

**Research findings of WEAVERS BAZAAR Worsted spun yarn - 18/2nm, 8/2nm and 6/2nm.**

Five students took part in the research. One student researched 18/2 nm worsted yarn, while two students each did their research with 8/2 nm and 6/2nm worsted yarns respectively.

All participants really liked working with the yarn, which was easy to use. No breaks occurred in the warp. Dyed well with Acid dyes.

The yarns are all strong, fairly hairy and very lustrous. They have a balanced twist, which is quite high. Scissors were needed to cut the yarn as it was difficult to break with the hands.

Samples were woven in Plain Weave and 2/2 Twill to establish suitable setts and experience the difference in handle that the various setts produced.

The wraps per inch given by Weavers Bazaar were considered to be very low in respect of the good average setts that our research found.

There was normal take up during weaving on both Plain Weave and Twill setts (about 10%) but virtually no shrinkage on finishing.

Finishing was done both by hand washing and machine washing on a classic 40°C wool wash. Both types of finishing caused a 'crazing' effect to occur on the Plain weave cloths no matter how tight the sett was. The 'crazing' effect was lessened with machine washing. No 'crazing' occurred on the 2/2 Twill samples. The samples softened slightly on washing. It was felt that machine spin-drying creased the fabrics and they would have been better drip dried and then ironed. The fabrics did not felt even after boiling and agitating the material.

The overall conclusion was that they were all beautiful yarn for furnishing and interior fabrics as well as coating and suiting fabrics for clothing, although it would not be suitable for clothing worn next to the skin. The crispness and sheen of the finished cloths meant that weave structures were very clearly visible. It is a type of yarn that is not easily available elsewhere.

## WEAVERS BAZAAR PROJECT

**RESULTS:** 18/2nm (2/16wc) – 9000m/kilo (4480yards/lb)

Weavers Bazaar wraps per inch figure - 40

### Plain Weave

Finish	Sett	Comment
40°C	<b>20</b>	Too loose unless the end use dictates it. ie light unlined curtains
40°C	<b>24</b>	Good balanced drape. Could be used for cushion covers and lightweight fashion fabrics.
40°C	<b>30</b>	Suitable for heavier weight fashion fabrics or upholstery. Lined jackets, cushion covers and lined curtains. <b>Good average sett</b>

### 2/2 Twill

Finish	Sett	Comment
40°C	<b>20</b>	Too loose unless the end use dictates it . ie light unlined curtains
40°C	<b>24</b>	Good balanced drape. Could be used for cushion covers and lightweight fashion fabrics.
40°C	<b>30</b>	Suitable for heavier weight fashion fabrics or upholstery. Lined jackets, cushion covers and lined curtains. <b>Good sett but probably 32 epi would be better, or even 36epi.</b>

**RESULTS:** 8/2nm (2/7wc) – 4000m/kilo (1960 yards/lb)

Weavers Bazaar wraps per inch figure – 30

### Plain Weave

Finish	Sett	Comment
40°C	<b>14</b>	Loose but still usable. Curtains.
40°C	<b>16</b>	Good drape. A lot of 'crazing'. Suitable for lightweight upholstery/curtains.
40°C	<b>20</b>	<b>Good average sett.</b> Overall a very stable cloth but still flexible. A lot of 'crazing'. Suitable for Clothing and Soft furnishing.
40°C	<b>24</b>	Very tight, crisp and rigid. Lays very flat. Less 'crazing'. Suitable for bags/ dining room chair covers, table mats and upholstery.
40°C	<b>28</b>	Unable to get 28 picks per inch in.

### 2/2 Twill

Finish	Sett	Comment
40°C	<b>14</b>	Very loose. Curtaining possibly
40°C	<b>16</b>	Slightly loose. A lot of movement. Ok perhaps for blanket/sofa throws.
40°C	<b>20</b>	<b>Good average sett.</b> Flexible and stable not too stiff. Suitable for coat weight and upholstery.
40°C	<b>24</b>	Firm and crisp. Lays flat. Beautiful fabric, clearly showing twill weave structure. Still flexible. Table Mats/upholstery. <b>Good sett.</b>
40°C	<b>28</b>	Very rigid, solid cloth. Weave structure clear.

**RESULTS: 6/2nm (2/5wc) – 3000m/kilo (1400 yards/lb)**

**Weavers Bazaar wraps per inch figure – 18**

**Plain Weave**

Finish	Sett	Comment
40°C	<b>8</b>	Too loose for general use. Could be used for hangings.
40°C	<b>10</b>	Good drape. Could be used for lightweight furnishings or shawls/throws.
40°C	<b>12</b>	Lovely balanced drape, suitable for medium weight fashion fabrics. <b>Good average sett</b>
40°C	<b>14</b>	Strong cloth with a little drape after finishing, suitable for soft furnishing or tailored clothes.
40°C	<b>16</b>	A firm cloth suitable for soft furnishing or a structured bag.
40°C	<b>18</b>	Impossible. A very solid fabric almost impossible to beat 18 ppi in.

**2/2 Twill**

Finish	Sett	Comment
40°C	<b>8</b>	Too loose for general use. Could use for hangings.
40°C	<b>10</b>	Suitable for lightweight furnishings, such as cushions.
40°C	<b>12</b>	Firm, close fabric. Could be used for furnishings such as place mats.
40°C	<b>14</b>	Soft furnishings and unstructured bags. Softer than plain weave at this sett. <b>Good average sett.</b>
40°C	<b>16</b>	Soft enough to have a little drape suitable for a structured bag or upholstery.
40°C	<b>18</b>	Very solid with no drape suitable for hardwearing upholstery but no give at all.

The second stage of this project will be completed by April 2012. The following finished items will be made:

- Lightweight huckaback window dressing in 18/2nm yarn.
- Set of table mats woven in 4 shaft twills in 8/2nm yarn.
- Colourful striped cushion in 4 shaft twills in 8/2nm yarn.
- Weft faced seat upholstery cloth in 6/2m yarn.
- Tote bag woven in 8 shaft twills using the 6/2nm yarn.