

Ply-Splitting Analogies

One, Two, or Three-Day Workshop

Description for publicity:

Ply-splitting borrows techniques from weaving in this workshop. Learn how to interpret weave structures in ply-split braiding by using the drawdown portion of a weaving draft. Any single-layer weave structure is suitable, no matter the number of shafts. Embellish pieces with supplementary cords, which float above and below the surface of a ply-split piece and offer the opportunity to show off unique design effects. Create ply-split versions of intricate, ornate and colorful passementerie bands, known as galons, with ply-split darning. These three techniques will take your ply-splitting to a new level, and you certainly don't have to be a weaver to enjoy all the possibilities. You do have to be an experienced ply-splitter.

Note: This workshop has three distinct components. Each of the three can be a one, two, or three-day workshop, or you can mix and match the components to fit the allotted time. Each component requires at least one day.

Component 1: Ply-Splitting from Drawdowns

Part One:

- I. Interlacement drawdowns, use of the gripfid
- II. Ply-splitting a 2/2 twill sample

Part Two:

- I. Designing a ply-split coaster from a weaving drawdown
- II. Coaster construction and finishing

Part Three (beyond one day):

Designing and beginning a project (mat, belt, necklace, or basket)

Component 2: Ply-Splitting with Supplementary Cords

Part One:

- I. Making a cord with a loop at the outend
- II. Supplementary cord added to a SCOT braid

Part Two:

- I. Basket starts with supplementary cords
- II. Beginning a four-sided basket

Part Three (beyond one day):

- I. Continue with basket
- II. Design and begin a basket or braid

Component 3: Ply-Split Passementerie

Part One:

- I. Making a cord with a loop at the outend
- II. Analysis of passementerie bands

Part Two:

- I. Making a ply-split galon
- II. Finishing options

Part Three (beyond one day):

- I. Further analysis of galons from a variety of sources
- II. Designing and making a gallon

Level of expertise: Intermediate to advanced; must know quarter twist and half twist. Students must have email access.

Maximum number of students: 12

Students need: a prescribed number of cords of a desired size and appropriate size [gripfid](#) for sampling and projects; cones of 5/2 or 10/2 pearl cotton (at least two colors with light/dark contrast) for cord making, scissors, 3/4" masking tape, tapestry needle, white glue, note-taking materials, ear protectors, extra light or headlamp if desired

Materials fee: Depends on the chosen components. Contact Barbara.

Room requirements: A room with very good light

Each student needs: plenty of table space for a work area, a comfortable chair, good light

Teacher needs: two banquet-size tables for displaying many examples, chalk board and chalk or white board and markers

Teacher needs for cord-making setup: two six-foot tables end-to-end,

corded electric drill and extension cord. *Ideally this setup should be in a separate room near the classroom, due to noise from the drill.*