



Lili Blumenau

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The Art and Craft of Handweaving: Including Fabric Design

Lili Blumenau : The Art and Craft of Handweaving: Including Fabric Design before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art and Craft of Handweaving: Including Fabric Design:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good book:) but old and datedBy somebodyA good book:) but old and dated..... Buy a newer book if you are just getting into weaving (the new books have more illustrations and the authors have access to more knowledge and material), but if you' pave been into weaving for awhile then buy this book. It's worth reading.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Sleeping Beauty and Gandhi could have used this bookBy Jane in MilwaukeeYes, Sleeping Beauty of fairy tale fame would have learned to be careful of a spindle needle had she read this book. And do you remember in the movie "Gandhi" how he endeavored to learn to spin the thread?First published in 1955, Lili Blumenau has written a ground-breaking book about all that is hand-woven. I own the 7th edition of this little wonder and even though I have no interest in weaving, this book holds oodles of fascinating information. Actually, I have made those potholders on the square with cloth bands or yarn pulled through with the wire hook, like you probably did as a kid. And I have a Native American bead loom I've used several times. The patterns at the end of the book would come in handy if I wanted to make some more.However, while the book sadly has no color photos, what it lacks in color, it more than makes up for in bw photos and interesting subjects. Ms. Blumenau taught weaving in the Teachers College at Columbia University and at the Fashion Institute of Technology. She was the Curator of Textiles at the Cooper Union Museum, now the Cooper-Hewitt Museum. She traveled the world over to get a handle on all that is hand woven throughout history to modern times. She explains that weaving, or the interlacing of fibers, started in the Neolithic Age, about 11,000 years ago. In Greece, Egypt and Peru,

there are woven textile fragments from 2 millenia ago. She discusses the evolution of fibers and looms from all over the world. There's a photo of a big Merino sheep from Australia so you get an idea why Merino wool is so valuable. I've never seen photos of silk moths emerging from their cocoons or silk being produced in Japan by one woman. In addition to these and other animal fibers, there is also flax, wood and cotton. We even see share croppers picking cotton in the hot fields of the South. Then there are the many synthetic fibers like rayon, the first one, which was invented around 1900. And I haven't even gotten to the looms, warp weft, spindles, staffs, shuttles, baskets and all the other fascinating contents of this extremely detailed book. There are many, many photos of every kind of loom throughout history. Many pages are entirely photos and you can't open the book without several photos in view. If only some were in color!! Nevertheless, we can't be greedy. If you have any interest in weaving whatsoever or just like vintage books on arts and crafts, buy this.*0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ContentsBy 2crazy4books2the art and craft of hand weavinglili blumenau1955Detailed instructions on weaving, including a brief history of the craft. The book also shows sample weaves, explains the procedure of fabric design, and gives information on types of yarns.chapters includepart 1: evolution, looms, weaving procedurepart 2: fiberspart 3: weavespart 4: designan excellent reference and introductory book to weaving136 pages including index ~ Illustrated with black/white photographs ~ line drawings ~ diagrams.