

Designing of rugs with paper folding and cutting motifs using screen printing

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ABSTRACT

The present study was aimed to know the origin and history of rug and screen printing, creating 30 rug designs and weaving and printing of selected rug. Most preferred designs were taken for designing of rugs. Different colour combinations were made following the colour forecast for fall/winter 2011/12 and evaluation was done. 30 designs of rugs were created with the help of computer software Coral Draw and Adobe Photoshop. Designs were evaluated and the most preferred design was selected for weaving and printing. Pre-testing of the sample to check the colour-fastness to washing and crocking was done in laboratory. The printed rug was shown to leading shopkeepers of Chandigarh and Panchkula to study the market acceptability. The responses were very encouraging, overwhelming and positive and it was appreciated by everyone.

KEY WORDS : Designing, Evaluation, Weaving, Printing, Market acceptability

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India is a land where every corner is evident with the greatness of art and craft. It is a land that reflects a love for colour, an eye for details and form and the innately artistic personality of the people of India. Craft is an expression of the human spirit in material form, which gives delight to mankind. Of all the art-craft of India hand spun and hand woven textiles are probably the oldest (Mehta, 1960; Hatanaka, 1993).

In woven textile craft, one of the famous craft is rug or durrie weaving handicraft. Woven rugs are made by interweaving weft and warp. A rug usually comes in two varieties, one that is used on the bed instead of mattress or below the thin cotton mattress and the other which is used as a floor covering. The former variety, smaller in sizes, is made on a pit-loom while the later is made on an elementary loom called adda. Rugs are usually woven in India with either cotton or woolen yarns

In today's fast changing fashion rugs are also coming in various types with new techniques and designs, to suit the rapidly growing need of the market. An attempt has been made to make new type of rug for the Indian local market. One such type of rug is the screen printed rug. It is originally made by printing the motifs or designs on the surface of the woven rugs with the help of screens.

The art of rug making can be given a new face using paper folding and cutting motifs on them with the help of screen printing. A paper folding and cutting motif is an art used by Chinese people. These people used to cut

animals, flowers and figures in the paper with a pairs of scissors or a knife mainly to decorate their doors and windows. These motifs have special significance at festivals and on holidays as it is believed that they bring good luck so here an attempt has been made to create unique patterns using paper folding and cutting motifs for rug designing.

Limitations:

- Only cotton yarns were used for rug weaving.
- The size of rug was limited to 3 feet x 5 feet.
- Most preferred design was woven and printed.

A great numbers of studies have been done related to present study. Researchers got inspired after studying these research works and moulded their inspiration to create designs. The related studies are as follows:

Jain (1993) did a study on chindi durries of Fatehpur Sikri, with a view to study the origin and development of chindi durries, its raw material type of motifs and colours used. The study was also undertaken to know the annual turnover and export potential of chindi durries. Sohal (1994) conducted a study regarding the evaluation of indigenous method of screen printing using pigment dye and rapid fast colour on cotton fabric, Shivani (2008) did a study on the designing of dining sheets using foil printing inspired from Persian motifs. The aim of the study was to know the Persian motifs and creating 30 designs for dining sheets by combining them with the help of CAD. Kalia (2008) did a study on designing of ladies Kurta