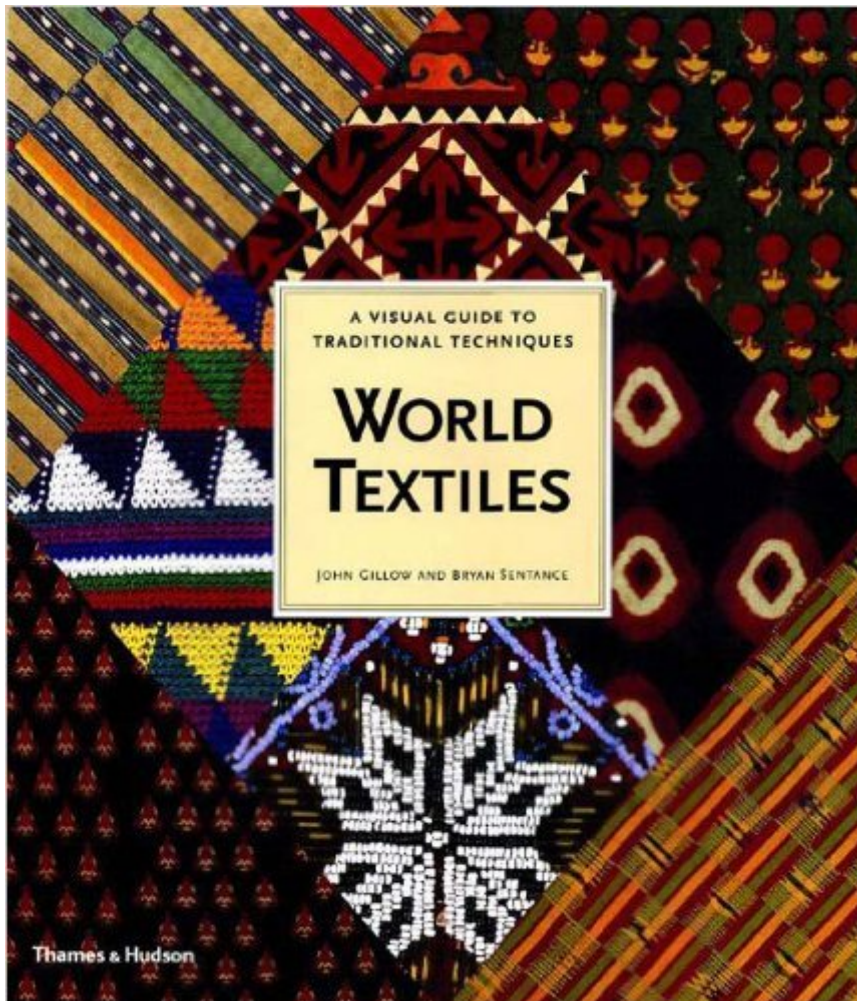


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# World Textiles: A Visual Guide To Traditional Techniques



## Synopsis

A complete guide to the whole range of traditional handmade textiles from all corners of the globe. The history of the world can be read in textiles: the rise of civilizations and the fall of empires are woven into their warp and weft along with the great stories of conquest, religion, and trade. The legacy of textile design, form, and pattern that has resulted from this global endowment can be seen here in all its spectacular richness. Eight sections cover every aspect of materials and techniques, each giving a succinct summary of characteristics, production, and geographical distribution, accompanied by hundreds of color illustrations and drawings. Nonloom and loom-woven textiles, painted and printed, dyed, sewn, embroidered, and embellished techniques are all covered, as well as the materials themselves. From simple the clothes made of skin or hide in prehistoric times to complex materials elaborately embellished with tassels world textiles are both beautiful and beguiling. This unrivaled guide is completed by a glossary, further reading, and information on collections open to the public. 778 illustrations, 551 in color. 778 illustrations, 551 in color

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

World Textiles is an encyclopedia of textile techniques. The text is very accessible (virtually no footnotes or unexplained jargon) and punctuated with beautiful color photographs, artfully arranged on nearly every page of the book. Typically, a picture of a textile is overlaid with someone wearing the garment, which puts the textile, and its description, in context. World Textiles is organized like a book of lists, so techniques are easy to find, but a bit tedious to read from cover to cover. It also has

some nontraditional categories (multi-colored knitting is in a category separate from plain knitting and textured knitting) and several categories that seem arbitrary or nonparallel (for example, the only dye that gets its own category is indigo, and indigo is listed with a range of dye techniques as if it were itself a dyeing process). However, each category includes a description of the technique, it uses, and often, some factual tidbits and sketch drawings to show how the textile was made. The book seems to be aimed at the amateur collector or professional textile-maker who wants to know how a particular technique compares and contrasts with other ways to create or embellish cloth. I would recommend it as a good introduction to the world's textiles.

I discovered this book in a wonderful little shop in Amman, Jordan that sold antique furniture and textiles. They identified a piece I was admiring as coming from a particular country and then showed me a picture of a similar piece in the book. I was intrigued by the book and wanted to purchase it, but they said it was not for sale as they use it to identify textiles they acquire. I came home and purchased one of my own on and am now able to identify many textiles or embroidered pieces from their country of origin. It's not only a great reference book, it's also a beautiful book to browse.

This is the clearest, most comprehensive guide to the techniques used to produce textiles. The examples are photographed beautifully and make you want to get to work. I'm so glad I spent the money on this first-class book.

A fascination with anything woven, including knitting and crochet, led me to order this book. As a novice hoping for a peek into the mysteries of textiles, I was looking for a comprehensive overview of weaving techniques, with diagrams and explanations of how these various techniques are found in cultures through time. And that's exactly what this book offers. It is well-written and has stunning, lush photos of cloth samples and interesting, exotic photos of people wearing the clothes. If you love the feel of textiles and embroidery, and have a deep desire to learn about a culture through its textiles, you'll enjoy the sensations stirred up by this book and its photos. I'm especially enjoying the soft cover book. I'm sure the hardcover version is beautiful, but there's something about being able to curl up in a comfy chair with this book and visually devour the images up close!

I'm using this book as one of two texts for a college course on Ethnic Dress; this is an absolutely fabulous resource!!! As students, we use the book to look for traditional techniques we will research and present in class, including "hands on" practice. I can't recommend this book highly enough!!!

Thank you, Mr. Gillow, for putting such a beautiful, historical source together!

The use of textiles is universal but patterns vary and traditions are often localized. Each culture has its own stories and myths. These form part of the style of each pattern. A wonderful collection of many different approaches, and a joy to see.

This is now my favorite textile book! I stayed up all night reading the text and studying the amazing photos. Well arranged, rich colors, learned a bunch of new info, just perfect! Lots of embroidery details for multiple cultures.

Great book.

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