

DEVELOPMENT OF HOME FURNISHING ITEMS BY ADAPTING LANDSCAPE DESIGNS THROUGH CARPET WEAVING TECHNIQUE

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ABSTRACT

Art from the past is always used by the artists as a foundation for their creativity. The craftsmen of today have become aware that hundreds of motifs that are coming alive are easily adaptable from one craft to another as tradition has shown that it is the form and texture that are pre-eminently important and therefore same motifs and ornamentation may be used very effectively on any material surface. Landscape design is a new and different concept of today's textile world. Thus, the designs can also adapt from the nature around us. The present study is an attempt to adapt "Landscape" designs for various home furnishing items using carpet weaving technique. The designs of natural landscape work were converted in graph pattern for development of various home furnishing items and assess the acceptability of these designs using hand knotted carpet weaving technique. Total eighty designs were developed with the help of computer software, ten each for home furnishing items including area rugs, wall hangings and door mats.

Keywords: *Home Furnishings, Weaving, Landscape Designs, Hand Knotted Carpet, Cottage Industry*

I. INTRODUCTION

'Design is directed towards human beings. To design is to solve human problems by identifying them and executing the best solution'.

There are various creative imagination involved which enhance the aesthetic appeal of home furnishing and give a newness to the decorum of the home. The source of inspiration for a designer is infinite. Primitive artisans captured the direct images spontaneously from their surroundings. Within the framework of personal likes and dislikes, pattern should be considered in relation to the purpose and theme of the room. However, pattern floor coverings or carpet patterns are usually limited in their designs and patterns like flower, animal or geometric designs, and thus, they generally provide fewer choices. Landscapes and portraits are more desirable than the floral or geometric rugs, although these are collectible as well.

Landscapes are works of art that feature scenes of nature, mountains, lakes, gardens, rivers etc. Derived from the Dutch word '*landschap*', landscape can also refer to: cityscapes means views of an urban setting, seascapes means views of the ocean, waterscapes means views primarily featuring fresh water.

Landscape comprises the visible features of an area of land, including the physical elements of landforms such as (ice-capped) mountains, hills, water bodies such as rivers, lakes, ponds and the sea, living elements of land cover including indigenous vegetation, human elements including different forms of land use, buildings and structures, and transitory elements such as lightening and weather conditions.

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Modern day art collectors have entirely different opinions and tastes compared to the people who are interested in procuring ancient art designed articles and products. Hence, designers conceive the designs through various sources. In classical Oriental carpets & rugs, the repetition of a design to cover a pattern is accomplished by counting and repeating sequences of knots. Landscape designs are very beautiful and give the peaceful feelings to the designers. It will change the repeating patterns in carpet & rug weaving. Many amazing items can be made in textile field by their use. In the present study, an attempt will be made to apply landscape designs & motifs on home furnishing items by using carpet/rug weaving technique. Landscape designs, once applied on home furnishing items, can fulfill the demand of modern customers, who are looking for a change and nature loving.

1.1 Objectives

- ❖ To adapt various landscape designs for home furnishing items.
- ❖ To construct home furnishing items using selected Landscape designs through carpet weaving technique.
- ❖ To assess the acceptability of developed home furnishing items.

III. MATERIALS AND METHODS

➤ Collection of information regarding Landscape designs

Various Landscape designs were collected from different sources like, internet, paintings and original scenery photographs.

➤ Adaptation of Landscape designs for design development

From the collected designs, suitable designs were taken for the development of new designs for various home furnishing items. The designs were converted in to cross stitch patterns with the help of computer software. Total thirty designs were prepared for home furnishing items, ten each for area rug, wall hanging and door mat.





➤ **Evaluation of developed designs through visual evaluation:**

Prepared designs were subjected to visual evaluation for the selection of two best designs from each category of home furnishing items. The evaluation was done by a panel of 30 judges including 10 staff members, 10 students of Ethelind School of Home Science and 10 boutique owners/shopkeepers from Allahabad. All designs were ranked according to their preferences obtained. The attributes assigned for the evaluation of design were suitability of design for the end product, clarity of designs, colour combination, neatness and overall appearance of the designs. Five point scale was used for the evaluation of developed designs and marks 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 were assigned for poor, fair, good, very good and excellent respectively.

➤ **Product development by the application of selected designs on home furnishing**

Two products in each category of home furnishing items viz. Area rugs, wall hangings and door mats were developed through hand knotted carpet weaving technique. In this technique different variety of cotton and wool threads were used.

➤ **Cost calculation**

Total six home furnishing items were prepared; two each for area rug, wall hanging and door mat. The cost of each product was calculated on the basis of raw materials cost, labour charges and finishing cost of the prepared products. The sale price was calculated by adding 25% profit margin in cost price.

➤ **Acceptability of the prepared products:**

Each prepared articles was evaluated to find out the overall acceptability of home furnishing products. The evaluation of the prepared articles was done by a panel of thirty judges i.e. ten staff members, ten students of the Halina school of home science, and ten shopkeepers or boutique owners. All the developed articles were evaluated using five point rating scale where five stands for excellent, four for very good, three for good, two for fair and one for poor. Score was calculated to evaluate the acceptability.

Following parameters were used for evaluation:

- Suitability of design for the end product
- Color combination
- Neatness
- Cost effectiveness
- Overall appearance

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

➤ **Developed designs**

A total of thirty landscape designs were converted in to graphical pattern through computer software, ten designs each for home furnishing items including area rugs, wall hangings and door mats were developed.

➤ **Scores obtained on visual evaluation**

All the developed designs for home furnishing items were visually evaluated by thirty judges including 10 staff members, 10 students of Ethelind School of Home Science and 10 shopkeepers from Allahabad. Average scores obtained are given in Table 1, 2 and 3

TABLE 1: Visual Evaluation of the Developed Designs for Area Rugs

Design no.	Suitability of design for end product	Clarity of design	Color combination	Neatness	Overall appearance	Total average
A1	3.10	3.20	3.10	3.20	4.53	3.43
A2	2.90	3.00	3.13	2.97	3.90	3.18
A3	3.47	3.43	3.27	3.50	4.37	3.61
A4	3.97	4.00	3.87	4.10	4.63	4.11*
A5	3.50	3.53	3.37	3.50	4.23	3.63
A6	4.07	3.87	3.87	3.93	4.50	4.05**
A7	3.17	3.37	3.13	3.17	3.90	3.35
A8	3.67	3.48	3.53	3.63	4.30	3.72
A9	3.47	3.53	3.60	3.63	4.13	3.67
A10	3.37	3.43	3.20	3.43	3.80	3.45

*** Design Given First Preference**

**** Design Given Second Preference**

TABLE 2: Visual Evaluation of the Developed Designs for Wall Hangings

Design no.	Suitability of design for end product	Clarity of design	Color combination	Neatness	Overall appearance	Total average
W1	4.23	3.97	3.97	4.07	4.40	4.13**
W2	2.80	2.70	2.90	2.63	3.00	2.81
W3	3.03	3.10	3.20	3.40	3.07	3.16
W4	3.07	3.03	3.10	3.13	2.80	3.03
W5	3.17	3.20	3.10	3.00	2.80	3.05
W6	3.67	3.53	3.63	3.83	4.27	3.79
W7	4.27	4.17	4.23	4.20	4.30	4.23*
W8	3.27	3.47	3.43	3.50	3.90	3.51
W9	3.33	3.40	3.50	3.20	4.17	3.52
W10	2.73	3.17	3.50	3.03	4.17	3.32

* Design given first preference

** Design given second preference

TABLE 2: Visual Evaluation of the Developed Designs for Door Mats

Design no.	Suitability of design for end product	Clarity of design	Color combination	Neatness	Overall appearance	Total average
D1	4.57	4.23	4.37	4.53	4.67	4.47*
D2	4.13	4.13	4.03	4.03	4.70	4.21**
D3	3.63	3.70	3.50	3.47	4.40	3.74
D4	3.37	3.43	3.83	3.37	4.33	3.67
D5	3.33	3.33	3.67	3.53	4.33	3.64
D6	3.33	3.37	3.27	3.50	4.17	3.53
D7	3.20	3.17	3.37	3.43	4.27	3.49
D8	3.27	3.33	3.53	3.30	4.10	3.51
D9	3.13	3.60	3.33	3.20	4.00	3.45
D10	3.10	3.83	3.00	3.07	4.10	3.22

* Design given first preference

** Design given second preference

➤ **Developed Home furnishing items**

The most preferred designs from each category of home furnishing products were prepared by using different types of cotton and colored wool threads through carpet weaving techniques.

Developed Area Rugs



Developed Wall Hangings



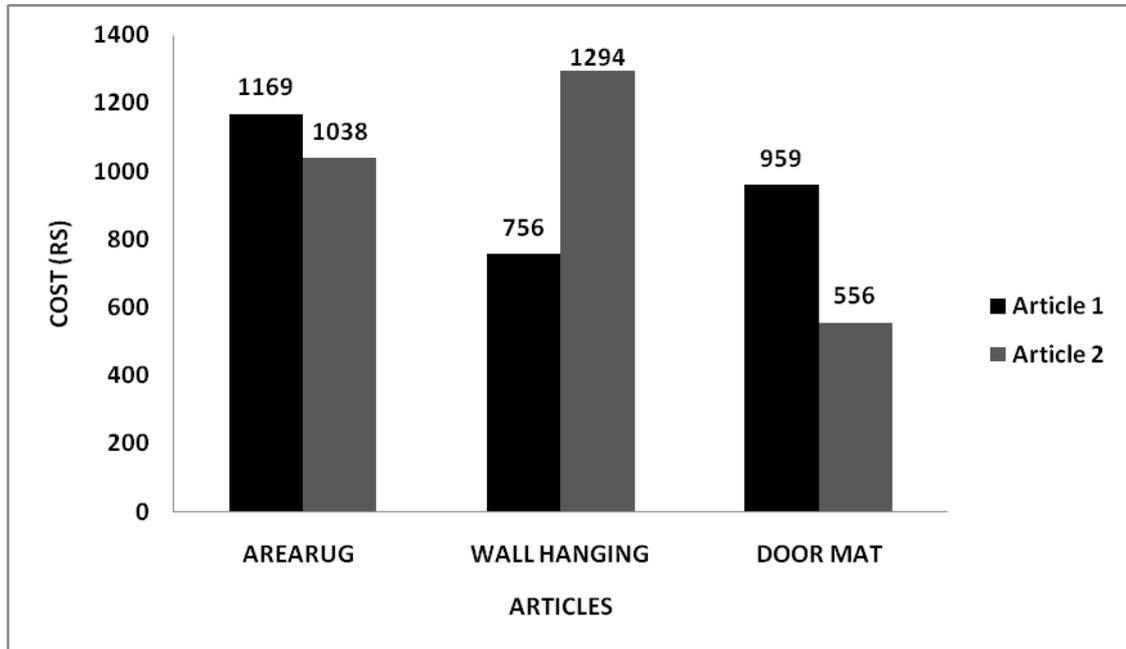
Developed Door Mats



➤ Cost of prepared products

The cost of home furnishing products were calculated on the basis of money spent for raw materials, required for the product development such as cotton threads for warp shedding, thin cotton thread for weft insertion and colored woolen threads for knotting. Finishing charges, labor charges are also added in the total cost of final products. Total six products two each for Area rug, Wall hangings and Door mats were prepared by using the “hand knotting carpet weaving technique”. A total of 25 percent profit margin was added in the calculated cost for getting sale price. The cost of each article was calculated separately. Cost of the prepared articles are shown in Fig 1.

Fig 1: Cost of the prepared articles



Acceptability of developed products

The products prepared were evaluated for the acceptability by thirty judges and the results indicates that in home furnishing items, among area rugs, beautiful small hut design(A4) got maximum score i.e. 4.15 and had high acceptability than flower valley design (A6) i.e. 3.60. In case of Wall hangings, (W7) wall hanging with sunset scene of sand, got maximum score i.e. 4.52 and had high acceptability than snowy Kailash mountain view wall hanging (W1) i.e. 4.07. Among door mats, beautiful beach landscape design (D2) got maximum score i.e. 4.23 and high acceptability than spring season tree designed (D1) door mat i.e. 3.63.

➤ **Acceptability scores of the developed Home Furnishing Item**

V. CONCLUSION

The Landscape designs could be successfully adapted for designing the home furnishing items using hand knotted carpet weaving technique. All the prepared products were highly appreciated and well accepted with regard visual evaluation. Among the home furnishing items, area rug designed with landscape of a small hut (A4), wall hanging designed with a landscape view of sun set on sand (W7) , and beach landscape designed door mat (D2) were highly appreciated with regard to designing and cost.

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