



Endpoints for Design Technology

Year 4 – Functional and Fancy Fabrics



We will be learning about home furnishings and the designer William Morris. We will learn techniques for decorating fabric, including block printing, hemming and embroidery.

What I know and can explain

Natural fabrics include cotton, silk and wool

Synthetic fabrics include Lycra, polyester and nylon

William Morris was a British textile designer, artist and socialist activist associated with the British Arts and Crafts Movement

A motif is a recurring shape in a design or pattern. Motifs can be figurative, vegetal, abstract or geometric. Islamic art features geometric motifs, which are made from regular shapes.

A hem runs along the edge of a piece of cloth or clothing. It is made by turning under a raw edge and sewing to give a neat and quality finish

William Morris

William Morris was a British artist, designer, poet and campaigner. He was born in 1834. He and other artists and designers started the Arts and Crafts movement in the 1860s, which encouraged craftspeople to use traditional techniques.



William Morris and his friends started a business called Morris & Co, producing home furnishings, including wallpaper, stained glass windows, furniture and carpets. The wallpapers and fabrics were block printed using wooden blocks and natural dyes.



Useful Vocabulary

Durable – Lasting for a long time without becoming damaged

Fabric – A material made from intertwining yarns or thread

Motif - An image or design that can be repeated to create a pattern

Natural fabric – A fabric obtained from plants or animals, such as cotton, silk and leather

Synthetic - Made from artificial substances rather than natural ones