

DICTIONARY OF TEXTILE TERMS.

P

Pile upon Pile: Fabric having patterns formed by piles of different lengths. The difference in the length of pile on the same fabric can be obtained by weaving or shearing. In weaving (if pile warp is used) wires are employed having varying thickness along their length, or, if the pile is produced by the filling, the floats are made of different length, shorter floats producing shorter pile than long floats. A greater variety of patterns can be obtained by shearing the evenly woven pile. Part of the pile is pressed down and the remaining erect pile is shorn short. After the pressed down parts are brushed up again they will have a longer pile and thus form a design.

Pile Warp: A set of warp-threads, separate from the warp forming the ground. The warp which produces the cut or uncut raised face of plush or terry pile woven fabrics, such as Velvets, Wilton and Brussels Carpets, Turkish Towels, etc.

Pile-weaving: The second great division of woven fabric structure, viz: regular, pile and gauze weaving.

A method of weaving in which there are two or more warps, one of which is formed into loops over wires, which are drawn out after the formation of the loops, which may be cut (forming a velvet pile) by this procedure, as for example in Wilton carpets, or left uncut (forming a terry pile) as in Brussels carpets.

A method of weaving where a special warp during weaving, by means of a special weave and a corresponding intermittent slackening of the pile warp on every third pick, is made to form loops on one or both sides of the fabric, as in Turkish towel weaving.

Floating the filling, and cutting said floats by a specially constructed knife, either by hand or machine, as in velveteens.

Pile-wire: One of a number of wires introduced automatically across the warp in weaving, and over which the pile warp-threads are formed into loops when they are again automatically withdrawn from the fabric structure. There are two types of these wires, one with a smooth end, and which is used in the formation of a terry, *i. e.*, loop pile, like Brussels carpet, the other having the end of the wire turned up and sharpened to present a keen, sharp edge, being used when a velvet, *i. e.*, a cut pile is desired.

Pillow Bar: The ground or filling of pillow lace, consisting of irregular threads or groups of threads drawn from one part of the pattern to another. These bars may either be plain or have a minute pearl edge.

Pillow Lace: A work in gold, silver, silk or linen, made upon a cushion by the use of a number of small bobbins; a design traced upon paper lies on the pillow. Usually two kinds of pins are used, these being inserted at cross lines of the design where desired. Three effects are produced, woven, gauze and embroidered; the woven, because there are the regular warp and filling, the gauze, since the threads which might be considered as warp and filling are withdrawn from each other at the crossing or regular inter-

lacing, and finally, the embroidered, due to the introducing of *points* and thick threads.

Pillow Sham: An embroidered or otherwise ornamented cover, to be laid over a pillow when not in use.

Pilot Cloth: A coarse, heavy kind of woolen cloth, generally blue, such as is used by pilots for peajackets.

An indigo blue woolen cloth for overcoats and seamen's wear.

Pina: A fibre prepared from the leaf of the pineapple plant, sometimes known as *Ananas flax*. The fibres obtained from the leaves of this plant are fine and silky, and have been used for cordage making and for mixing with cotton fibres, and as a substitute for silk. The breaking strain of some pineapple fibres has reached 150 lbs. It is found in China, South America, the Philippine Islands, parts of Africa, Mexico and Central America. Their use has not been extensive on account of high cost of production. The leaves are gathered just before the ripening fruit, and the prickly edges being cut off, the leaves are beaten upon a wooden block with a mallet until a silky-looking mass of fibres are obtained, which, after being washed and dried, are ready for spinning. Also called *Pineapple Fibre*.

Pina Cloth: A fabric made in Manilla from the fibres of the leaf of the pineapple plant. It is very thin and transparent.

Pinafore: A sleeveless apron protecting the front of a child's dress from being soiled.

Pin-check: A very small check pattern.

Pin-cop: A filling cop, to fit a shuttle.

Pineapple Fibre: See Pina.

Pinhead: Anything small, used in the textile trade, with reference to the patterns or designs of fabrics, as pin-head checks, etc.

Pink Boll Worm: The principal insect enemy of the cotton plant in certain oriental regions. More recently it has been introduced into Egypt, where in the course of about five years, it became more important than any of their native pests. The protection of the cotton industry of the United States against the pink boll worm, as well as other foreign insects through quarantine, seemed to be complete, until it was discovered that a considerable number of infested seeds come to the United States in bales of lint.

Pinking: Ornamenting silk and other fabrics, used for dress or upholstery purposes with a pinking iron, or of punching a scalloped pattern along the margin of a fabric. Also called *Pouncing*.

Pink Salts: A name given to the double chloride of tin and ammonia. It was formerly employed instead of the other salts of tin, in the wood-pinks; it is now very seldom met with in commerce.

Pin-rib: A delicate cord or rib woven in fine muslin.

Pin-work: In needle-point lace, small and fine raised parts of a design.

In flax spinning, to work (flax-yarn) on a wooden pin in a manner to increase its suppleness when making the yarn up into bundles for packing.

Piqué: A variety of cotton cloth, plain and figured effects, whose surface has a ridged or waled appearance in the direction of the filling. The ridged effect is produced by using two warps for making the cloth, one tight, the other slack, the slack warp making a plain face, the tight warp being interwoven with the plain face, owing to the difference in tension draws down the face at the point of interlacing, and thus forms ridges. The number of loose weaving warp-threads is more than that of tight weaving warp-threads, and they are generally of a finer count. To heighten the raised appearance of the ridges on the face in connection with the heavier and better grades, stuffer or wadding picks are often inserted. In the lightest and cheapest grades neither any wadding nor back picks are used. In this case the warp back-threads float on the back of the fabric except when raising over the face picks to form the cord. In the figured piqué the binding of the back warp-threads into the face cloth is not done in straight lines as in plain piqué, but the binding points are introduced so as to form figures. Piqués are usually brought into the market bleached. The goods are used for such purposes as ladies' so-called tailor-made suits, vestings, shirt-fronts, cravats, etc. This cloth gradually merges into *quiltings*, which are an extension of this principle of weave.

Piqués: The silk derived from imperfect cocoons.

Piquête: Corded twilled French vesting interlaced with the 8 by 4 satin weave.

Pirlè Finish: A finish which is given to all-wool dress goods with the idea of rendering them shower and spot proof and unshrinkable.

Pirn: A quill or reel; the bobbin of a spinning wheel.

Pita Fibre: The pita plant grows wild in Brazil in the vicinity of rivers and lagoons, and on the highlands below an altitude of 1500 feet. The fibres run through the entire length of the stem or leaves, and have been used for thread for sewing boots, nets, fish-lines, halters, and some of the best kinds of cordage. The most beautiful hammocks have also been made of pita, some of which have sold for as much as \$50. Samples of this fibre have been sent to the United States and to Europe, where it has been manufactured into a variety of articles. It can be purchased of the Indians in the backwoods, nicely prepared in rolls of about 12 ounces each, for 25 cents per roll. In the cities and towns of the interior it is sold in small quantities to shoemakers and others for \$1 per pound. The cost of preparing it for market by the native system is too great, and the quantities prepared too small, for it to become an article of export. Also called *Silk Grass*.

Pitambar: A piece of silk cloth or waist cloth dyed yellow, often with a border of some other color; worn by Hindus when worshipping, and during different meals.

Pitchy Wool: Unwashed wools.

Pittacal: A blue compound obtained among the oxidation products of wood-tar oil and used in dyeing.

Pittman: An early maturing cotton, from Louisiana, the plant being short-limbed and of the cluster variety.

Plaid: A pattern of colored bars or stripes crossing each other at right angles, a check pattern.

A garment of woollen cloth, often having a tartan pattern, being a large rectangular piece and worn in Scotland by both sexes for warmth and protection against the weather. It is the dress of the Highlands, also forming part of the uniform of certain infantry regiments in the British army.

Plain Cloth: The simplest form of a woven texture, both warp and filling being over one and under one. By changes in materials, sizes of yarn and balance of structure, many of the best recognized styles of fabrics are produced with this interlacing.

Plain Weave: See Cotton Weave.

Plain Wool: Wool in which the curves in the staples are scarcely discernible. Also wool in which the staple formation has ceased altogether and the fleece is only lightly held together by binders.

Plait: A portion of a fabric doubled over and secured in position by sewing; a flattened fold or gather.

Plaited Hosiery: See Plated.

Plaited Stitch: Herringbone stitch used in embroidery to imitate the herringbone effect.

Plaiting: In hat manufacturing, the felting of the hair by means of pressure, motion, moisture and heat, so as to form the body; also called *Hardening*.

Planting: Placing additional colors of pile warp yarns in the frames of Brussels and Wilton carpets so as to improve their general appearance as to coloring without increasing the frames, *i. e.*, the weight of the pile warp used. In some instances, the frames may be slightly increased. A process in weaving by which the various colored extra warps are interchanged.

Plaquage: Printing of calico by means of padding.

Plated Hosiery: A term applied to designate hosiery that has been knit from two or more different yarns in such a manner that the outside of the web is made from one yarn and the inside face is made from another yarn, or, the centre of the web may be made from one kind of yarn, the outer face of another kind and the inside face from still another yarn. The effect is the same as if two or more separate fabrics were laid together, with the difference that the separate webs are so interlooped together in the knitting that the resulting web is practically a single fabric. Plated hosiery can be made in a variety of styles and from a variety of textile fibres in one piece, the socks or stockings so made being thicker and heavier than plain knit hosiery and much more durable. The chief use of this method is for producing a web of extra weight or durability or to produce an expensive looking garment at a low cost, which can be done by using different grades of yarn, using an expensive yarn, silk or wool, for the face of the fabric and a cheaper yarn, cotton, for

the inside. Also called *Plaited Hosiery*.

Plated Yarn: A thread, having as a core a thread of cheap material round which is twisted a superior fibre, as a cotton thread twisted round with worsted, silk or metal.

Platina: An iron plate for glazing fabrics.

Plauen Lace: Applied to all laces emanating from Plauen, Saxony, the centre of the German Lace Industry, and includes imitations of nearly all point laces, which are embroidered on a wool ground, this being afterwards dissolved in acid, leaving the cotton or silk design intact.

Plexus: A tangled mass of fibre.

Plissé: French for pleated. A pleated effect that may be applied to almost any material, including velvets. May be done by machinery, or, in case of ribbons, by use of draw strings. From French *plisser*, to plait, to crumple, to fold, etc.

Plissé Ombré: An armure weave in plissé effect and ombré shading.

Plonkete: See Plunket.

Plough: The velvet cutter.

Plucked: An end of top, slubbing, roving or yarn which shows an irregular thickness due to excessive draft or drag.

Plucked Wool: Wool plucked from a sheep which has been dead a few days. Sometimes the term is applied to skin wool.

Pluie: Lustrous dress goods and tapestry, made in France of silk or camel hair warp with gold or silver threads interwoven in the filling.

Plumeties: Cotton or woollen cloth showing on a clear face ground, raised dots or figures in relief, the design presenting a feathery effect.

Plunket: (1) in the 15th century a blue color; (2) under Edward VI a coarse woollen fabric. Sometimes written *Plonkete*; also called *Blunket*.

Plush: A fabric composed of a ground texture and a pile texture, the latter standing up more or less straight from the ground texture. There are two classes: (1) filling piles, and (2) warp piles. In filling piles, the pile filling during weaving is simply floated on the top of the ground texture to be subsequently cut in the finishing operation. In the warp piles, the pile is formed by warp-threads which are either looped over wires to form the pile, or two ground textures are woven with a small space in between, across which the warp pile threads pass from one cloth to the other, forming the pile on the under surface of the top texture, and the upper surface of the under texture when the two cloths are cut apart in finishing.

A long pile (over $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length) velvet like structure, made in cotton, silk, wool, mohair, camel's hair; from *Peluche*, the French for shaggy. The use of plush dates back to the 16th century.

Plush-velvet: Plush having a shorter nap than is common, and thus resembling velvet.

Plush-velveteen: Cotton velvet plush, closely imitating silk plush.

Ply: A term indicating the number of units of which either a yarn or fabric is composed. Thus, two-ply yarn indicates a yarn composed of two single strands. Three-ply cloth refers to cloth which is really com-

posed of three single cloths, solidly bound together.

Pocket Drill: Stout, unbleached cotton drill, used for pockets.

Pod: See Boll.

Poil: French term for pile.

Silk thread used as a core for gold and silver tinsel, consisting of 8 or 10 cocoon filaments twisted together.

Poil de Chevre: A ladies' dress goods made in France, the warp of which is fine spun silk, colored, and the filling of Angora or White Syrian Wool, thrown prominently to the face, the designs being in checks, stripes, etc. It has a soft feel and pleasing effect, but does not wear well. Imitations are made with a cotton warp, and which combines well with the goat's hair.

Point: In lace-making, needle-point lace, as Alençon point, Dresden point, etc. A collar of point; used in the plural the term denotes fine lace in general; used freely in connection with the decorative arts (as tapestry of *Beauvais point*), referring to some peculiar kind of work, and is even applied to bobbin-lace and the like; also denotes vaguely a pattern or a feature of a pattern in works of embroidery, etc., usually in connection with the stitch or the peculiar method of work which produces it; a lace with tags at the end, such laces being about eight inches long, consisting often of three differently colored yarns twisted together and having their ends wrapped with iron, used in the Middle Ages to fasten the clothes together, but giving way to buttons in the 17th century; also made of silk or leather; a fastening resembling a tagged lacing; made with the needle; said of lace, a needle-point.

Point a Brides: The ground of lace when made of brides or bars; lace having a *bride* ground as opposed to that having a *reseau* ground.

Point Appliqué: Point lace in which the design, after having been separately made, has been applied to the net which forms the foundation.

Point a Reseau: Lace which has a net ground worked together into the pattern, as is the case with Mechlin.

Point de Alençon: See Alençon.

Point de Angleterre: English point; English style of lace work; English lace.

Point de Angleterre Lace: Fine Brussels pillow lace, distinguished by a rib of raised and plaited threads worked in the lace. Shown in floral, ornithological and geometrical designs.

Point de Arabe Lace: Coarse bobbin lace made in Belgium and France as well as Arabia. Shows a large, bold pattern cable edged, and is almost invariably in a deep ecru tone. Used for curtains and draperies.

Point de Armes: An embroidery stitch used on transparent materials for leaves and flowers, showing on the face a hemstitch while the threads are crossed in the back in a close lattice fashion.

Point de Gauze: A very fine needle made ground for lace, generally identified with the finest Brussels lace when made wholly with the needle.

Point de Gaze Lace: Flemish point lace resembling point de Alençon, though much softer, being without horsehair.