End Road, Anerley, London, S.E.20).—"We are very interested in the magazine called the 'Club' which you, assisted by your friend, are publishing. We feel sure that if any of our readers are interested they will write to you.

T. Farrell (Colombo, Ceylon).—"We have written you separately regarding Electric Furnaces and the firm who manufacture them, and have also sent you a copy of our August issue, which contains information that should be of use to you. If we can help you further, let us know.

H. J. Sharood (Halifax, N.S.).—"We received a long letter from A. V. King, of H.M.S. 'Hood,' in which he told us of the kindness of yourself and your mother when he visited Halifax. We hope you may meet again.

H. C. Ferdinands (Kinala Lumpur, Malay States).—"The 'M.M.' subscription rates have been sent to you, and on hearing from you again we will post copies to your friends. We send our warmest greetings to you all.

A. R. Lyell (Karong, Hawthorn, Vic.).—"I attend Scotch College, which as everybody knows, is the finest school in the world." We didn't know it before, Andrew, but no doubt you are right. We will endeavour to find a suitable correspondent in Scotland for you.

Roy Collins (St. Leonards, Tasmania).—"Q. 'What is the difference between a sigh, a motor car, and a donkey?' A. The first is 'Oh! dear,' the second 'too dear,' and the third is 'you dear!' Did you intend that for us, Roy, or did you just wish your effort to go into the Puzzle Page?"

R. Cain (Manchester).—"On the new L.M.S. poster, showing the interior of a cotton mill, a weaver is shown putting on her clogs. She is fastening one on her foot and the other clog on the floor has the fastening on the same side as the clog already on her foot." You certainly have sharp eyes, Robert, and the fact that you have detected an error in this poster shows also that you are observant. As to the reason for the error—why, even artists are human and we all make mistakes sometimes!

A. Colefax (Newcastle).—"Sorry, Arthur, but never having been a tramp we cannot give you the information you require! We learn, however, that some of the strange signs that tramps chalk on doors and gates for the guidance of those of the fraternity who follow are:—A boot (this needs no explanation)! A triangle ("spoilt by other tramps.") A diamond ("safe for a meal at the back door.") Circle and cross ("the owner will give to deserving cases.") A square ("general hostility to tramps.")

R. Barker (Grimsby).—"Thanks for photo of your Eiffel Tower used as a Christmas tree and festooned with lanterns and novelties. It looks wonderfully well, and was quite a brainy idea.

J. B. Ash (Middlesbro-on-Tees).—"We are always glad to hear from parents of Meccano boys, especially those who themselves take a hand in the glorious work of building models. We much appreciate your enthusiastic comments on Meccano and Hornby Trains.

B. Roy (Calcutta, India).—"We welcome you as a new-comer to Meccanoland, and we hope you will spend many happy years in the country. Your photos will be entered in the Overseas photo competition.

J. J. Smith (Grange, S. Aus.).—"Many thanks for photos of South Australia's largest locomotive. We are pleased to know that your prize arrived in perfect condition. We receive many letters from Australian readers, and we read them all with much pleasure.

L. O'Brien (Johannesburg, S.A.).—"Thanks for your news and interesting letter. We hope you will pass your Matric. safely. Your radio queries are being dealt with by the Radio Editor.

A. Hewitt (Holyrood, Ontario).—"We are glad to hear from you and to know that you have found a good job and are happy in it. Let us hear from you often.