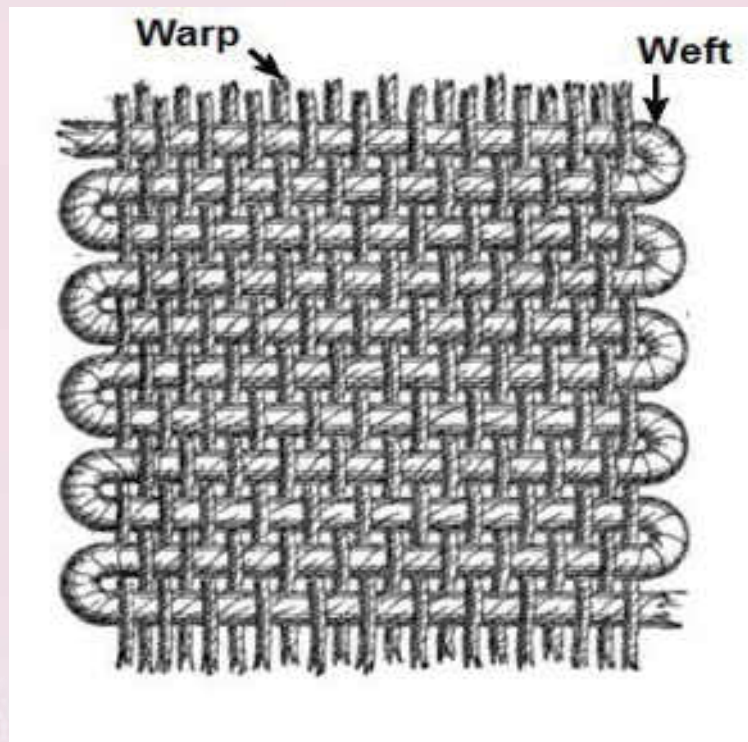


# WEAVING



# What is weaving?

✦ **Weaving** is a method of textile production in which two distinct sets of yarns or threads are interlaced at right angles to form a fabric or cloth. The longitudinal threads are called the warp and the lateral threads are the weft, woof, or filling.



The method in which these threads are interwoven affects the characteristics of the cloth. Cloth is usually woven on a [loom](#), a device that holds the warp threads in place while filling threads are woven through them.



A fabric band that meets this definition of cloth (warp threads with a weft thread winding between) can also be made using other methods, including [tablet weaving](#), [back strap loom](#), or other techniques that can be done without looms.



## History Of Weaving

Weaving is probably as old as human civilization. One of the basic necessities of humans is to cover their bodies to protect themselves from outside effects (hot, cold) and look more "civilized" to the eye. Other reasons for development of different clothing throughout the history are social status, religious requirements etc. Clothing trends depend on location as well.

Historical findings suggest that Egyptians made woven fabrics some 6000 years ago. Chinese made fine fabrics from silk over 4000 years ago. It is believed that the hand loom has been invented many times in different civilizations.



## Macedonian national costumes

Weaving in North Macedonia is a very old craft. It was used to make clothing, carpets, bed covers and other products. It was mostly done in the villages, by women, so almost every woman knew how to weave on a loom and usually had one at home.

From the late XIX and early XX century, there are very well preserved collections of clothes and carpets still existing in North Macedonia, usually protected in a museum or in private collections.

The clothes that are preserved are usually in the form of national costumes. Macedonians wore 70 different types of national costumes, depending on the region where people lived, such as: Skopska Blatija, [Skopska Crna Gora](#), Upper Polog, Lower Polog, [Prilep-Bitola](#) Plain, Upper Prespa, Lower Prespa, [Ohrid](#) Plain, Struga Plain, Drimkol, Malesija, [Mariovo](#), [Ovče Pole](#), Malesevo and many others. Every type of folk costume has its own characteristics, but common for all is the presence of the red, black and the white colour and the geometrical shapes on it.



## **Ethnographic collection in village Režanovce, Kumanovo**

In the village Režanovce, in the complex of the church “St. John”, there is a very well preserved ethnographic collection of traditional national costumes, carpets and various other handcrafts from all over Macedonia, such as items from wood, ceramics, metal, musical instruments, jewellery and crafting tools.

There are 3723 pieces in total, which in 2009 are for the first time professionally validated, classified and protected by a professional team, on behalf of the Museum in Kumanovo.

The owner of the collection is a renowned benefactor in this area, by the name of Zlate Davidovski. He has made the collection by tedious gathering during 40 years, starting from the moment he moved in the village.

The collection is exhibited in 8 connected rooms, creating an interesting sight of ethnical and cultural history of our country.

At the beginning there is even a very well preserved loom for weaving!

We are going to see a video of the exhibition, and we hope you will enjoy it!



