

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

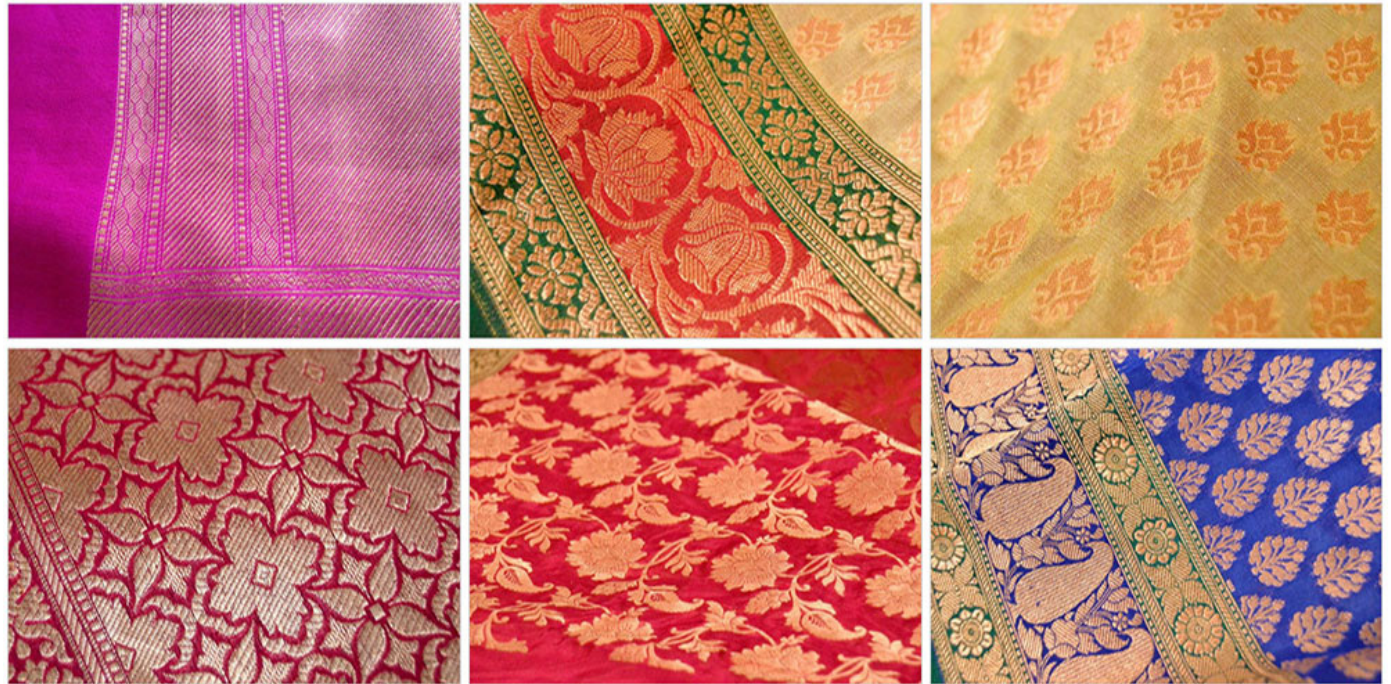
Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi>

1. Introduction
2. Place
3. People
4. Process
5. Products
6. Contact Details



Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/introduction>

Introduction

Take all the elements that make up an Indian city - its temples, palaces, monuments, twisting narrow lanes, crooked houses, tiny shops, spider-web-like electrical distribution - throw it all into a large bag and spread out the contents over some two square kilometers along an immense ochre river, sacred from time immemorial. And this is Varanasi.

In this astonishing context in the midst of life hot, muggy and restless you will learn about an ancient tradition and the steps taken beginning with a single silk thread and leading to the magnificent elaboration of fabric that has clothed not only maharajas, princesses and foreign kings but also common men. Benarasi saree, whose history dates back to the Mughal rule in the 16th century, has its origin right here and are historically considered to be among the finest in India.



1. Introduction
2. Place
3. People
4. Process
5. Products
6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/place>

1. Introduction

2. **Place**

3. People

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details

Place

Varanasi, also known as Benares or Kashi, is a city on the banks of the river Ganges in Uttar Pradesh. It is famous for its socio-economic and religious importance all over the world. The city is equally well known for brocade-weaving which is a cluster based activity and is scattered all over Benaras and some adjacent districts. In the weaving communities of Varanasi, every small house, every street, every open space is taken up by men busy with kilometres of thread. The quality of its silk fabrics is considered the most refined in the country and a must as marriage gift.



A glimpse of Varanasi.



A glimpse of the ghats of Benaras.



A glimpse of Varanasi.



A glimpse of Varanasi.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/place>

1. Introduction

2. **Place**

3. People

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details



An area of Varanasi where a lot of weavers work and live.



An area of Varanasi where a lot of weavers work and live.



A glimpse of Varanasi.



A glimpse of Varanasi.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/place>

1. Introduction

2. **Place**

3. People

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details



An area of Varanasi where a lot of weavers work and live.



Dyer's workshop.



Weavers adda (workshop).



Weavers adda (workshop).

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/people>

People

Varanasi, also known as Benares or Kashi, is a city on the banks of the river Ganges in Uttar Pradesh. It is famous for its socio-economic and religious importance all over the world. The city is equally well known for brocade-weaving which is a cluster based activity and is scattered all over Benaras and some adjacent districts. In the weaving communities of Varanasi, every small house, every street, every open space is taken up by men busy with kilometres of thread. The quality of its silk fabrics is considered the most refined in the country and a must as marriage gift.



Kids in the area.

1. Introduction
2. Place
3. **People**
4. Process
5. Products
6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/people>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. **People**

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Kids in the area.



On the streets of Varanasi.



Weaver at work.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/people>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. **People**

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Kids in the area.



Dyer, taking a break and reading the newspaper.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/people>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. **People**

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Weaver at work.



Karigar punching the 'naksha pattas' (cards) used for weaving.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/people>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. **People**

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/people>

1. Introduction
2. Place
3. **People**
4. Process
5. Products
6. Contact Details



Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/people>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. **People**

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/people>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. **People**

4. Process

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

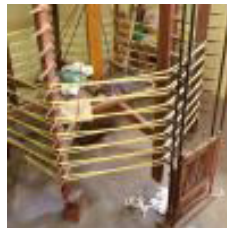
IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process>

Process

Whether the end product is rich brocade enhanced with gold and silver thread for a Tibetan monastery or a soft and colorful saree to grace an elegant woman or a simple scarf worn around the neck, the weaving process will nonetheless be same.



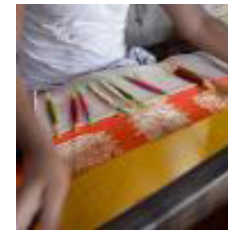
Reeling



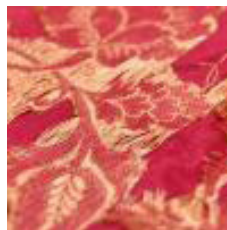
Dyeing



Pattern Marking



Weaving



Cutting

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. **Process**

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/reeling>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details

Reeling

Reeling is the skein preparation prior to dyeing. The reeling machine is fed by yarn packages and winds them onto a reel, thereby forming the skein. The yarn is separately reeled for tana (warp) and bana (weft). Three to five people are needed to reel the warp which is wrapped on a warp cylinder in sufficient length required to weave a known length of sarees. Yarn for the weft is reeled on small cylindrical object in a process known locally as 'nari bharana'. The weft-yarn is used in a shuttle called 'dharki', which is thrown from one to other side while weaving. A charkha (spinning wheel), now made up of a bicycle rim and a paddle, is used for winding the yarn on nari (bob-bins) and is usually done by women.



Bunch of silk yarns.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/reeling>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Reeling machine being fed by yarn, winding them and forming the skein for warp.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/reeling>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Reeling machine being fed by yarn, winding them and forming the skein for warp.



Reeling machine being fed by yarn, winding them and forming the skein for warp.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/reeling>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Reeling machine being fed by yarn, winding them and forming the skein for warp.



Reeling machine being fed by yarn, winding them and forming the skein for warp.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/reeling>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

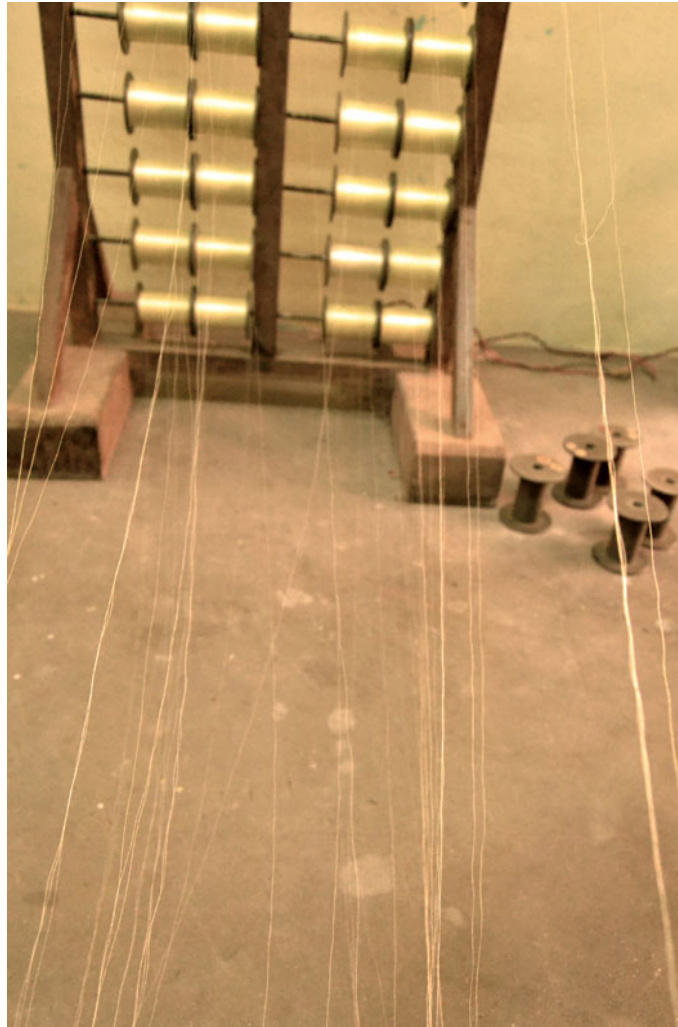
4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

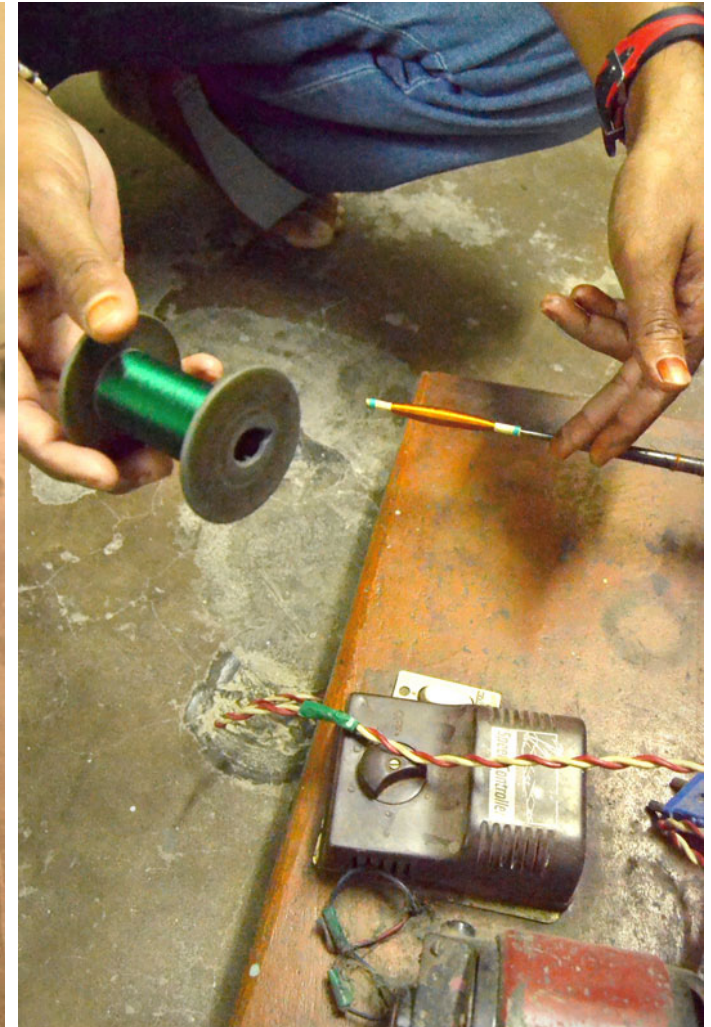
4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Reeling machine being fed by yarn, winding them and forming the skein for warp.



Spinning wheel being used for winding the weft yarn on nari (bobbins).

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/reeling>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Spinning wheel being used for winding the weft yarn on nari (bobbins).

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/reeling>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Yarn for the weft being reeled on a small cylindrical object.



Yarn for the weft being reeled on a small cylindrical object.



Yarn for the weft being reeled on a small cylindrical object.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/reeling>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. **Reeling**

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Bunch of silk yarns.



Yarn for the weft being reeled on a small cylindrical object.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/dyeing>

Dyeing

Any yarn undergoes a pre-treatment process that is carried out with boiling soap water to increase pliability and give the saree smooth and shinier texture. It is then bleached and dyed, giving the yarn its intended color, crucial to its ultimate use. Usually, dyeing is done manually with acid dye.



Skein to be dyed.

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. **Dyeing**

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/dyeing>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. **Dyeing**

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Yarn being opened up.



Yarn being opened up.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/dyeing>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. **Dyeing**

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Yarn being opened up.



Heating soap water.



Heating soap water.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/dyeing>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. **Dyeing**

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Yarn being boiled in soap water to increase pliability and give a smooth and shinier texture.



Yarn being boiled in soap water to increase pliability and give a smooth and shinier texture.



Yarn being boiled in soap water to increase pliability and give a smooth and shinier texture.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/dyeing>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. **Dyeing**

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Yarn being boiled in soap water to increase pliability and give a smooth and shinier texture.



Yarn to be bleached and dyed.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/dyeing>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. **Dyeing**

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Yarn to be bleached and dyed.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/dyeing>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. **Dyeing**

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Dye.



Floor at the syer's workshop.



Dyed yarn.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/dyeing>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. **Dyeing**

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Dyed yarn.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/pattern-marking>

Pattern Marking

For centuries, traditional designs that embellished sarees have been drawn on grid paper. For these drawings, a craftsman makes perforated cards - a kind of binary system, ancient picaea of the computer - that guides threads through the handloom according to the motif. These are called 'naksha patta'. Each card corresponds to a single line of weaving. A design generally involves a few hundred cards. These punched cards are characteristic of the Jacquard loom.



Designs being drawn on grid paper.

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. **Pattern Marking**

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/pattern-marking>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

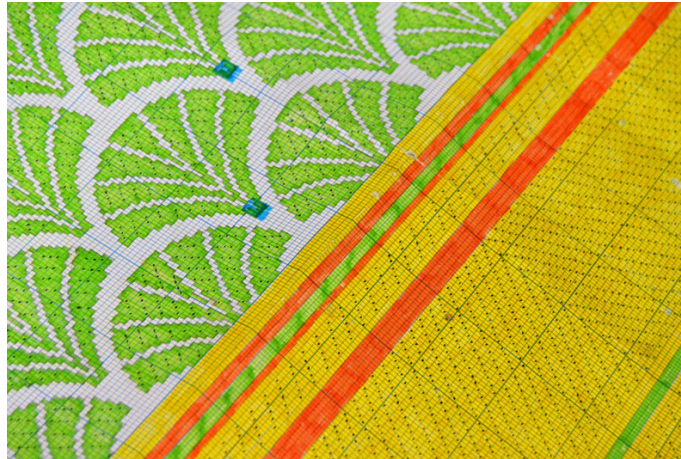
4.3. **Pattern Marking**

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

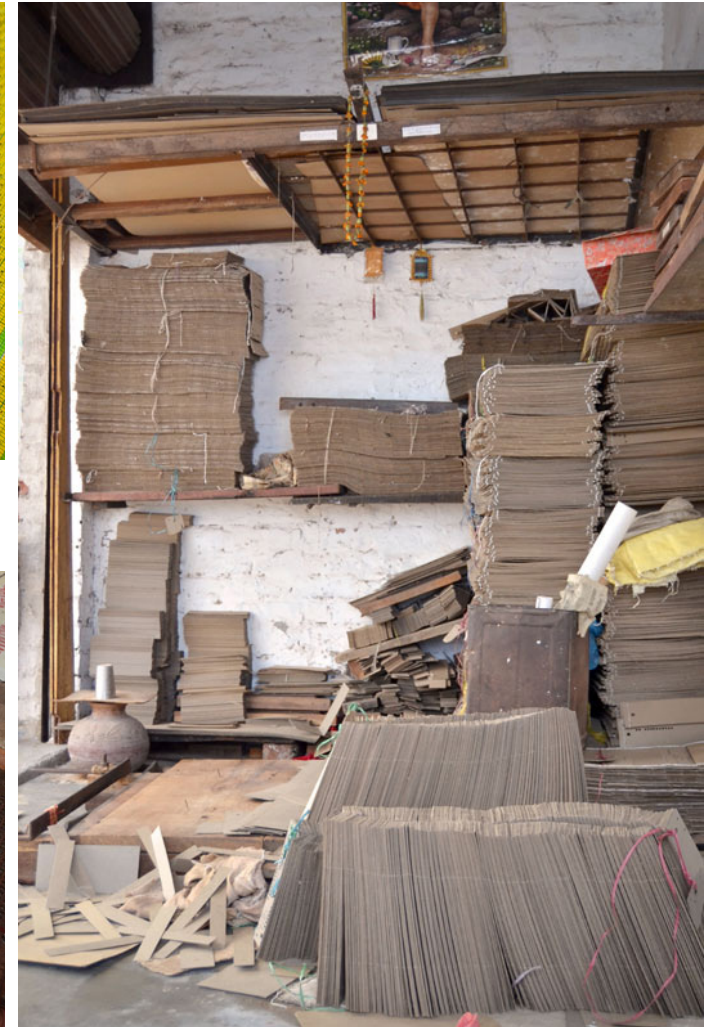
6. Contact Details



Designs drawn on grid paper.



Designs drawn on grid paper.



Thousands of 'Naksha patta' - punched cards that guide the threads through the handloom according to the motif.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/pattern-marking>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. **Pattern Marking**

4.5. Weaving

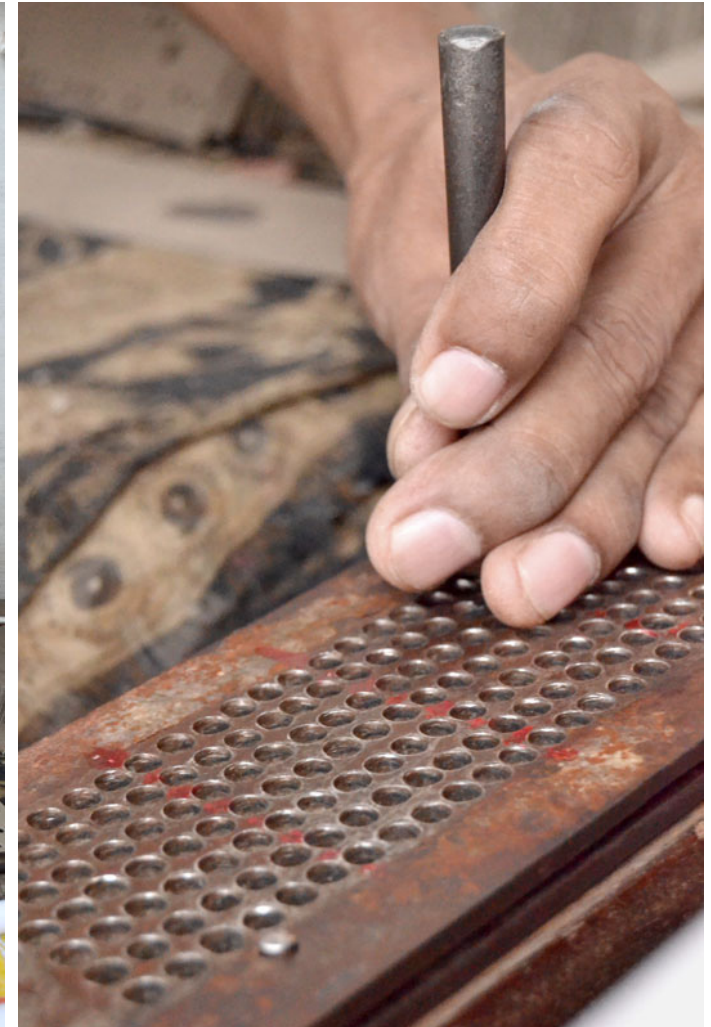
4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Craftsman punching the cards used for weaving.



Craftsman punching the cards used for weaving.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/pattern-marking>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. **Pattern Marking**

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Craftsman punching the cards used for weaving.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/pattern-marking>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. **Pattern Marking**

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Craftsman punching the cards used for weaving.



'Naksha patta'.



'Naksha patta'.



'Naksha patta'.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/pattern-marking>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. **Pattern Marking**

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



'Naksha patta'.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

Weaving

All the warp threads have to be threaded through the heald eyelet and its gap in the reed prior to weaving. The heald is the part of the loom that is used to move the warp threads up and down. The reed is like a comb and its purpose is to control the separation of the warp threads. The open space between each wire of the reed is called dent. A warp end is passed through a dent with the help of the hook, after it passes through the heald. This process is called denting.

The weavers of the Benaras generally use old pit loom for weaving sarees, brocades and other products. On these conventional looms, the warp beam is mounted at the back and the warp yarns are conveyed to a cylinder called the cloth roll, which is at the front of the loom and on which the fabric is rolled as it is constructed. Supported on the frame between these two cylinders (warp beam and cloth beam), the warp yarns are ready to be interlaced by the filling yarns that run in the width of the cloth, thus producing the woven fabric, corresponding to the punched cards.

The saree's last but not the least component is the zari. This is the golden thread, the determining element that gives sarees their luxurious feel. To make zari, a pure silver ingot is melted and then machined to create a silver thread about 13 microns in diameter. The thread is then flattened so as to roll it around a silk thread that has been previously dyed. This thread is then electroplated with gold.



Weft yarn.

1. Introduction**2. Place****3. People****4. Process**

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products**6. Contact Details**

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



The weft-yarn used in a shuttle called 'dharki' is thrown from one to other side while weaving.



The reed through which all the warp threads have to be threaded, prior to weaving.



Weavers adda (workshop).

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



The heald (part of the loom) moving the warp threads up and down.



The heald (part of the loom) moving the warp threads up and down.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



The reed (like a comb) controlling the separation of the warp threads while weaving.



The weft-yarn used in a shuttle called 'dharki' is thrown from one to other side while weaving.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Weaver working on the pit loom.



Weaver working on the pit loom.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

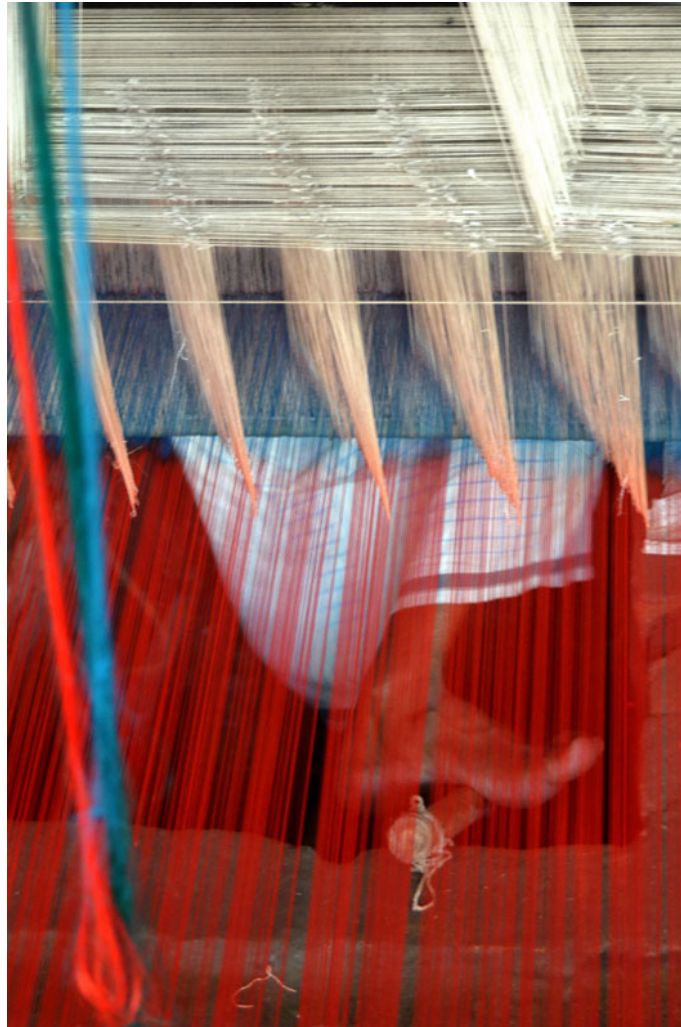
4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

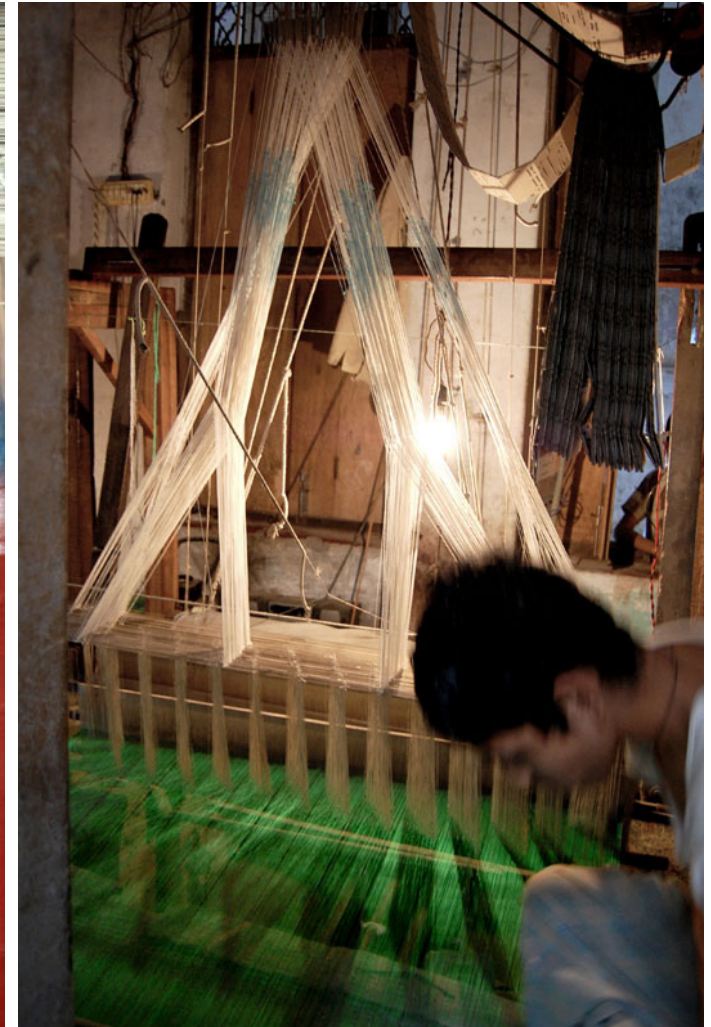
4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Weaver working on the pit loom.



Pit loom.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Weaver working on the pit loom.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

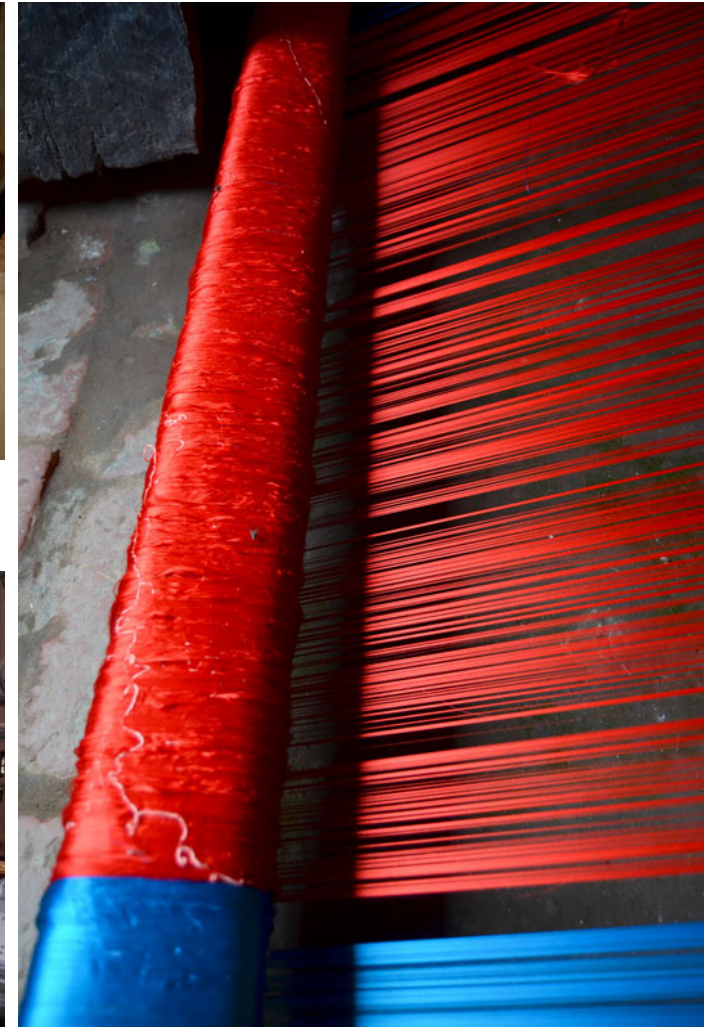
6. Contact Details



Weaver working on the pit loom.



Pit loom.



The warp of the loom, mounted at the back.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

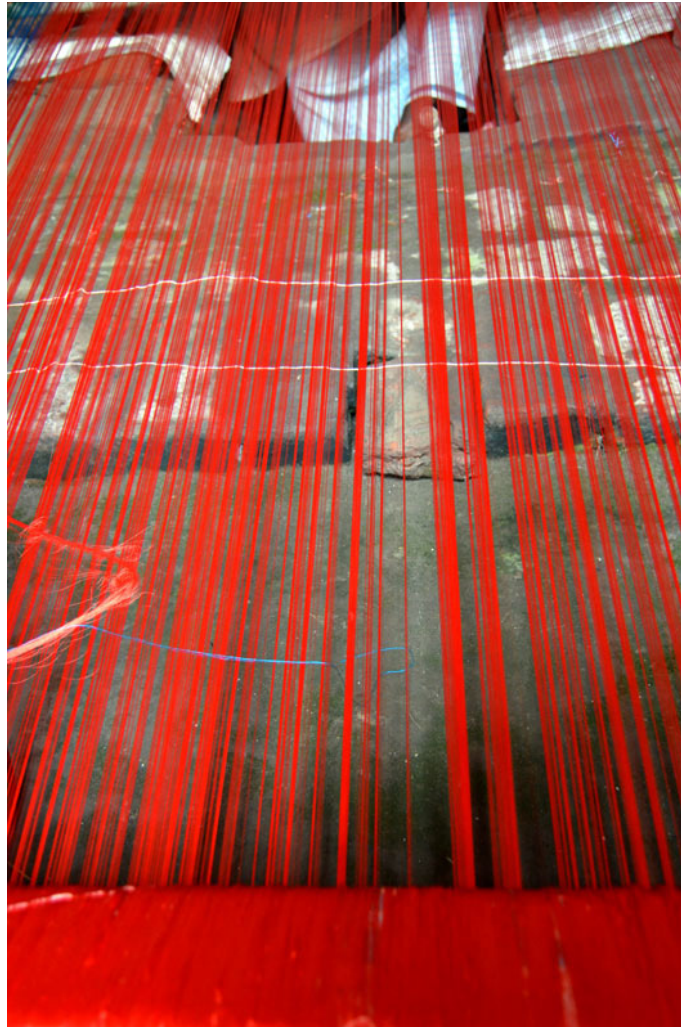
4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

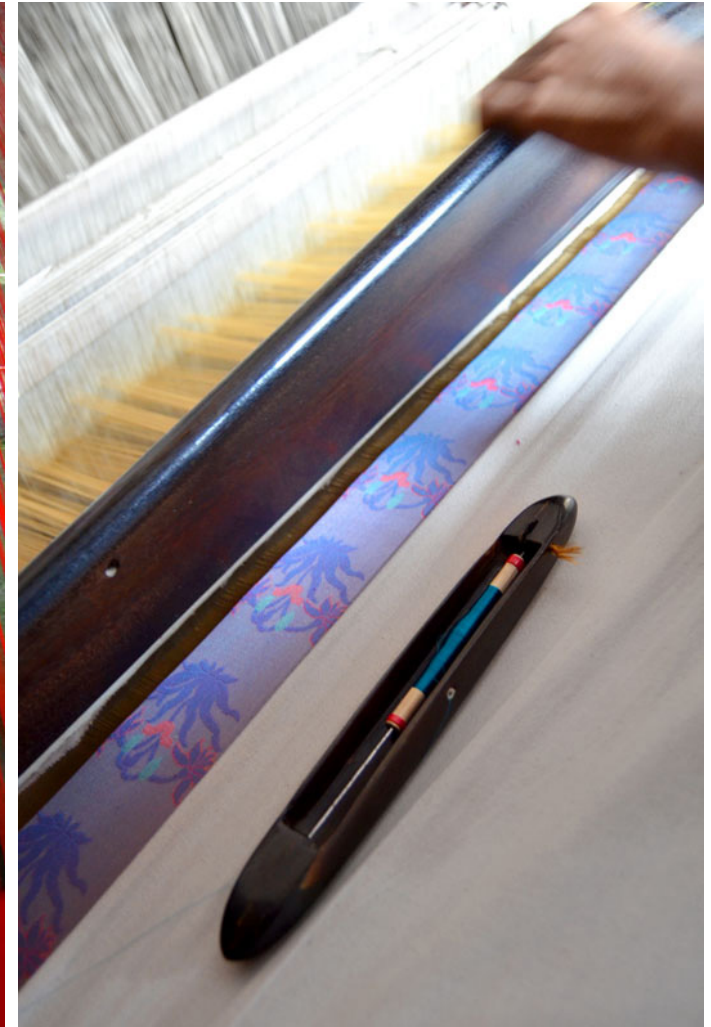
4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



The warp of the loom, mounted at the back.



The weft-yarn used in a shuttle called 'dharki' is thrown from one to other side while weaving.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



The cloth roll, which is at the front of the loom, rolling the fabric that is being constructed.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



The cloth roll, which is at the front of the loom, rolling the fabric that is being constructed.



The cloth roll, which is at the front of the loom, rolling the fabric that is being constructed.



Weaver working with zari that gives the fabric its luxurious feel.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Weaver working with zari that gives the fabric its luxurious feel.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/weaving>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. **Weaving**

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details



Zari fabric.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/process/cutting>

Cutting

Depending on the end product, further handling needs to take place. For example, cutting all the tiny threads left over from the weaving on the reverse side of the fabric to make it more transparent. There is quality control and the ultimate finishing touch - folding.



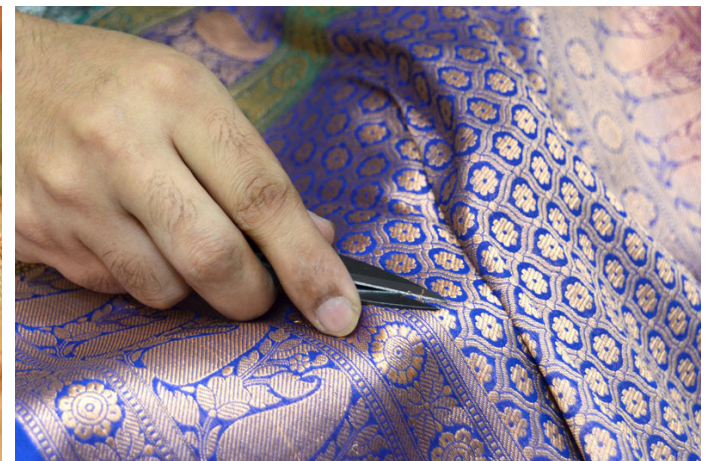
Reverse side of the woven fabric.



Karigar cutting tiny threads left over from weaving on the reverse side of the fabric to make it more transparent.



Reverse side of the woven fabric.



Karigar finishing the front side of the woven fabric.

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

4.1. Reeling

4.2. Dyeing

4.3. Pattern Marking

4.5. Weaving

4.6. Cutting

5. Products

6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/products>

Products

Today there are four main varieties of Benarasi sari, which includes Katan (pure silk), Organza (Kora) with zari and silk, Georgette and Shattir. According to design process, they are divided into categories like Jangla, Tanchoi, Vaskat, Cutwork, Tissue and Butidaar.

In order to cater to the need of the overseas and domestic buyers, the weavers of the cluster are also producing home furnishing, silk dhotis, stoles, scarves, mufflers, mats, dress material, wall hanging, cushion covers, table runners etc.



Silk saree with zari.

1. Introduction
2. Place
3. People
4. Process
5. **Products**
6. Contact Details

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/products>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. **Products**

6. Contact Details



Silk saree with floral motif and zari detailing.



Silk saree with floral motif and zari detailing.



Georgette saree with zari detailing.



Silk saree with zari.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/products>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. **Products**

6. Contact Details



Silk saree with zari.



Silk saree with zari.



Silk saree with zari.



Silk saree with zari.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/products>

1. Introduction
2. Place
3. People
4. Process
5. **Products**
6. Contact Details



Silk saree without zari.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/products>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. **Products**

6. Contact Details



Silk saree without zari.



Silk saree without zari.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/products>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. **Products**

6. Contact Details



Silk saree without zari.



Flower vase.



Silk saree without zari.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/products>

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. **Products**

6. Contact Details



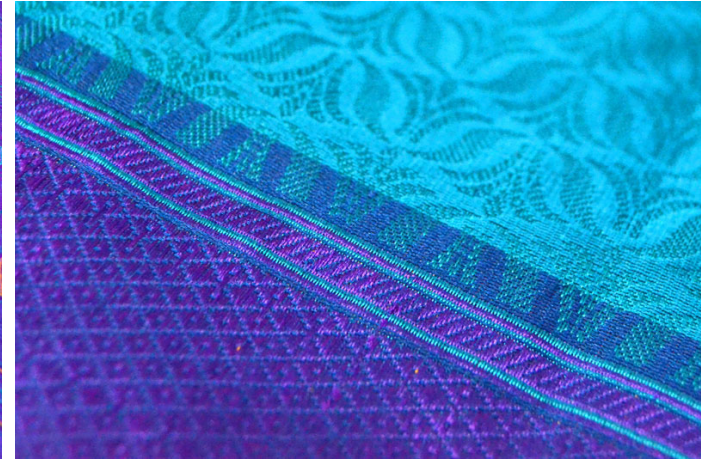
Silk saree without zari.



Silk saree without zari.



Silk saree without zari.



Silk saree without zari.

Design Resource

Weaving Craft of Varanasi

Making of Benarasi Sari

by

Sakshi Gambhir

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/weaving-craft-varanasi/contact-details>

Contact Details

This documentation was done by Sakshi Gambhir, M. Des., IDC, IIT Bombay.

You can get in touch with her at [sakshigambhir\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:sakshigambhir[at]gmail.com)

You could write to the following address regarding suggestions and clarifications:

Helpdesk Details:

Co-ordinator

Project e-kalpa

Industrial Design Centre

IIT Bombay,

Powai

Mumbai 400076

India

Phone: 091-22-25767820/ 7801/ 7802

Fax: 091-22-25767803

Email: [dsource.in\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:dsource.in[at]gmail.com)

1. Introduction

2. Place

3. People

4. Process

5. Products

6. **Contact Details**