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Pattern Research Project: An Investigation of The Pattern And Printing Process - Family Tradition

Kyra Gilchrist

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Family Tradition



A BLAST FROM THE PAST: DAMASK

Kyra Gilchrist

Craft

Family Tradition was made by taking gunpowder and meticulously spreading it out to create the scroll motif and was then set on fire



¹ Sofa. The Met Collection (1999.396). The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY.



² Damask (silk). Vintage Fashion Guild, New York, NY.



³ Marquise de Pompadour wearing a dress with a damask pattern retrieved from Greenhouse Fabrics.

THE MESSAGE BEHIND THE MOTIF

The intended message being communicated by the precedent pattern was supposed to resemble wealth, status, and authority. Since the method of creating these weaves were done by hand, it became more demanding and harder to get. The middle ages called for skilled weavers to make tapestries and other textiles including clothing for royalty, and it wasn't until the Industrial Revolution where looms were made accessible to the public and caused a decrease in quality (Mitchell Fabrics Contributor para 3).

THE EVOLUTION

Anything can be considered damask as long as it has the general characteristics of the layout. Damask is mainly made from silk, although cotton, linen, wool, and synthetic fibers are also used ("Things you should know" para 5). The colors used to create the pattern doesn't have to be monochromatic at all, which makes picking a bold color to separate the foreground and background easier and more unique. It can be recreated digitally, simply for surface design, and handmade by using different techniques such as screen printing or even drawing and printing an image on a surface. The practice of weaving damask patterns developed in countries as a result of trade, colonizing, and mixing of culture. Damask weaving dates back to the 4th and 3rd centuries BCE during the Shang Dynasty in china (Lotha para 1). It is also considered to be a type of jacquard fabric that is constructed with satin and sateen weaving techniques (Mitchell Fabrics Contributor para 1).

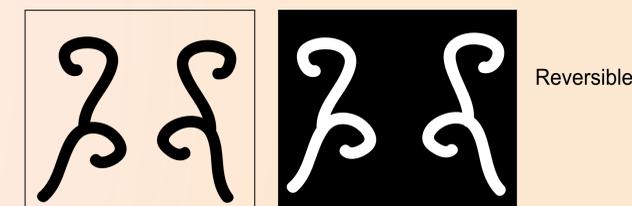
WHAT IS THE USE?

It was common for the pattern to be used on both furnishing as well as clothing, which was most popular during the Renaissance period. The scroll motif is most associated with damask as well as others such as stylized acanthus leaves (Gibbons para 3).

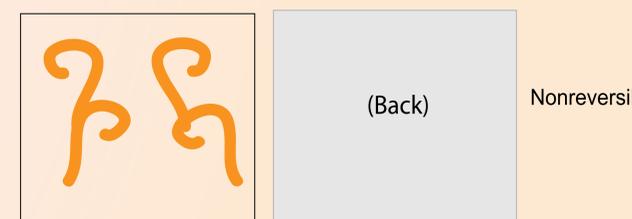


⁴ Campbell, Scott. "Family Tradition". Maharam (2013). Maharam Digital Projects.(399590-001). New York, NY.

Material characteristics

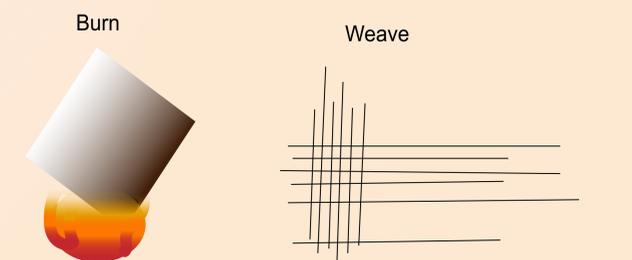


Reversible



Nonreversible

Technique



References

¹ Sofa. *The Metropolitan Museum of Art*. Retrieved from <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/7586>

² Damask (silk). *Vintage Fashion Guild*. Retrieved from <https://vintagefashionguild.org/fabric-resource/damask/>

³ Tolliver, Tiffany. "Damask: An Extravagant Heritage". *Greenhouse Fabrics*. 2017, February 17th. Retrieved from <https://www.greenhousefabrics.com/blog/damask-extravagant-heritage>.

⁴ Campbell, Scott. (2013) Family Tradition. *Maharam*. Retrieved from <https://www.maharam.com/products/family-tradition/colors/001>

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