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Pattern Research Project

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

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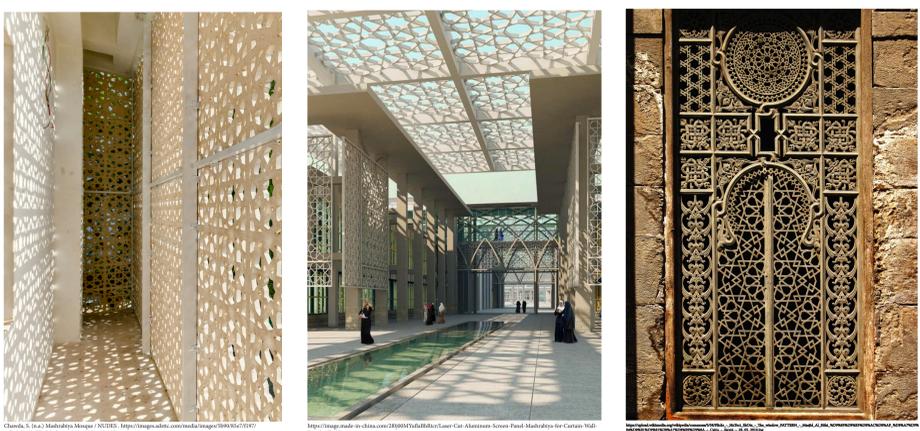
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Mashrabiya

Culture and History



Traditional Mashrabiya

A mashrabiya is a traditional architectural element of oriental Qatar buildings. It is a pattern carved out of wood which then serves as a window screen. The light passes through the pattern and projects the pattern on the walls and floor.



Modern Mashrabiya

The pattern I chose is on the VCU Qatar building in Richmond, Virginia. It draws motifs from Qatar and its culture. The motifs hold traditional meanings and values while presenting it in a modern form. Instead of the traditional wood carved screens, the pattern is vinyl printed on a glass screen.

Modern Take of a Mashrabiya pattern research project

Qatar

Qatar is a country that has developed very rapidly. In just the past 30 years it has grown from a desert into a business district with skyscrapers. Because it is so quickly changing, Qatar is trying to move forward in society while still holding onto tradition. This pattern tells the story of Qatar because it uses two motifs which contrast and compliment each other because they portray the new and old.

Motifs



Falcon

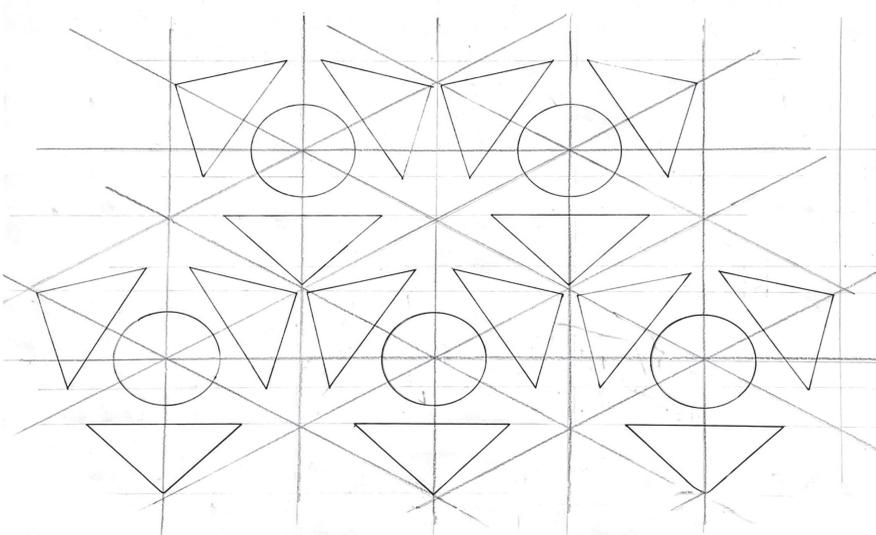
Falcons are very important and valuable in Qatar because of the traditional sport of falconry. Falconry is the sport of using falcons to hunt small prey. Because of this, falcons are taken very good care of.

Soccer Ball

Soccer balls are used in this pattern because more modern sports, like futbol, are just beginning to be more popular. Qatar is currently working toward hosting the Futbol World Cup. The soccer ball contrasted with the falcon visually portrays this old and new culture within Qatar.

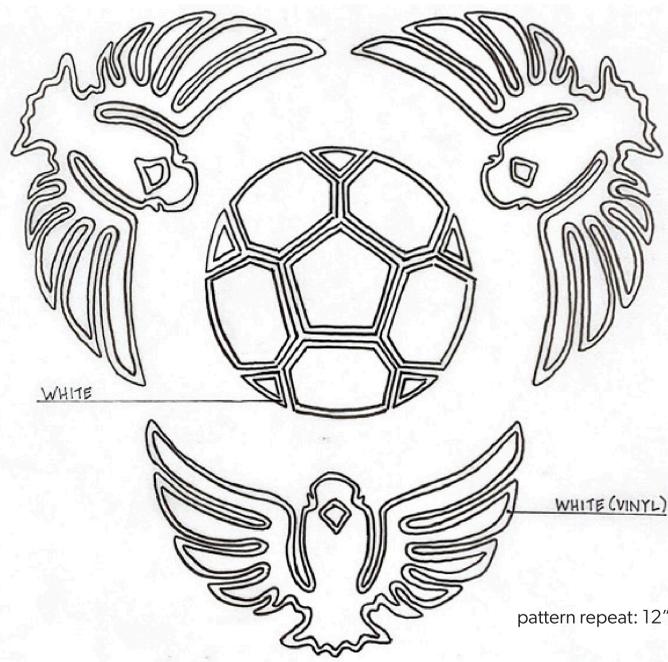


Craft and Color



Craft

This pattern is arranged in a hexagonal grid. Each repeat is placed side by side to each other to create the entire pattern. The repeats themselves are also symmetrical and can be rotated 120 degrees in either direction and pivoted off of one of the birds and the pattern will form. If the repeat is rotated 120 degrees it will remain in its original form.



WHITE

WHITE (VINYL)

pattern repeat: 12"x12"

Color and Materiality

The pattern is white vinyl printed onto glass. Therefore, natural light and shadow is crucial to create dimension within the screen. The light and shadow allows the pattern to interact with the room as a whole. The amount of sunlight determines how dramatic the shadow will be and how drastic the contrast between the glass and pattern will be.

