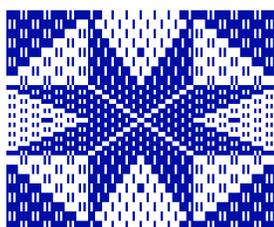
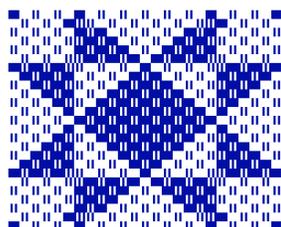


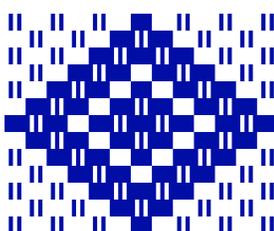
Star and Diamond



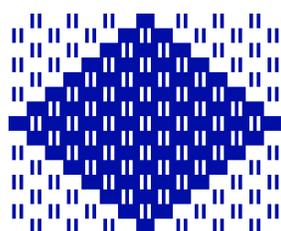
D1



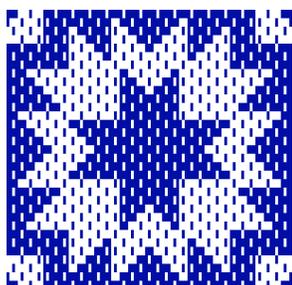
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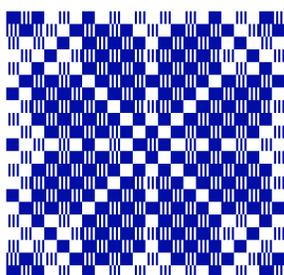
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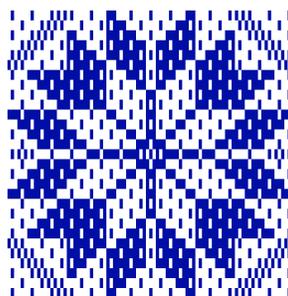
D4



D5



D6



D7

 “Star and Diamond” - a poetic catch-all name for a group of coverlets with a variety of Overshot-like structures. Many eight-pointed stars and many diamonds may be found in their patterns, but look for flowers and for other motifs, too. **D1-D7** ■ Generally, these are bright, cheerful-looking coverlets. A smile of pleasure, surprise, and delight often lights up the face of the viewer while those weavers confined to four harness looms momentarily regret their fate.

To the naked, untrained eye, all Star and Diamond patterns may seem to have the same structure. Study them carefully - and under magnification you find *several* different structures. Many harnesses and many treadles are needed to weave these elaborate designs, but the structures are not complex - just a bit different from the more common weaves. What you see are Overshot-like floats and half-tones on a Plain Weave ground. It sounds like Overshot, and has the appearance of Overshot with many blocks. Multiple Harness Overshot? That’s how I perceive it.

Yes, these are multi-harness pieces, and are most often composed of 16 to 18 blocks which usually requires 18 to 20 harnesses to weave. Some simpler patterns have just eight blocks, while more complex ones may have over twenty.

How were these Star and Diamond effects achieved? If you are a weaver or have an understanding of any weave structure and like to work out puzzles, spend a little time with this question before reading past this paragraph. Look at some photographs in this chapter - but don’t analyze them too closely - then think about the possibilities. I know what my first attempt at duplicating a Star and Diamond-look would have been. I’ll tell you about it and the other ways Star and Diamond pieces were woven after a less technical overview. (See page 7.)

In fact, there are a number of ways to achieve this