

# KINRAN FABRICS IN NISHIJIN

Kinran fabrics are the completion of integrating the craftsmen's knowledge and the skills gained by their experiences with their eager power for pursuing the highest quality of the fabrics.



KAJI KINRAN  
MADE IN KYOTO



# KINRAN FABRICS

These are the designed fabrics woven with the gold and silver foils and / or threads.

金襴とは金箔・銀箔や金糸・銀糸を用いて文様を表した織物の事を言います。

# NISHIJIN AREA

“Nishijin” is placed in the north-west part of Kyoto and is one of the famous places for the silk industry in Japan. It has been the center of the textile industry since the previous period of Heian Era(A.D.794) and is well-known for its gorgeous silk fabrics like Lyon in France or Milano in Italy.

Undoubtedly, there is nowhere else like Kyoto. It has been keeping manufacturing the high quality of silk fabrics and leading as a top level manufacturer in Japan for over 1,000 years. So “Nishijin” has also been flourished as a capital of weaving industry in Kyoto.

西陣とは京都市街西北にあたる地域で平安時代（794年）以前からの織物生産の中心地であり、日本を代表する絹織物の産地です。フランスのリヨン、イタリアのミラノと並び世界的高級絹織物産地として名声を誇っています。

常に日本の紋織技術をリードし、1000年以上にわたって織物を織り続けている産地は他にないといえるでしょう。それは西陣が京都という町とともに繁栄してきたことと切り離すことはできません。





# NISHIJIN TEXTILE OF KYOTO

This is the name of the high quality textiles manufacturing in “Nishijin” area in Kyoto woven with silk and dyed yarn. Mainly, these textiles are woven with the precious silk and gold threads.

Thinking of Nishijin Textile history, they had been preserved by the privileged people as the high quality textile in each generations for ages. Also for a certain period they were only allowed to be produced for the Emperor or the Nobles, not for the public.

Now, we are trying to inherit the sense of Japanese traditional spirit cultivated in the Court culture and to pursue the high-level weaving techniques and skills of the craftsmen through a long history, and to develop new style and business leading to the brighter future.

\* The craftsmen : A man devoting himself to his work and continuing working hard to master the skills. In Japan, they are highly respected historically and the things they produce are called “The Craftsmen’s Art”.

京都西陣織りとは京都市の「西陣」の地において製織された高級（絹、先染め）織物の総称です。この織物に使われる材料には絹、金糸といった現在でも大変高価な材料が主体です。さらに京都西陣織りの歴史には、優れた織物として時代時代の権力者たちから保護を受け続けた特別な織物だった経緯もあり、天皇や貴族といった限られた一部の人のみ愛用することが出来、一般庶民は簡単に手に入れる事の出来ない特別な織物でした。こういった事により京都の宮廷文化に育まれた優れた意匠感覚と、長い歴史に培われたものづくりの技術を受け継ぐ職人が現在も文化の担い手として絶えることなく受け継がれ、さらなる向上を目指し技術を磨いています。





# PROCESS

MANUFACTURING "KINRAN FABRICS" of NISHIJIN KYOTO

"Nishijin" textiles production involves many complex processes. Each process is divided into unique labor system. They are consisted of some special workers and the skilled craftsmen. They work independently but cooperatively in Nishijin area. Therefore, to produce Nishijin textiles, we need much time and many processes at each stage. So, inevitably, Nishijin textiles take high cost.

京都西陣金襴の製作工程

織物が完成するまでには各工程の専門業者と専門の職人が存在します。西陣では、いくつもの専門業者とその職人達によって成り立っている分業制が今尚引き継がれ、各々の工程で高度な技術と長い作業時間が必要とされる為、京都西陣織りは必然的に大変高価な織物となります。

## PLANNING

01

### DRAWING THE DESIGN

DESIGNERS

THE CRAFTSMEN

We decide what kind of pattern (design) we choose and draw it.

意匠図作成 | 図案屋 | 職人

どのような柄(デザイン)にするかを決め、図案を作成します。



02

### MAKING DATA FOR WEAVING

MON DESIGN PLANNERS

THE CRAFTSMEN

The design at the stage 01 is enlarged on a graph paper to make the draft for the textile. Based on this graph, the information of the design is computerized so that the weaving machine could work properly according to the MON design draft.

織物データ作成 | 紋図屋 | 職人

01で決定した柄(デザイン)をマス目状(方眼紙)に置換え織物の設計図を作ります。その設計図を基に柄の情報をデータ化し、設計図通りに織り機が動くように電子データを作成します。



03

### COLORATION

THE CRAFTSMEN

Based on the MON design(at the stage 02), we choose the colors for the fabrics and make the instructions. The large experience and the intuition should be required to place the colors so as to make them much alike the real ones, because of the delicate change occurred by crossing the warp and the weft.

配色 | 職人

02で作成した設計図(紋図)を基に織物の配色を決め、指示書を作成します。タテ糸とヨコ糸の重なりにより色が微妙に変化する為、配色するには長年の経験と勘が必要です。



NEXT PAGE

04

## PREPARATION OF MATERIALS (STOCKS)

We prepare the threads and gold foils (at the stage 03)

BUYING RAW SILK RAW SILK SUPPLIER

BUYING GOLDEN THREADS GOLD THREAD SUPPLIER THE CRAFTSMEN

BUYING GOLD FOIL THREADS GOLD FOIL SUPPLIER THE CRAFTSMEN

材料の準備 (仕入)

03で配色した必要な糸や箔の準備をします。

生糸仕入れ (生糸屋) 金糸仕入れ (金糸屋・職人) 金箔仕入れ (金箔屋・職人)



05

## DYEING YARN DYEING WORKS THE CRAFTSMEN

Each yarn is dyed into the color (at the stage 03). Before dyeing, the yarn is removed the contamination and refined at the dyeing works. \* Depending on the type of the threads, we order them to the different dyeing works.

糸染め | 染色屋 | 職人

03で配色した必要な色に糸を染めます。その際には染色屋で生糸の不純物を除いて質の良い糸にした後に糸を染めます。※糸の種類により染色屋が異なります。



06

## YARN ROLLING(PREPARING THE WEFT) THE CRAFTSMEN

Just dyed yarn is unraveled to be woven smoothly. The yarn is rolled up to the "Itowaku" for easily handling during weaving, using the special rolling machine.

糸繰り (ヨコ糸の準備) | 職人

染め上ったヨコ糸を製織しやすい状態にさばき (ほぐす)、専用の糸繰り機を使い糸枠と呼ばれる道具に生糸を巻き取ります。



07

## WARPING (PREPARING THE WARP) THE WARPERS THE CRAFTSMEN

Nishijin textiles usually have at least 3,000 and at most 8,000 threads per warp although it depends on the type of textiles we produce. They are once taken up to the huge drum, then divided and taken up again into the special tubes.

整経 (タテ糸の準備) | 整経屋 | 職人

製作する織物により異なりますが3000本~8000本の糸を一旦大きなドラムに巻き取り、その後専用の筒に巻き取り直します。



08

## CONNECTING THE WARP THE CRAFTSMEN

After the stage 07, the warps are connected one by one carefully and set on the weaving machine.

たて継ぎ | 職人

07の工程が終わったタテ糸は1本ずつ丁寧に繋ぎ合わせ、織り機にセットします。





## PREPARATION

09

### SETTING THE WEFT (PREPARING THE WEFT)

### THE CRAFTSMEN

The weft is winded and set in the weft case, just like the bobbin case of sewing machine.

緯巻 (ヨコ糸の準備) | 職人

ミシンで言うポピン (管) にヨコ糸を巻きつけ、ポピンケース (杼) にセットする作業を行います。



## WEAVING

10

### WEAVING

### THE CRAFTSMEN

According to the digital data (at the stage 02) informed to the weaving machine, the Kinran fabrics are ready to be woven with the colored threads, the golden threads and the gold foils, checking the color instructions (at the stage 03).

製織 | 職人

02 で作成した電子データを機にセットし、03 で作成した配色指示書を確認しながらヨコ糸に金糸や金箔を使って織っていきます。



## FINISHING

11

### INSPECTION

### THE CRAFTSMEN

The inspection is carried out to make sure that there is no scratch or spot. At this stage all the fabrics are checked carefully and only passed fabrics are on the line to the customers. If there is an unfavorable point on the fabric which is under level for the shipment, it must be put back to be modified or even to the first stage. The fabric, which needs to have well treatment of the back yarn, is also confirmed its perfect finishing at this stage. Then we finally starch the fabrics depending on their uses.

検品 | 職人

織り上がった生地にキズや汚れが無いか確認します。ここでの確認で出荷基準 (レベル) に達しない織物は手直しが必要となり、手直ししても出荷基準に満たない場合は、再度一から織り直します。又、生地裏の処理が必要な生地はこの段階で糸を処理します。その後、生地用途により糊張りの加工を施します。



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### FINISHING OF KINRAN FABRICS

Manufacturing Nishijin Textile, it's necessary to take 11 processes mentioned above and to cooperate with 7 types of special workers and the related skilled craftsmen. Besides, the more colors the textile has, the more time and process we need to manufacture the high quality fabrics, and which will be rather expensive.

金襴織物の出来上がり

出来上がりまでには全11の工程と7つもの専門業者とそれに携わる専門の職人がいてこそ京都西陣織りは成り立っています。色数の多いカラフルな織物ほど、織るのに手間、時間が掛かり、高額なものになってゆきます。



FINISH!

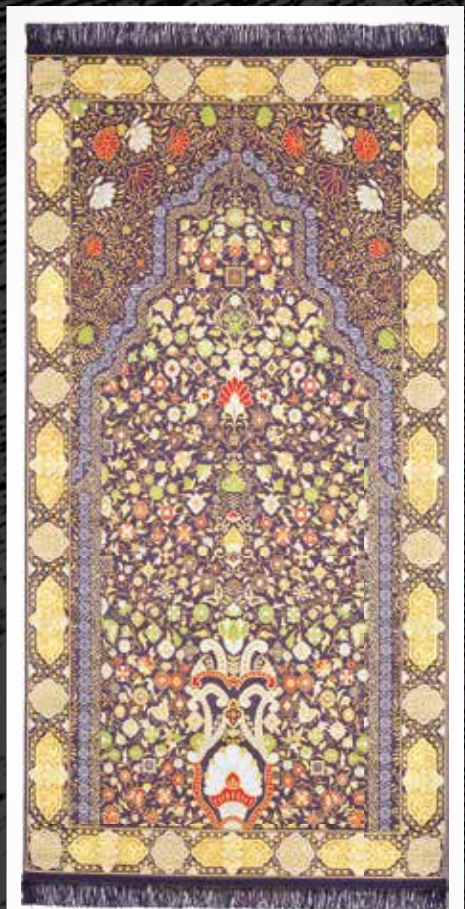


# EXAMPLES IN USE

Kinran fabrics of Nishijin, Kyoto are said to be the high-class textiles at the special scene, and have been used for the costumes for the bride, for those in Japanese traditional “NOU” or “KYOUGEN” drama and for “OBI”.

Lately, however, “Nishijin” textiles have been produced as more familiar social goods. We, KAJIKINRAN, have been promoting our new designed products such as cushion covers, fashionable bags and various kinds of Kinran goods, etc.

現在でも京都西陣金襴は花嫁衣裳や能、狂言と言った伝統芸術の衣装や着物の帯に多く使われており、特別な場所や場面で使用される特別高価な織物として扱われています。もっとも最近では西陣織りをより身近なものにする工夫もいろいろ考案されており、当社でもクッションカバーやバック、小物等はこの高級織物を使用した商品を開発、展開しております。



It takes about 8-15 hours to weave this fabric.

織り上げるには8時間～15時間が必要です。





## 西陣で織る金襴

多くの職人達が

それぞれの工程において、

専門の知識と経験に

基づいた技量で

最高品質を追い求める。

そのこだわりとともに

手作業によって発揮された

集大成こそが

「金襴」という織物です。



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