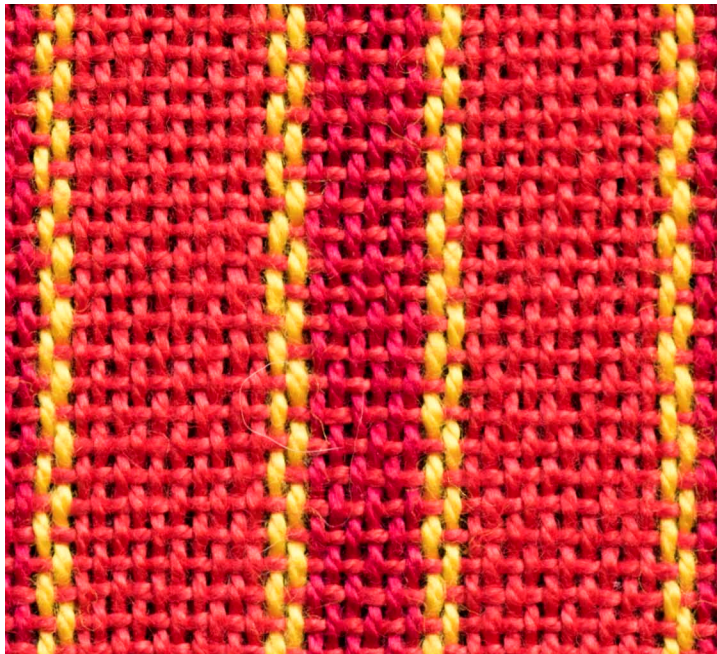


# Plain Weave

Plain weave is a fabric with the maximum number of interlacements; the weft goes over and under each warp end. It can be made in a variety of ways, from needle weaving to shaft looms. In the latter, a shed is formed by separating every other warp end, when threaded sequentially; all the odd (or even) shafts are activated (either raised or lowered) for one pick, followed by all the even (or odd) shafts activated for the following pick.



On the left is a fabric woven in plain weave. Note that two warp threads are needed to form a visually solid line. The fabric is nearly balanced, 50% warp, 50% weft. But plain weave can range from warp-faced to weft-faced.

Below is a drawdown for plain weave on two and four shafts. All the shafts should be used when weaving to equalize the wear and tear on the loom.

