

SKSHHT2 - SQA Unit Code H9EK 04

Preparation for weaving Harris Tweed on a handloom



Overview

This standard is for Harris Tweed weavers who are preparing to weave fabric using a beam and instruction card(s) that have been supplied by the mill. If pattern cards have not been supplied by the mill, the weaver may have to make their own.

The job role may involve:

1. Creating a pattern card
2. Interpreting instructions
3. Making relevant adjustments to settings

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 correctly interpret weaving instructions
- P2 adjust the reed according to the yarn type/sett required
- P3 set shot wheel to determine picks/inch
- P4 check picks per inch
- P5 change draft if necessary
- P6 create pattern cards/tape, ensuring accurate interpretation of design so that colours will be placed correctly in the design
- P7 punch card for pattern/design
- P8 put beam into loom and lay out bunches
- P9 insert tie-in sticks
- P10 check warps are correct on beam during tying-in (check pattern before weaving commences)
- P11 tie-in the yarns
- P12 draw knots through the board and the reed
- P13 tie-up weft yarn
- P14 adjust tension as required
- P15 check adhesive layer on take-up beam is secure
- P16 insert test weft yarn to check design is correct
- P17 mark fabric face using specified procedures
- P18 weave a sample of fabric
- P19 readjust warp as necessary (dependent upon weft check sample)
- P20 check selvage tension and tweed tension
- P21 keep sample of woven yarn check for future quality/reference

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Key areas of knowledge and understanding

- K1 the history of Harris Tweed and what it constitutes
- K2 how pattern cards are created
- K3 weaving specifications
- K4 how tweed pattern cards differ from one another
- K5 tweed set up: reeds, boards and draft changes
- K6 cost implications of weaver/warper mistakes
- K7 the difference between drafts/patterns (i.e. Herringbone, Tweed and Tartan)
- K8 4 or 8 cycle tappet repeats
- K9 yarn cut
- K10 types of reeds
- K11 instruction cards
- K12 understand the effect of loom faults on resultant fabric

Regulations, rules and guidelines

You need to know and understand:

- K13 The Harris Tweed Act 1993
- K14 quality systems and procedures as decided by the mill / organisation
- K15 limits of personal responsibility
- K16 reporting procedures
- K17 responsibilities under the relevant Health & Safety at Work legislation
- K18 loom makers operating brochure/training material

Additional Information

Skills

The skills and techniques

1. dexterity for tying in threads
2. neatness and accuracy for tying-in
3. consistency when adding in tie-in sticks
4. accuracy and keeping picks count when tying-in
5. finding the correct individual method to count threads when tying-in

Workplace skills

6. deal with problems within the work area, and within limits of personal responsibility
7. report problems outside area of responsibility to the appropriate person
8. relate quality to mill/end user/customer
9. time taken to produce woven meterage
10. communicate effectively with end user/mill and customers
11. comply with written instructions
12. complete records accurately, and pass to appropriate person

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