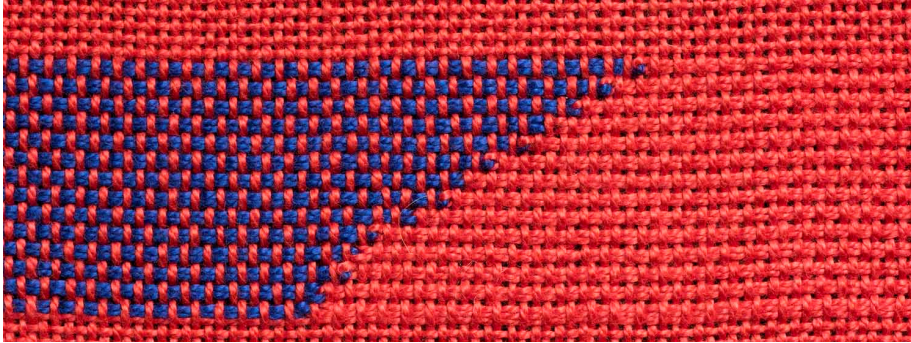


# Clasped Wefts

Clasped wefts is a way to introduce different colors to a cloth, generally plain weave. It can be considered a treadling method (see entry), but it's closely aligned to a finger manipulated weave.

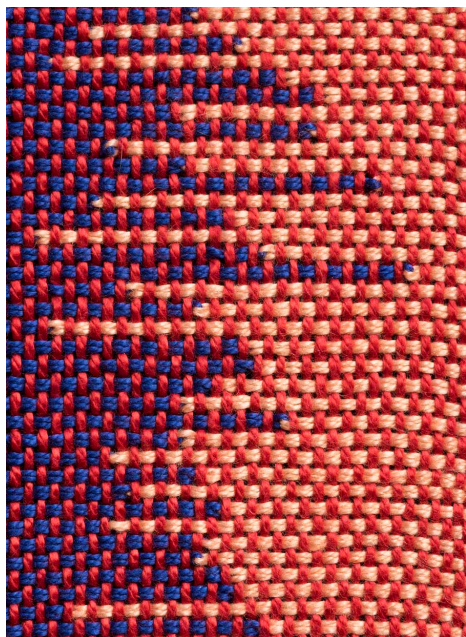
The name comes from the clasp which is formed by two wefts looping around each other. The



easiest way to weave clasps is to use one weft on a shuttle – red orange in the example on the left– and the other from a cone or a ball – in our case blue.

The orange weft on the shuttle travels down the shed and catches the blue weft thread hanging down from the previous shed to the cone. Then the shuttle travels back, carrying the blue thread around the orange; the weaver decides where the clasps should fall. They can be randomly placed, or they can form a design.

The two wefts should be of the same size so not to distort the fabric. The sample above uses one weft the same as the warp, but two different wefts can be used as in the fabric on



the right, black and blue on the same red-orange weft.

Because each weft loops around the other and returns to

its starting selvage, each weft is in fact doubled, so the fabric can be bulky. To lighten up the fabric, smaller grist wefts can be used, but both should still be the same size to avoid distortion. In the fabric on the left, two 5/2 cottons, dark blue and salmon were used on the same 3/2 red-orange warp.

