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MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA CARPET AND FLOORING NEWS

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## IMENA CARPE IEWS

NEWFLOOR'S SALES
NETWORK IS
GROWING FAST IN
MIDDLE EAST &
AFRICA REGION

ZIMMER AUSTRIA: 2023 HAS STARTED -EXCITING TIMES AHDEAD! TRUE COLOURS: THE
ABILITIES AND
INFLUENCES OWF
COLOURS IN
INTERIOR DESIGN

## **READY TO SUPPORT YOU**

## TEXTILE PRINTING





COLARIS Digital Printing Systems can print on almost any fiber-based material.

Through certified ink manufacturers reactive, low and high energy disperse, direct sublimation, acid, VAT Indanthrene and cationic inks are available.

Common end-products are home textile incl. bedding, furnishing, window fashion, terry towel, velour substrates but also knit fabrics in the fashion industry.

## FLOOR COVERINGS





The wide range of products such as contract, automotive, promotion, residential or function carpets etc. requires matching of specific fastness properties for each individual product. Accordingly, different inks, print and finishing processes are required.

COLARIS and CHROMOJET technology cover the complete range of textile-based floor coverings incl. wall to wall carpets, rugs, mats and tiles, no matter whether they are produced from PA, PES, CDPES, PAN, CO, VIS, Sorona,

## NARROW FABRICS





Single pass printing at highest efficiency onto a big variety of different substrates.

Full range of inks such as acid, sublimation, high energy disperse, automotive grade disperse, pigment and reactive inks is available through various certified suppliers.

COLARIS-NF can be integrated into an existing dyeing range or laid out as a fully integrated production line including inline pre-treatment, post treatment, washing and finishing.

## **CHALLENGE US**



## **■ TECHNICAL TEXTILES**





Functionality fabrics, military applications, automotive textile, sunblind fabrics, umbrellas, awnings, fabrics for flags and banners, camping and different outdoor use such as construction fabric are covered under our Technical Textile business unit.

Mentioned products can be printed either with our valve based CHROMOJET or the piezo based COLARIS or COLARS-NF technology.

## SPECIALITIES





Our technologies based on CHROMOJET and COLARIS product lines can also be used for special coatings, conductive printing or may also cover other products

Electro conductive printing, thermophore coatings, security prints, 3D digital manufacturing are just a few applications that are covered

## ZIMMER AUSTRIA Digital Printing Systems is the competent partner to your success in printing and finishing of textile-based substrates.

- Developing the idea
- Building the process
- Installing and commissioning the equipment
- Implementing and transferring the process technology and Know-how
- Servicing the production line
- Designing and manufacturing the printer and line components

## INNOVATION | QUALITY | SERVICE

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# Newfloor's Sales Network Is Growing Fast in Middle East & Africa Region





Interview with Chiara Matterazzo CEO at Newfloor S.r.l.

1. Please let us know more details about Newfloor S.r.l., its history and success story.

Newfloor is a family-run Company in the Veneto Region of Italy, founded in 1986 following 10 years of experience in the timber sector. In the first several years work focused exclusively on the production for third parties, notably for prominent Italian ceramic manufacturers.

Thanks to the our specialization in hard surfaces and stone Newfloor was able to be at the leading edge of the development of new technologies beyond the standard resilient materials common at the time such as vinyl, rubber, carpet, laminates and linoleum, establishing Newfloor as a true market innovator! Newfloor was the first raised floor manufacturer to change the standard 60×60 cm panel format, offering more modern sizes ranging from 60×120, 60×90, 45×90 and 75×75 cm.

1994 saw the opening of the new headquarters in Codevigo (Padua) and in 2003 its own brand was launched on the national and international markets. Over the years the Company has registered two patents for industrial inventions: in 1998 a patent for a multiple porcelain grès tile raised flooring panel, edge trimmed with a permanent and resistant joint, and in 2013 a Europe-wide registered brand for Freefloor, a dry self-laying flooring system.

In the last years, Newfloor has obtained the certification "Made in Italy" and it has developed two products: the first is Radiafloor, which is a raised floor with a radiant module to heat and cool the floor and the other is S-Lock System self-centring substructure for indoor systems. In 2020, the Company launches the market his latest project: Lumifloor. It can be used for an internal or external application and it lights up in the dark by special pigments that are charged by sunlight. During this year also the Company expands and redesigns its Headquarter.

2. Please tell us more about your range of products and innovations. Also Newfloor S.r.l. capacity and level of technologies and machiner-

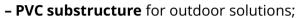
### ies.

Newfloor produces raised floors of different sizes, with various finishes and innovative systems, thus being able to customize the products, all made in Italy. Here are some examples:

- **Chipboard core panels** (thk. 38mm) with resilient, ceramic, natural wood, marble, granite, reconstituted stone, etc. on top and aluminum foil or steel tray on the bottom side, different sizes (60×60, 60×120 cm);
- **Calcium sulfate panels** (thk. 30-32-34-36-38 mm) with resilient, natural wood, ceramic, marble, granite, reconstituted stone, etc. on top and aluminum foil, steel tray or bare on the bottom side (60×60, 60×120, 40×80 cm);
- Steel galvanized substructure with regulations from 30 mm to 1000 mm and light/medium/heavy stringers;
- **Freefloor:** dry laying ceramic tiles made up on ceramic tiles with a special Silent rubber on the bottom side, in different sizes (60×60. 60×120, 30×60, 30×120, 45×45, 45×90, 90×90, 40×80, 80×80, 75×75 cm);
- **X-Floor:** double ceramic tiles glued together with a fiber grass in the middle for higher performances. The panel is installed with the steel structure for indoor and with a plastic substructure for outdoor areas;
- **S-Lock System:** steel pedestals glued on the ground with a self-centering and anti-seismic gasket;







- **Lumifloor:** the panels, or part of them, are visible and stand out in the absence of light;
- Radiafloor: the hydronic floor heating system for indoor;
- **Radiafloor C:** the electric heating solution for outdoor which uses carbon fibre as a resistor;
- **Synthetic grass:** synthetic grass is available as top covering to be coupled with the x-floor and also with 2 cm monolithic panel. This solution can be used for both outdoors and indoors, it is waterproof so it can be washed and sanitized.
- **Natural cork:** the natural cork top covering presents very high comfort, thermal and acoustic performances. Cork is a completely natural raw material, biodegradable, renewable and recyclable, so the perfect solution for "Green" projects.
- **Alpine Hay:** this top covering is applied on a 4mm thk. cork support on a chipboard or calcium sulphate core panel. It can be realized in tiles 60×60 cm or 60×120 cm (this last option is made by 2 stripes 30×120 cm).

Newfloor now produces about 300.000 sqm. per year. Currently the com-





pany is headquartered in Codevigo (Padua) along with the 4.000 sqm. production plant, with an off-site commercial office in the province of Milan, with a sales network in Italy and abroad.

## 3. How do you evaluate Raised access flooring sector in Europe and also internationally?

The raised access floor is a growing system in all its solutions. In fact, for example, the evolution of the technology in Europe, but also all around the world, requires more and more installation of cables to connect the various devices. These cables can be a problem in terms of safety and also an aesthetic limit. The plenum, that is created between the panels and the slab, results the perfect space to host HVCA ducting and installation for electrical, data, plumbing and telecommunications cables.

Furthermore, in recent years, rapidity has become fundamental in the world of construction. The raised floor follows this trend as it requires quick installation and, being a dry system, can be walked on immediately after installation, allowing workers to access to the construction site immediately.

## 4. Let us know about Newfloor S.r.l. export destinations and the statistics. Do you have any export to the MEA region?

Newfloor's sales network expands worldwide.

We have a good client in Qatar, the name of the company is Mantech Office Systems W.L.L. with which we did lot of projects. References (for example): Golden line station and the University of Qatar. Thanks to this partnership we have been accredited as a supplier in several projects.

We have some clients in Dubai that followed good projects but unfortunately, we don't have references.

We have an agent with exclusive in Saudi Arabia (IDEC International Design Engineering & Contracting Co. LTD) that buy containers of panels and is following important projects.



Then we have another client with an exclusive in Egypt, MAADI for Special Contracting Co. Mr. Yasser carried lot of tests with our panels in order to fulfill all the certifications required in Egypt. Here we have lot of references about our supply for the New Capital in Cairo (we have everything in our website and on our social media accounts). Thanks to this partnership we are now in the vendor list accepted by the Egyptian Government

## 5. What is role of technology in your success? what about RandD and innovations?

The relevant component that distinguishes Newfloor Company is undoubtedly the passion and constant dedication to the study of materials in order to create new products and improve functionality, efficiency and aesthetics.







Newfloor, equipped with a small laboratory and supported by a nationally certificated institution, tests the individual components of each system to verify their effective compliance with the specifications declared by the supplier for quality, safety, structural strength and durability.

Based on the data collected for each test, the company continuously updates the internal technical documentation to facilitate the study and the creation of new products.

6. What are the unique features of raised access flooring that was chosen by many companies in the world?

**CUSTOMIZED PRODUCT** 

possible processes characterizes the production of Newfloor

- Various covering: parquet, ceramic, marble and granite, recomposed stone, plastic laminate, linoleum, vinyl, rubber, stainless steel
- Without construction limits: the production line adapts perfectly to the needs of the customer with a unique flexibility, even for small projects and for tailor-made products
- Versatile structure: among the different types of structure, Newfloor also boasts an exclusive and personalized solution.

• Not only 60×60 cm: a wide range of sizes and 7. As a flooring Expert, how do you evaluate

## the carpet and flooring sector in the Middle East and Africa and its potential for Future? How do you evaluate Newfloor S.r.l market share in the region?

Carpet is for sure one of the most requested top coverings in the Middle East and African market. The common idea for these projects is to install bare panels and then apply a loose-lay layer of carpet in rolls, but this system does not allow inspection of the plenum for systems' maintenance.

Newfloor replies to this limit by gluing tiles of carpet 60x60cm, supplying the panels already finished, and restoring the main characteristics of the raised floor.

## **OERLIKON IS INVESTING IN ITS SURFACE SOLUTIONS BUSINESS** WITH A NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART ASSEMBLY AND PRODUCTION SITE **INSWITZERLAND**

erlikon, a global leader in surface technology, polymer processing and additive manufacturing, is planning a new state-of-the-art assembly and production site for its surface solutions and equipment businesses.

The Group's current locations in Wohlen, Dottikon and Winterthur will be merged at the Reichhold Campus in the canton of Aargau. With this investment, Oerlikon is affirming its commitment to Switzerland as a business location.

Oerlikon is developing a new, attractive site on the Reichhold Campus in Hausen/Lupfig together with HIAG Immobilien Schweiz AG. This state-ofthe-art site will provide customers with Oerlikon Metco thermal spray solutions, including equipment assembling and production services.

The new location will enable further improvements in productivity and more optimized operational processes to ensure the continued first-class



products and services that customers have come to expect from Oerlikon.

The Campus Reichhold site, spread across a total of around 14 500 m2 of production and office space, will also serve as a sales and distribution center for the materials product line, house an IT competence center, and offer around 230 employees an attractive workplace. A strong focus will be placed on sustainability and innovative approaches to future-oriented energy, mobility and utilization concepts.

The application for the building is planned to be submitted in the Summer of 2023. Construction is scheduled to start in the Spring of 2024, and the new location is expected to be ready for moving in from mid-2025 onward. At the current sites, all activities and work will continue as usual. According to the current plan, the move will begin in the summer of 2025 and will take place gradually to ensure the continued processing of all customer orders.



## ZIMMER AUSTRIA: 2023 has started – exciting times ahead!



OMOTEX in Hannover, the place where of priflooring industries meet for business initiation and networking. It was a highlight 2023. to start into the business year 2023.

ZIMMER AUSTRIA was present with its own booth, organized together with co-exhibitors Hansa Mixer, Le Clair & Meert and Power Heatset. Together we could welcome a decent number of customers and collect interesting leads for potential future projects. The exhibition occupied quite less space compared to 2020. Exhibited products were dominated by rugs and mats. It looks like the residential and contract wall-to-wall producers are shifting their activities towards other fairs.

From highest quality printed woven rugs through raschel qualities and chenille mats, a big variety

of printed products where on display. Printed carpets and rugs are still the trendy products in 2023.

HEIMTEXTIL in Frankfurt which partially overlapped with Domotex is always our target fair to study the market trends of home and contract textiles. The statement of environmentally friendly, sustainable production was the message and will be the challenge to meet in the years to come. The fair was well booked, and print products such as furnishing fabrics, bedding, terry towel, window fashion and the even fiber based floor coverings have been the highlights of this annual event.

PSI in Düsseldorf is the Number One meeting place for the European promotional products industry. More and more textile-based promotion

articles can be seen. Shopping bags, aprons, flags and banners, beach and terry towels, mink blankets and door mats are just a few examples which are getting prominent as promotion products. The exhibition is a good place to meet, as printing on the mentioned products is among the specialties offered by ZIMMER AUSTRIA Digital Printing Systems.

To follow-up on the talks we had, our sales team is on the road again. Meeting the experts at manufacturers premises to continue discussions initiated during the fairs has first priority now.

We wish to thank you all for the time spent with our team and for giving us the opportunity to listen and understand your needs, which changed substantially under the prevailing geopolitical scenario.

With focus on the exhibitions in 2023, ZIMMER AUSTRIA has concentrated on developing solutions to make textile and carpet printing more economic. Reduction on energy and water consumption through slimming down processes results in a more economical production. Your advantage is an environmentally friendly, sustainable print production at reduced costs.

With more exhibitions to come in 2023 there will be excellent opportunities to meet again. Certainly, the biggest event will be ITMA 2023 in Milano, Italy. ZIMMER AUSTRIA announces its presence and invites you for a visit in Hall 7, booth E105, where we will have plenty of space to meet for introducing our latest developments and discussing any of your potential projects.









## Shaw Contract Leads With IOBAC MagTabs® Warranty Extension

- Enables easy re-use of flooring supporting sustainable design
- Flooring becomes an asset in a circular economy (January 24, 2023) Leading commercial flooring manufacturer Shaw

ontract has announced that it is providing a 15-year warranty for its UK-made carpet tiles when installed with IOBAC Mag-Tabs®, which covers the tiles installation in a second location.

In an industry first, Shaw Contract is the only flooring manufacturer to provide such a warranty in partnership with IOBAC's MagTabs®. The warranty matches the current 15-year one available on Shaw Contract's carpet tiles.

Significant for the industry is the announcement that this warranty extension covers the reuse of tiles which have been initially installed using MagTabs®. This means that after inspection and approval by Shaw Contract, carpet tiles can be moved to different space in the knowledge that they continue under warranty. And to support this important move, Shaw Contract is also making IOBAC MagTabs® part of its In Stock UK program and is the only manufacturer currently to do so. This enables quick delivery for fast turnaround projects.

Business Development Director, Andrew Jackson explains: "Using the non-adhesive MagTabs® installation method over metal raised access flooring reduces and even negates sub-flooring and tile contamination. It benefits tenants as the



floor covering – the carpet tiles – can be lifted and installed in another space or building, and reused with little cost, and now with the MagTabs warranty in place alongside the carpet tiles' warranty."

"Importantly there is a carbon impact benefit too as there is no associated embodied carbon linked to the second location. And with average replacement cycles of carpet tiles typically five years, this really extends the product's usable life."

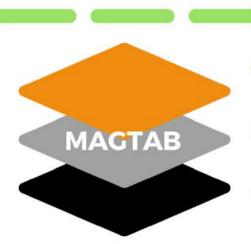
"Using MagTabs® also benefits developers and building owners as the subfloor/raised access floor is protected from contaminants. Overall flooring solutions can become an asset."

Last year Shaw Contract EMEA announced IOBAC MagTabs® as a preferred adhesive-free installation method for its extensive carpet tile collections in the EMEA region. In this move Shaw Contract and IOBAC are pushing a circular economy approach one step further and encouraging collaboration across the supply chain to achieve this aim.



Ian Spreadborough, Co-founder and Director at IOBAC UK Ltd commented: "Specifiers are rapidly realising the significant impact that installation method can have on the reuse of floor coverings. By specifying a reversible adhesive-free fixing mechanism such as MagTabs®, both the sub-





### FLOOR COVERING:

Shaw Contract Carpet Tile

### ADHESIVE FILM LAYER

- · Acrylic based adhesive with polyester film liner
- Odourless 100% solid material VOC content not applicable

### MAGNETIC FILM

- Flexible strontium ferrite magnetic sheet
- · Contains no plasticisers, phthalate free

### **DUAL-GRIP POLYURETHANE COATING**

 VOC-free, odourless plant-based polyurethane resin manufactured mostly from renewable castor oil

## RECEPTIVE SUB-FLOOR

Metal raised access floors, IOBAC Ezy-Install® Magnetically Receptive Underlay, IOBAC Magnetically Receptive Resins, plus sub-floors suitable for floating floor installations.

floor and flooring stay contamination-free, easily giving them a second life.

"Shaw Contracts' introduction of a warranty is a massive industry step forward in making flooring reuse a reality. Now specifiers and clients have the practical reassurance that Shaw Contracts' products will perform just as well on their second life as their first."

Innovation award-winning MagTabs® enable a wide variety of floor coverings to be installed adhesive-free to metal raised access floors.

Shaw Contract has prepared a RIBA-accredited CPD seminar to support knowledge-sharing around non-adhesive options for flooring installation entitled: An alternative solution in non-adhesive workplace flooring.

## A robust option that enables easy reuse

The method by which flooring is installed has a significant impact on the ease with which overall flooring systems can be reused or recycled. Ad-

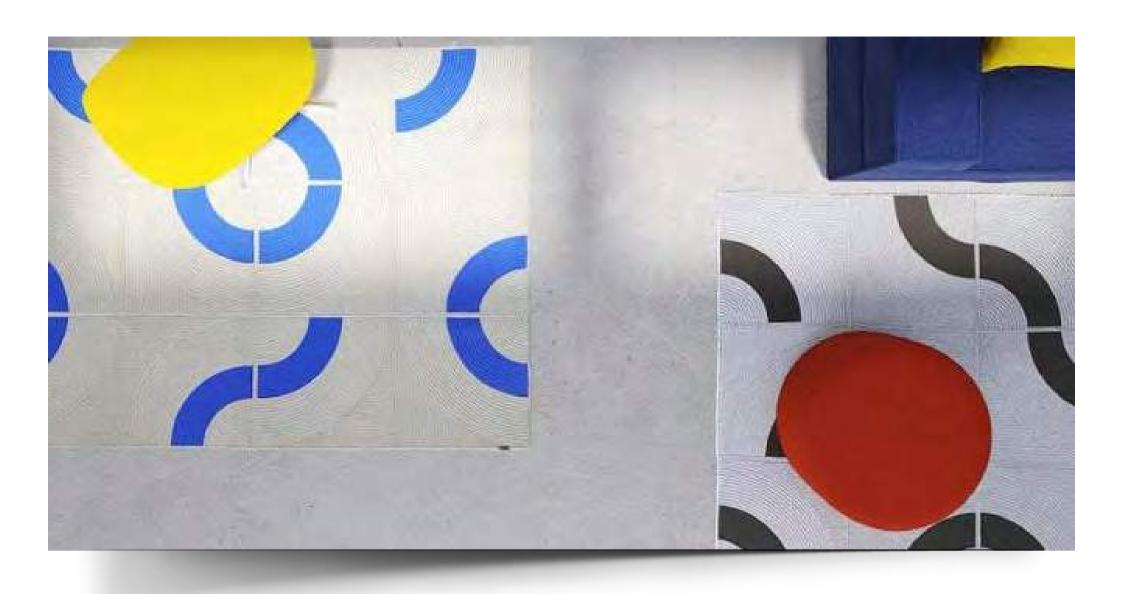




hesive-free installation facilitates flooring reuse as it ensures both the floor covering and subfloor are left clean and contamination-free on uplift. In contrast, flooring products installed using adhesive-based methods can end up in landfill after one use as adhesive residue and contamination hinders recyclability.

Magnetic on one side and self-adhesive on the other, MagTabs® enable floor tiles to be removed cleanly and easily for reuse or recycling, with the subfloor left contamination-free and ready for the next flooring installation straight away. Excessive sub-floor remediation costs are eliminated.

Note: When tiles are moved to a second location, Shaw Contract is advising new MagTabs® are used in the second installation.



## Outdoor and Indoor Rug with Customisable Circle Design: Open Loop



he squaring of the circle rethought. The latest designer piece by Eva Langhans surprises with its versatility: OPEN LOOP is equally suitable for indoors and outdoors and offers almost infinite combination possibilities. The individual modules from which the carpet is carefully sewn together by hand can be arranged individually.

This carpet artwork follows the simple principle of the four-four time signature of a good pop song.

The rug is first made as a closed circular pattern of strong, braided polypropylene strands, then cut into square quarters and reassembled. Thus opened up, the pattern and structure of this indoor/outdoor rug create a space full of new dynamics.

Four possible orientations per module and, depending on the size of the rug, 12 to 35 modules – this results in a large playing field for your cre-





"I have long wanted to transfer the play and the freedom to create something new onto a rug. With OPEN LOOP, this has been achieved in a way that allows everyone to give free rein to their creativity. Roads and paths meandering through the landscape were the inspiration. In stylised form, this motif lives on in the Floorwear."

4

- Eva Langhans, Creative
Director

If you prefer to let the pattern flow, you can connect several sections together like a road or a river. The remaining circle segments line the imaginary path.

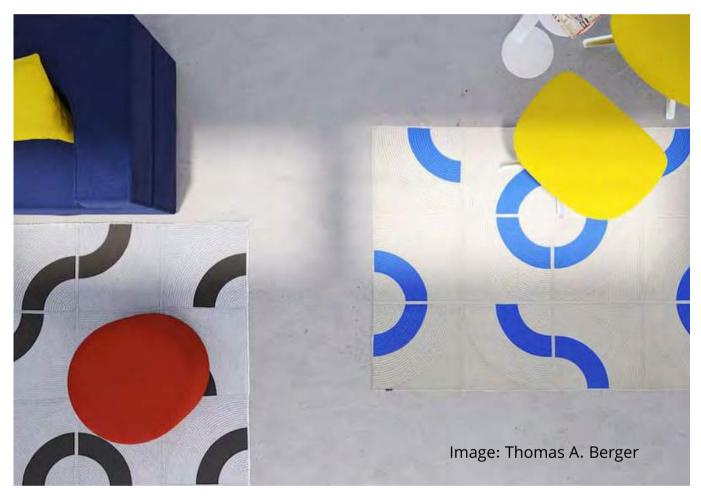
This extraordinary designer carpet is available in four colour combinations; custom colours or swapping accent and base colour are also possible on request.

In addition to being customisable, the rug is also suitable for outdoor use and its robustness makes it ideal for balconies, terraces, poolside, kitchens, modern spa areas and corridors.

Thanks to the modular structure, in addition to our standard sizes 180×240 cm, 240×240 cm, 240×300 cm, 240×360 cm and 300×420 cm, long runners for hallways or balconies in particular, as well as square rug shapes are also possible on request. All realisable sizes are based on a multiple of 60cm, the edge length of a single rug module.

Its elaborate handmade design starting from the center of each circle and the careful, flat stitching between the circle, square elements and modules also ensure that the OPEN LOOP outdoor rug is reversible. Thanks to the water-repellent polypropylene material, you can easily clean this artistic designer rug with a garden hose, for example. Then hang it up to dry. Polypropylene yarn is colourfast, weatherproof, particularly water-saving in production, long-lasting and easily recyclable, as it is unmixed.

Unlike its sister model MIXTAPE, which is also braided, each braided strand consists of only one colour. This makes the modern contrast between the two colours of the carpet look even more intense. Its spinneret-dyed fibres make its production environmentally friendly and the carpet UV-resistant, so you can enjoy your OPEN LOOP braided rug indoors and outdoors. Unlimited freedom in geometric versatility.





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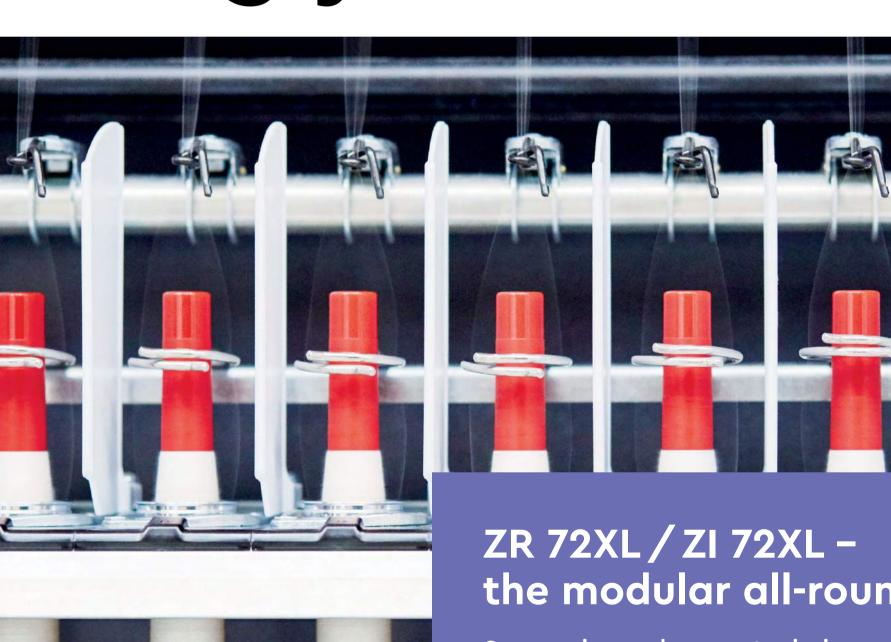
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## True Colours: The abilities and influences of colours in interior design

Pelcome to an exploration of the amazing abilities and influences of colours in interior design. Colours are the emotional elements of a structure that affect our senses and emotions; do we feel safe, nurtured or energised? Colours are in constant motion and will change in their interaction with light, other colours and materials. Some will harmonise just like friends. Others stand out and create a new energy. The full sensory perception of colours is always contextual and combined with our personal experiences; how we feel, how we relate. We might not know exactly what it is, but it lives within us.

Curated by Cenk Kivrikoglu, textile designer and creative director at Gabriel, True Colours explores three dimensions of colours: from the inspiration of minerals from the soil and the natural pigments of tinctorial plants to the application of colours in the creation of different moods to the actual fabrication methods of textile colours.

## Three dimensions of colours

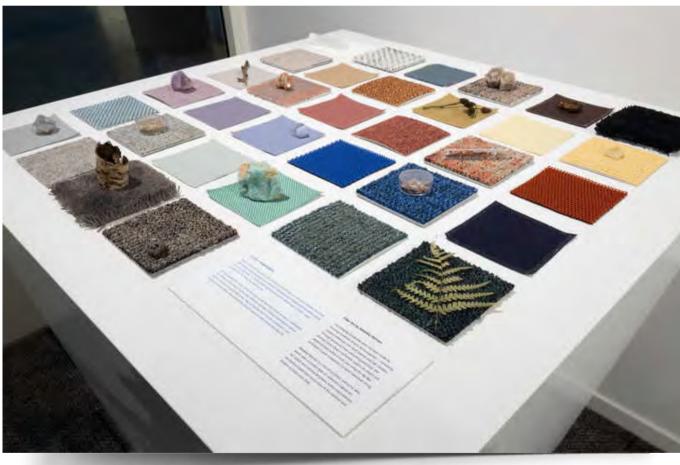
This article explores three dimensions of colours: colour inspiration, colour application and colour fabrication. Thus, we'll take you behind the scenes of contemporary interior design to show how to exploit the abilities and influences of colours in your own projects.

## 1. Colour inspiration

Many colours are inspired by nature because natural hues are eternally relevant. Sensitive and healing, these colours give us a feeling of belonging and timeless stability while urging us to discover more. Tinctorial plants and minerals have several layers in their colour presentation as if they have more to say than what meets the eye at first sight. And by applying the colour hierarchy of nature, we learn not to look at colours individually but always in the context of other hues, materials and light.

This results in endless combinations where colours relate and respond differently: they can be close friends almost alike, complementary in ways that make them elevate each other or dynamic diva colours that stand out with energy and vibrancy.





## Colour inspiration – curated item: Fiber Art by Rebekka Nielsen

This hanging handmade piece has been made by knotting hundreds of yarn fibres together, combining residue materials from both Gabriel and Ege Carpets. Through great and time-consuming precision, the desired colour flow is achieved. Layers of colours are added through the dip dye technique, using many rounds to add colour uniqueness to each individual string.

This item is made by Rebekka Nielsen, a Danish architect and artist who works with a modern take on seventies tapestries. Her tactile and mov-

Through colours, we can stimulate energies and create atmosphere: what's the intention of the colours used in a spatial context? Are we striving to create an ambience of energy or an ambience of comfort?

- Cenk Kivrikoglu, textile designer and creative director at Gabriel

ing art pieces soften and embrace the hard surfaces and sharp lines of the minimal and contemporary architectural style.

## 2. Colour application

Colours are the language of the senses and some say that we feel with our eyes and see with our hands. Explore four artistic interpretations of moods and atmospheres using colour, form and material below.

## Stability - curated items

Familiar geometric constructions in stone materials and earthy tones that give you a sense of stability, reliability and security. Visualised through items such as:

- The globe from Kristina Dam Studio, a repetition from our True Nature exhibition
- The tallest pillar covered in Cyber colour 1102 from Gabriel
- The carpet circle featuring Highline 1100, Hemp design

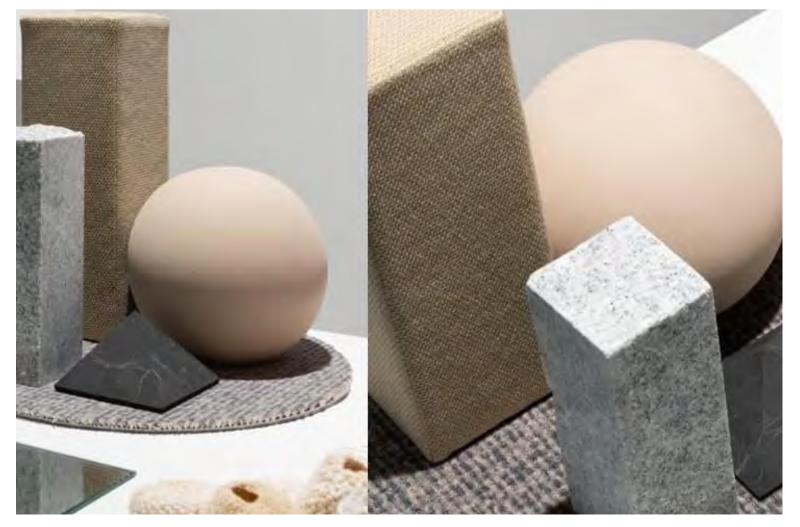
## Sci-Fi - curated items

A fictional futuristic and techy environment that invites you to explore new perspectives and directions with shiny and neon-coloured surfaces. Visualised through:

- Reflective mirror
- Textured, blurred glass







- Neon-coloured, toned and iridescent acrylics
- Textiles in cyber colours:
- ► Highline 1100 carpet, Cloudy design
- ► Runner 66120 from Gabriel

## Nurturing - curated item: Nurturing by Hvileloes

The yarn used in this artwork is 100% recycled and consists of leftovers from the production at Ege Carpets and Gabriel. The corals are made with crochet techniques.

Using only natural dyes from plants such as fig leaves, spruce and hibiscus petals, the healing effects of nature are translated into a space where we can hide and feel safe. Here, the tactility of good



materials, traditional craftmanship and the most delicate natural colours embrace and nurture us.

This piece is made by textile artist and founder of Hvileloes, Trine Kok, who is uncompromising when transforming scraps perceived as "nothing" into "something". Her passion is to help promote people's wellbeing through eco-optimised and worthy workplaces.

## **Energy - curated item: Energy by Signe Fink** Nørgaard

The idea was created during the process of using a quick sketch tool that's commonly used by weavers when they choose yarn and colours for their compositions. Winding yarn is a method that opens for new inspiration and is an almost meditative activity.

The yarns consist of natural and synthetic fibres. Some are thick wool, others thin polyamide. Some colours are intense, others more soft tones in different textures such as fluffy, coarse, fine, shiny or matte. The diversity of the yarn contributes to the energy and vibrancy of the installation, which is the result of two-dimensional warp tests that are translated into a three-dimensional warp installation on a thin skeleton made from pine tree. A choice of material with a clear link to the traditional old-school floor loom.



With reference to traditional weaving, textile designer Signe Fink Nørgaard has used the combination of weft and warp threads to create this dynamic installation. The repetitive and rhythmic process of warping a loom opens for new inspiration as yarn and colours mix and create new colours.

energy. The simple crossing of different shades and textures in a three-dimensional space has an amazing power with exciting blends, gaps, light effects and shadows. New compositions appear from different angles and continue to feed and lift you.

## 3. Colour fabrication

It's not only colours, but the diversity of yarn fi- Colour is a vital ingredient in textiles and carpets. bres in material and thickness that creates a new Thanks to modern technology, the processes



available for dyeing have broadened over time, allowing for greater design versatility. Whether you want unicolours, mélanges or large-scale patterns, different processes can be used depending on the desired result and choice of material. Here are three of the most common methods:

The piece-dyed technique is used to dye carpet and textiles after they're woven. Colour is added in a dyebath and is generally used to produce singlecoloured materials where different yarn types and the construction can help to create an interesting mélange effect.

The yarn-dyed technique is a singular process where precoloured yarn is woven straight into unicoloured or multicoloured designs. Especially suitable when more vibrant colour is desired.

The injection-dyed technique is a state-of-the-art process for carpets with unlimited possibilities in design and colour. The woven carpet is like a blank canvas that runs through 40,000 spray nozzles, each one programmed to inject a specific colour according to the design.

## **Explore True Colours in our showrooms**

Want to experience our True Colours exhibition with your own eyes and hands? In our Stockholm, Oslo and Copenhagen showrooms, you're always

welcome to dig further into the amazing abilities and influences of colours in interior design and we're more than happy to give you a guided tour. So, don't hold back if you're striving to develop a sensuous interior design which embraces and takes good care of the users.

## The True exhibition concept

True is a series of exhibitions developed by Gabriel and Ege Carpets for our shared showrooms. True is the headline for the co-operation between our two well established textile companies that share the love of good, honest materials and have a strong sense of responsibility. The ambition is to create inspiring themed exhibitions that'll lift the experience of our products to a higher level and create a united universe

where we invite and attract architects, interior designers and other design lovers to explore and discover.

The exhibitions aim to not only feature textiles and carpets but also designs, pieces of arts and innovations from other companies and artists to motivate, touch or even challenge the viewer and to create new relationships with interesting working partners that'll help us move forward. The exhibitions change 1-2 times a year and the first of its kind was True Nature, which was curated by Rikke Skytte, future analyst in design, architecture and human behaviour. Visit our blog to explore True Nature and learn how to use the biophilic interior design trend, which is as important as ever before.



## AUTONEUM ACHIEVES REVENUE GROWTH OF 6.1% IN 2022



roduction volumes in the automotive industry increased significantly in fiscal year 2022 for the first time since 2020, but did not quite reach the level of 2019. Autoneum's revenue in local currencies increased by 8.5%. In Swiss francs, Group revenue increased by 6.1% yearon-year to CHF 1 804.5 million. A slight decline was recorded in production volumes. The increase in revenue resulted from inflation-related compensation.

For the first time in two years, global automotive production recorded a significant increase in full-year 2022 with 82.0 million vehicles produced (2021: 77.2 million vehicles) and growth of 6.2%, driven by the regions Asia and North America, but remained below 2019 levels. Autoneum's revenue in local currencies increased significantly by 8.5%, largely due to inflation-related compensation.

In the regions Europe and Asia, Autoneum's produc-

tion volumes developed below market. Compared to the July 2022 estimate, revenue was around CHF 90 million lower than assumed due to volume factors. The strong fluctuations in production volumes due to vehicle manufacturer supply chain issues continued in 2022 and were exacerbated by the war in Ukraine in Europe and by COVID-related lockdowns in Autone-um's Asian main market China.

Consolidated revenue in Swiss francs increased by 6.1% year-on-year to CHF 1 804.5 million (2021: CHF 1 700.4 million) due to the strong Swiss franc.

## Revenue development in the regions

In local currencies, revenue of Business Group Europe increased by 2.7%, while production volumes of vehicle manufacturers decreased by 1.3%. The growth in revenue resulted from inflation compensation, while Autoneum's production volumes were significantly lower compared to the previous year. Business Group

North America increased its revenue in local currencies by 11.0%. The number of vehicles produced increased by 9.7% year-on-year.

Volume development at Autoneum's North American plants clearly improved compared with 2021 due to the allocation of semiconductors to the vehicle models supplied by Autoneum. Revenue of Business Group Asia declined by 2.7% in local currencies, and thus was significantly below the market (+7.7%).

Autoneum's production facilities in its main market China are located in regions that were hit particularly hard by the COVID-related lockdowns. Growth in China was also driven by Chinese vehicle manufacturers, with whom Autoneum generated only little revenue last year.

Business Group SAMEA (South America, Middle East and Africa) achieved hyperinflation-adjusted revenue growth in local currencies of 65.2% year-on-year. This increase was mainly due to inflation compensation and in terms of volume slightly outperformed the market, which grew by 7.5%. Due to significantly lower production volumes in Autoneum's regions Europe and Asia of around CHF 90 million compared to the half-year estimate and further increases in energy costs in the second half of the year, Autoneum expects the full-year 2022 result to be at the lower end of the guidance published on June 15, 2022.

CHF million Revenue Group	2022 1 804.5	2021 1 700.4	Change +6.1%	Organic growth* +8.5%	Market growth +6.2%
- BG Europe	616.6	636.9	-3.2%	+2.7%	-1.3%
- BG North America	795.1	687.0	+15.7%	+11.0%	+9.7%
- BG Asia	273.2	281.0	-2.8%	-2.7%	+7.7%
- BG SAMEA	120.5	94.7	+27.2%	+65.2%	+7.5%

<sup>\*</sup>Change in revenue in local currencies, adjusted for hyperinflation.



## ITALIAN TEXTILE MACHINERY: DECLINING ORDERS FOR FOURTH QUARTER 2022

he fourth quarter 2022 textile machinery orders index, processed by ACIMIT, the Association of Italian Textile Machinery Manufacturers, showed a sharp 35% decline compared to the period from October to December 2021. In absolute value, the index stood at 83.6 points (basis: 2015=100).

Orders took a 34% drop on the domestic market, while the foreign index was down fully 37%. In Italy, the index's absolute value came in at 155.4 points, whereas on foreign markets the value stood at 75.8 points.

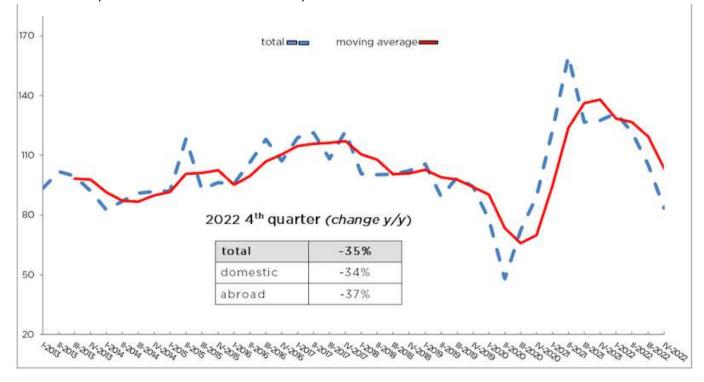
On annual basis, the orders index marked an 18% decrease and an absolute value of 110.4 points. The drop in orders abroad was 17%, while orders collected in Italy were 28% lower than the figures drawn up in 2021.

ACIMIT president Alessandro Zucchi stated that, "The orders index data for the fourth quarter confirms what had already been observed in the previous quarters in 2022. After a sharp increase in 2021, this decrease in orders for the past year is physiological. Furthermore, the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine, with its related consequences on daily business and trade, and a

macroeconomic framework in which uncertainty prevails, have further negatively affected the orders intake."

Data for the last quarter does not suggest a reverse in the negative trend for the first months of 2023. Declining energy prices and inflation, although still high, also declining slightly are, however, signs of a light improvement in the business of companies in the sector as well. "We need to look to the current year with optimism," continued ACIMIT president. "Our member companies

are already focusing on ITMA, the upcoming global textile machinery industry trade fair, that will be held from June 8-14 in Milan.""I am confidentthat ITMA Milan can represent an opportunity for further development of the Italian textile machinery sector," concluded Zucchi. "The technological innovations that our manufacturers will bring to the trade show will meet the textile industry's need to be increasingly sustainable, both environmentally and economically."



## READY TO SUPPORT YOU



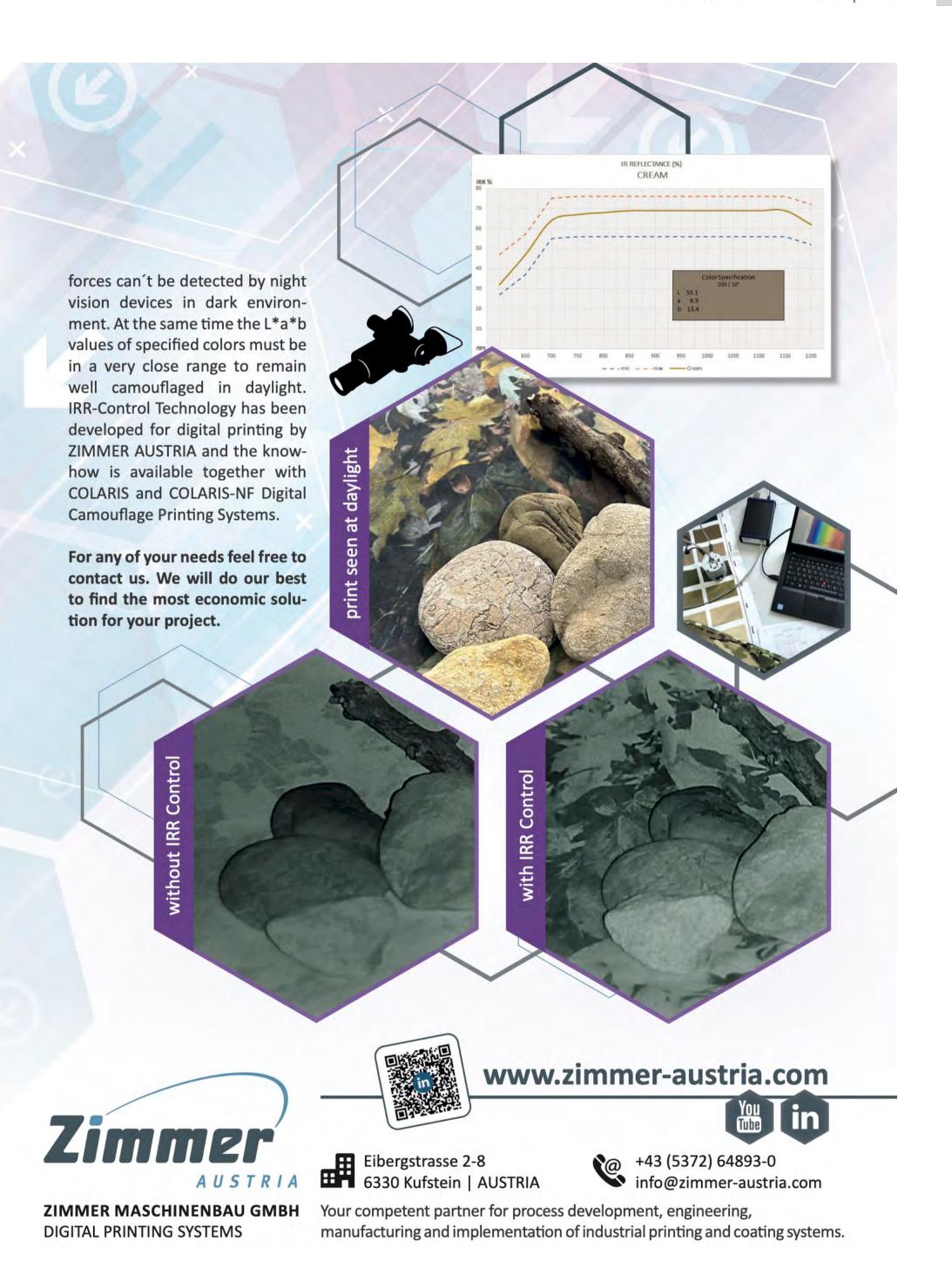
ZIMMER AUSTRIA Digital Printing Systems is the technology and machinery expert when it comes to digital printing of military camouflage fabrics and webbings. A large variety of substrates incl. polyamide, polyester, cellulosic, special fibers and various blends such as m-Aramide, p-Aramide, Twaron™, Kermel™, Nomex™, Conex™ Kevlar™ or Lenzing™ FR based end-products can be printed with COLARIS and COLARIS-NF digital printers.

ZIMMER AUSTRIA will not only be the machine manufacturer and supplier, but can also assist with the required knowhow for IR-reflectance control for fabrics being used to produce uniforms, FR-products for special forces, bulletproof vests, rain protection, ponchos, nettings tents, carrying systems, sleeping bags, parachutes as well as all kinds of webbings incl. hook & loop quick-fix-and-release products etc.

Patterns & Colors must match the environment of a combat area which may include woodlands, urban terrains, deserts, snow or marine surroundings and may include conventional, digital and multicam patterns.

Color Fastness: good to excellent fastness to light, rubbing and washing must be matched.

**IR-reflectance control** is the most important feature for camouflage fabrics. It ensures that





Reported by Tohid Mahmoudpour



## **INS AND OUTS OF PERSIAN CARPETS**

## When it comes to high-quality carpets in the world, the name Persian Carpet stands out.

ered one of the top Persian souvenirs to added. take home while paying a visit to Iran.

In the 17th century, some seventy Dutch artists included representations of Persian carpets in their paintings, mainly types originating in northwestern Persia, Iranicaonline reported on the history of carpets in the world.

Persia has been renowned for its dyes for many centuries; in 987/1579, for example, an Englishman was sent to learn the secrets of dyeing wool

andmade rugs and carpets are consid- and silk in the Persian manner, the encyclopedia fields and borders of Persian carpets.

The most common design format in Persian carpets is a central field, known as 'matn' in Farsi, enclosed by a border, known as 'hashiyeh' in Farsi, of patterned stripes alternating with narrow bands of solid colors, the source further noted.

Medallion, 'toranj' in Farsi, cartouche, arabesque, bota (lit. 'bush, shrub'), palmette (gol-e eslimi lit. 'patterned' or 'arabesque flower'), and rosette are among the motifs which are common in both the

Herati (lit. 'from Herat'), Minakhani (literal meaning unknown, possibly derived from a proper name), reciprocal-trefoil, S-stem, and Shah-Abbasi (lit. 'of Shah 'Abbas') are among the most frequent patterns on Persian carpets.

The two basic types of knots found in Persian carpets are the symmetrical and the asymmetrical both of which may be open either to the right or, more commonly, to the left.

was generally called the Turkish or Ghiordes knot: among Persians in the trade, the technique of knotting carpets in this fashion is commonly known as 'torkibaf'. The corresponding terms for the asymmetrical knot are Persian or Senna and 'farsibaf'.

The loom (dastgah, lit. "equipment," dar, lit. "pole") is the frame upon which carpets are woven.

In Iran, looms may be set up either horizontally or vertically. The ends of horizontal looms ('ru-zamini' in Farsi) are usually pegged to the ground, and sometimes the sides are also supported. They can be quickly dismantled and easily transported and are thus favored by nomadic peoples. More commonly used is the vertical ('divari' in Frasi) loom, the upper and lower beams of which are either linked by two upright poles or posts or are fitted into holes in the side walls of the workroom (kargah in Farsi).

The distinctive rugs called vase carpets (because of the flower vases in their designs) are generally thought to be from Kerman, Britannica reported.

Kerman carpet has been the origin since the 16th century of highly sophisticated carpets in well-organized designs. To this city is now generally attributed a wide variety of 16th- and 17th-century carpets, including vase carpets; rugs with rows of shrubs; arabesque carpets; the finest of the garden carpets; and, on the basis of constructional similarities, a group of medallion carpets with animals, according to the encyclopedia.

All of these had asymmetrical knotting on cot-

In earlier carpet literature, the symmetrical knot ton wraps, with stiff, heavy woolen wefts pulled straight and silk or cotton wefts between left relatively slack. The result is a "double-warped" carpet, the warps of one level lying almost directly behind their neighbors. The color schemes are among the richest and most varied found in Persian carpets, the source added.

> A revival of carpet weaving became noticeable toward the end of the 19th century, and Kerman rapidly developed into one of the most important carpet industries in Iran.

> 'Traditional skills of carpet weaving in Fars' was inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2010.

> Iranians enjoy a global reputation in carpet weaving, and the carpet weavers of Fars, located in the southwest of Iran, are among the most prominent.

> Wool for the carpets is shorn by local men in spring or autumn. The men then construct the carpet loom while the women convert the wool into yarn on spinning wheels.

> The colors used are mainly natural: reds, blues, browns, and whites produced from dyestuffs including madder, indigo, lettuce leaf, walnut skin, cherry stem, and pomegranate skin.

> The women are responsible for the design, color selection, and weaving, and bring scenes of their nomadic lives to the carpet. They weave without any cartoon (design) – no weaver can weave two carpets of the same design. Colored yarn is tied to the wool web to create the carpet.



To finish, the sides are sewn, extra wool is burned away to make the designs vivid, and the carpet is given a final cleaning. All these skills are transferred orally and by example.

Mothers train their daughters to use the materials, tools, and skills, while fathers train their sons in shearing wool and making looms.

According to Britannica, costly silk carpets with figure motifs (such as the silk hunting carpet in Vienna's Austrian Museum of Applied Art) were probably woven in Kashan, Iran's silk center.

'Traditional skills of carpet weaving in Kashan' were inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2010.

The Carpet Museum of Iran was opened in Tehran on February 11th, 1978. The museum is considered an excellent source of research about carpets for all culture and art lovers. In this interesting museum, you will see loads of different types of Persian Carpets. Look at the pattern. Each one is telling you its very own unique story in the shape of knots, treads, and colors.

## **Tabriz Carpet Museum**

Tabriz, which is located in northwest Iran, was declared a world craft city of carpet weaving by the World Craft in 2016. Construction of a carpet museum in Tabriz is complete by 70 percent, according to the provincial tourism chief.

The museum is estimated to be inaugurated by 2025, Ahmad Hamzehzadeh added in mid-January.





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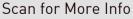
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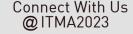
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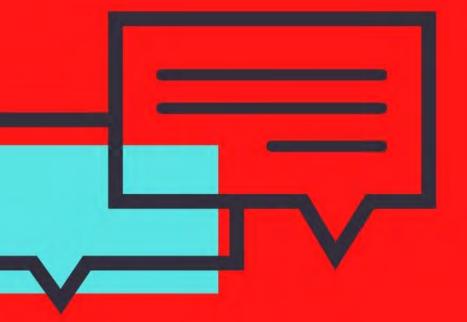












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