

The Textile Technology exhibition at the Deutsches Technikmuseum

Textile techniques are some of our oldest techniques. They are dispersed all over the world and provide our second skin.

Textile technology was the technology of the first factories. Production was again revolutionised in textile factories through the use of punched cards. Today textile technology is globalised.

Various textile techniques exist, each suited to its own purpose: textiles that need to be strong must be woven, textiles that are to be supple must be knitted. For instance, gloves can be either woven or knitted, and will be either strong or supple accordingly.

Textile techniques can be recognised by their structures, irrespective of the material used: a dress is woven just like a strainer, and a shoelace is braided just like a metal pipe in a car.

Textiles are both beautiful and useful.

Knitted

- Underwear
- Socks
- Gloves

All items that cling to the body are knitted. The flexible knitting technique forms stitch upon stitch from one thread. Uncomplicated and informal, knitted clothing is well adapted to our modern, leisure-oriented society. Thus, more and more knitted clothing is worn.

Braided

- Shoelaces
- Anorak cord

Braided textiles are robust and flexible at the same time. Like weavings, they are produced from two interlaced threads, but rather than being inflexibly linked at 90°, they use smaller angles. This makes braided items durable yet supple, an advantage, for instance, in medical technology.

Punched

- Flower

Punched fabric flowers are produced in heated moulds. Each type of flower requires special moulds for its petals. Several punched fabric petals are joined to form a flower. In Europe the technique has nearly died out, but even now many people still enjoy artificial flower decorations.

Woven

- Trousers
- Shirt
- Jacket

Woven items are robust and protective. Suits, shirts and ties are worn at official occasions. Coats or work clothes are used for protection. Originally, denim trousers were workwear. The weaving technique firmly interlaces two threads.

Felted

- Hat
- Slipper

Felted items are always made in areas where sheep can be kept. The scales in wool fibres can be matted by means of water, heat and movement. The felt thus produced is robust, warm and water-repellent. The fabric is somewhat uncomfortable to wear, but a fashionable hat is warm, protective and fun.

Sewn

- Bag

Sewing is the universal textile technique. Almost all textile fabrics must be sewn together to produce useful items such as bags, underpants or T-shirts. The seam is created by firmly interlacing two sewing threads.



Deutsches Technikmuseum

Trebbiner Str. 9
D-10963 Berlin

Phone +49 30/90 254-0
Fax +49 30/90 254-175

www.sdtb.de
info@sdtb.de

Textile Technology
exhibition

This tour can be booked
as a guided tour.
Phone +49 30/90 254-165.

Concept: Anna Döpfner
doepfner@sdtb.de

Photos: Clemens Kirchner,
Anna Döpfner

Design: punkt8-berlin.de

Tuesday–Friday
9 a.m.–5.30 p.m.

Saturday/Sunday
10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Monday
Closed

ARCHENHOLD-STERNWART
DEUTSCHES TECHNIKMU
SCIENCE CENTER SPECTRUM
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ZUCKER-MUSEUM

WWW.SDTB.DE
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BERLIN

What is this?

Here you can solve a puzzle.

Tour the Textile Technology exhibition and look for two answers for each technique: a machine and something produced on that machine.

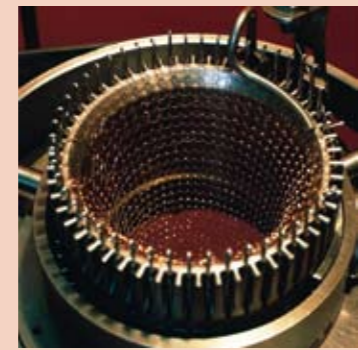
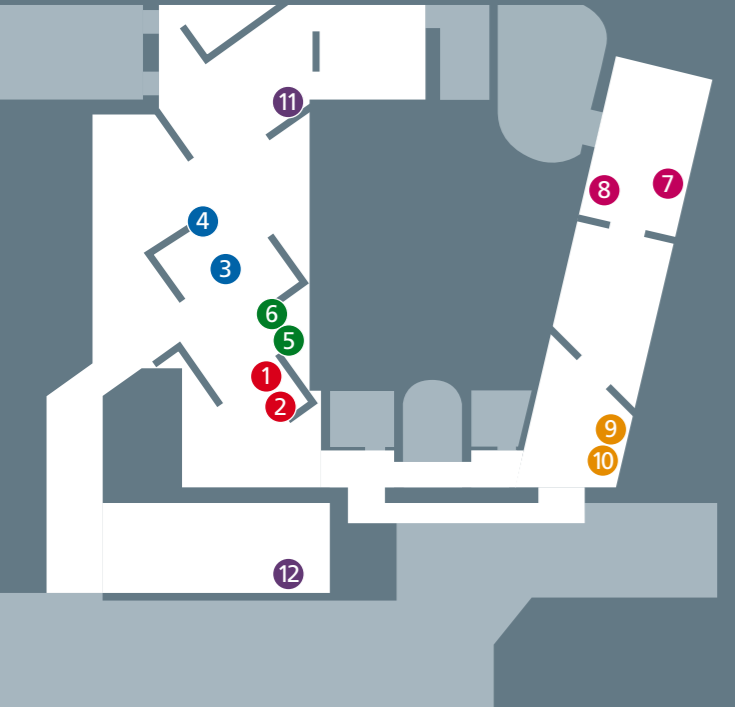
The techniques are knitting, weaving, braiding, felting, punching and sewing.

Each technique has a colour and two numbers – the first relates to the machine, the second to the item. You will find the colours and numbers on the exhibition map at the bottom of this page.

Start in the red “looping” area. Have fun finding the answers!

Solution

- 8
- 12
- 10
- 3
- 7
- 5
- 6
- 1
- 9
- 2
- 11
- 4



Knitted

1

.....

 (8+7 letters)



2

.....

 (3+8 letters)

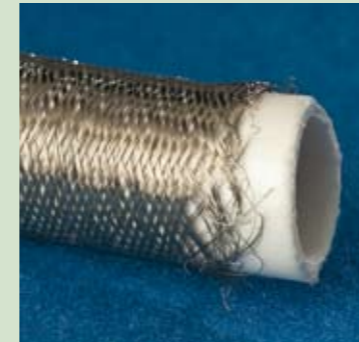


Braided

5

.....

 (8+7 letters)



6

(gastroscopy)
 (4 letters)



Punched

9

.....

 (8+7 letters)



10

.....

 (6 letters)

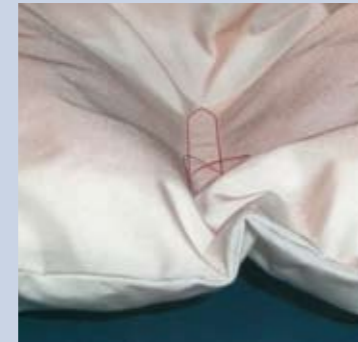


Woven

3

.....

 (10+4 letters)



4

.....

 (3+3 letters)



Felting

7

.....

 (7+7 letters)



8

.....

 (5 letters)



Sewn

11

.....

 (6+7 letters)



12

.....

 (3 letters)

What a sight you are!

Tour of the Textile Technology exhibition for adults and children at the Deutsches Technikmuseum in Berlin