

Dⁱaper, *n.* [Fr. *diâpre*, from *Ypres*.] (*Com.*) A kind of textile fabric, either of linen or cotton, or a mixture of the two, with a figured pattern on the exterior surface, produced by a peculiar method of twilling. *D.* are much used for table-linen and fine towels. With the exception of damask, *D.* are the most ornamental kind of twilled cloths. There is some controversy as to the origin of the term *D.* According to M. Planché, it is derived from D'Ypres, or "Ypres," a town in Flanders, famous for its manufacture of rich stuffs and fine linen before the year 1200. Ducange derives the word from the Italian *diaspro*, "the jasper," on account of its shifting light; but the former is the most probable derivation.

(*Fine Arts.*) *D.-work*, or *Diapering*, is a term used to signify the repetition of a pattern of any flowers, foliage, or geometrical form of ornamentation, over a large surface of work; it differs from *chequers*, inasmuch as the latter is applied to a repetition of geometrical figures which are indicated by rectangular or diagonal lines intersecting at fixed intervals.

