



The Shifted Warp Ikat Scarf

3-day Workshop

Instructor: Mary Zicafoose, www.maryzicafoose.com

Ikat is a very refined & beautiful textile technique of resist-dyeing pattern into individual threads before weaving. It is a multi-phased fiber process resulting in graphically elaborate and vibrant woven cloth. Ikat wrapped yarns, when dipped in vats of dye, instantly become timeless, immersed in an ancient partnership between intention, design, and color.

Participants in this three-day workshop will design, wrap, dye, and weave a classic blue and white shifted warp ikat scarf. The scarf is the format for teaching and learning the basic techniques of the warp ikat process. Each student will stretch a warp for their scarf using warp yarns and a warping board they have brought to class. The warping boards will be secured to workshop tables using two 3" c-clamps—please do not forget to bring these important supplies! A variety of ikat wrapping techniques will be demonstrated. In the first day's session students will dye their stretched & wrapped warps using Procion Mx fiber reactive synthetic dye and then unwrap the ikat resist warp bundles. The dyed warps will be hung to dry overnight.

On Day 2 each student will unwrap their ikat warps, and dress & warp their loom with their dyed ikat threads. Four distinct ikat warp shifting methods will be demonstrated. Yarn handling and different ikat warp shifting techniques and tools will be discussed & demonstrated.

Day 3 is dedicated entirely to weaving. Ikat weaving techniques and adjustments for creating many classic ikat designs and patterns will be demonstrated and discussed. The scarf weaving can be completed post workshop on your workshop loom if not completed in class.

This is a unique opportunity to work in person with Mary, an experienced ikat weaver.

The level of expertise: Student should be able to confidently measure a warp, warp a loom, and weave without assistance. This is not a beginning weaving class or a basic weaving refresher course. No previous dyeing or ikat experience is necessary.

The student materials fee: \$20, for ikat tape, dye auxiliaries, workshop notebook

List of equipment and supplies to be provided by each student:

- * warping board brought to class
- * two 3" c-clamps for attaching warping board to table
- * warp: 5/2 cotton, white or natural, 12 oz
- * weft: 20/2 cotton, silk, Tencel or linen, 2 oz
- * 2 or 4 shaft loom with a 10-dent reed – no rigid heddle looms
- * 2 wooden dowel rods cut 2" narrower than the width of the back beam rod on your loom: ½", ¾", or 1" in diameter
- * 1 shuttle with 2 bobbins
- * basic weaving supplies, header materials, & beaming papers
- * Set of lease sticks
- * wide-eye steel tapestry needle
- * measuring tape
- * small sharp scissors

Warp & Weft recommendations:

I suggest using 5/2 cotton for a natural fiber warp yarn. This creates a lovely canvas for your ikat wrapping/dyeing. We are striving for a densely sett **warp dominant** cloth, not a balanced 50-50 weave, to showcase the beautiful ikat that will be dyed on each individual warp thread.

You will bring your warp yarn(s) to class where we will stretch, measure, wrap, scour and dye our warps together.

***warp yarn suggestions** for a 10-dent reed:

5/2 perle cotton, white or natural, 16 oz

***weft yarn suggestions:** Your weft should be a finer fiber than your warp in order to create a dense warp-face weave. This will allow the ikat dyed pattern on the warp threads to be the showstopper. If you want your weft to exactly match the blue of your ikat warp you must dye a hank of your weft along with your warp. A simpler weft solution that does not require dyeing is to bring to class a blue shade of a fine commercially dyed 20/2 silk, Perle cotton, Tencel, or linen. You will only need 2-3 oz of weft.

Warp calculation example:

Desired scarf length: 72", not including fringe

Desired scarf width: 10"

Available reed size: 10-dent

Warp material on hand: 5/2 perle cotton

Knowing we want a densely sett warp, plan on 2 warp threads/dent, which will be 20 epi's, ends-per- inch. For a 10" wide scarf you will need 200 warp threads. For a 72" scarf add 36" for loom waste and fringe = 3 yrd warp

The warp you will measure for your scarf will be a total of 240 ends @ 3 yds. I suggest adding an additional 6-10" to accommodate warp shifting techniques.