



Photo Requirements for Eight Shafts: Beyond the Beginning

We are looking for professional-grade photographs in high resolution rather than quick snapshots. Your photos should be similar to ones you would submit to a high level juried show, but likely larger. You can see some examples in quality weaving books, magazines, and exhibit guides including the [Complexity exhibit guide](#) and *Interlaced*, a weaving book from the [Weavers Guild of Boston](#).

Taking Photos

Use the highest resolution available. A phone camera is unlikely to give acceptable pictures for publication.

Use lighting from the right side.

Use the simplest background: solid white, grey or black, such as a single color plain sheet, piece of fabric, paper or plain painted wall.

Submit two photos:

1) Whole Piece

In general, keep everything simple, only using minimal props if necessary.

Garments will probably photograph better on a mannequin or model. Padding, careful draping, pinning inside, or using fine transparent mono-filament to hold the desired shape may be helpful. When using a model be careful that the hair does not obscure the neckline.

Try draping scarves or shawls on something simple rather than laying flat. A mannequin, stair post, or the corner of a chair or sofa (without patterning in the upholstery) can work well. Pay attention to how any fringes hang and adjust the folds and curves to be graceful and suggestive of being worn.

White on white can be difficult. A strongly oblique strafing light from the side can make the interlacement show up.

Photograph laces on a strongly contrasting background (white for a dark piece, black for a white piece). If you provide a backlit picture (which can be effective for laces) also provide one lit from the front.

Keep it simple with table linens. The weaving should be the focal point, not the beautiful grain of the table wood, pottery place settings, vase of flowers, etc.

Yardage might be draped on a form, hung, folded, etc.

The size of rugs sometimes makes them difficult to shoot. Try hanging if flat doesn't work well.

2) Good Close-up Detail

It should be close enough to show the interlacement clearly.

If you are having trouble deciding what to shoot, focus on a feature you feel takes the piece "beyond the beginning" or captures your style.

Photo Format

Ideal image straight from the camera (without ever going through Photoshop or similar software):

- 4800×6000 pixels
- TIF file format (with LZW compression, no layers)
- RGB color space

More guidance on format is available on the [Preparing Your Submission](#) page.

Questions? [Click here](#) to ask the Editors!