

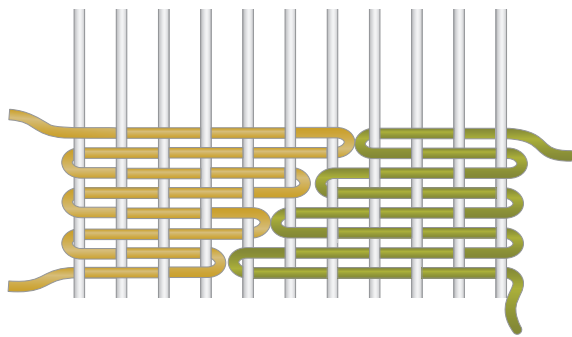
10 Angling

In weaving, angles are created by a repeated progression of small steps moving across your warp. Angled forms are particularly well suited to tapestry weaving because the place where the two wefts meet — the relay — moves over frequently, and the small slits at the edge of each step are unnoticeable.

Determining the Steepness

The angle you create will change depending on how many warps your sequence moves over for each relay or, for steeper angles, how many

sequences are stacked up before moving the angle to the next warp. You could use a protractor to measure the angle of the line formed between the two colors in the angles illustrated below. These diagrams show various angles made by moving over different numbers of warp threads each



▲ An angle made by stepping over by 1 warp every step



▲ You can use a protractor to measure the size of the angle in degrees between the horizontal and diagonal lines.

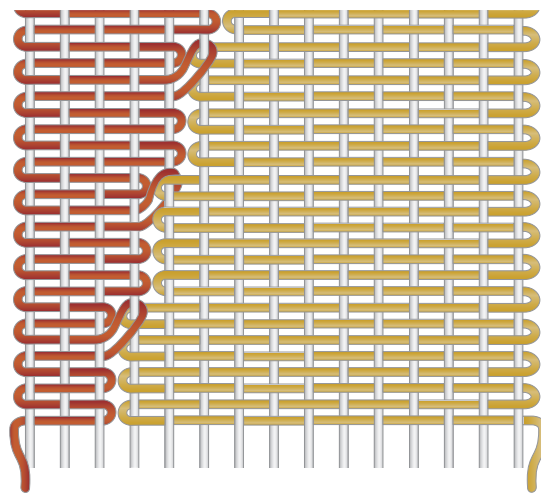


◀ On the right side of this sample, 4 sequences were stacked up before moving over 1 warp. Where the light color was a valley thread, the steps are slightly angled. Where the light color was a hill thread, the steps are more prominent. On the left side of the sample, the cutting of the corners technique (shown below) was used, and the resulting steps appear smoother.

Cutting Off the Corners

When weaving vertically oriented angles or curves, the grid structure creates many small steps, which can be quite evident depending on your materials and sett. This is simply the nature of tapestry weaving and a signature feature of the medium. In general, the more vertical a line becomes, the more stepped it will appear. It is possible, however, to make a steep angle (created with multiple sequences stacked up) appear smoother by “cutting off the corners.” This process softens the corner of the step that is made when a weft steps over 1 warp, making it look less square. To make this work, you need to weave the receding side of the shape 2 sequences higher than the advancing side. You will not be able to weave completely line by line. Alternatively, you can build up one side of the shape first (see chapter 13).

The photo above shows angles where 4 sequences are stacked up before moving over 1 warp thread. On the left side, the cutting-off-the-corners technique has been used to smooth out the corners of each step. This technique was not used on the right side.



▲ Cutting off the corners