

中国 布艺

五洲传播出版社

Chinese Art on Cloths

中国民间工艺





CHINESE ART ON CLOTHS

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中国布艺



布艺，即布上的艺术，是中国民间工艺中一朵瑰丽的奇葩。

在男耕女织的农业社会，缝纫刺绣在中国民间被称之为“女红”，勤劳智慧的中国妇女将自己美好的情感倾注入针线缝制之中，风格或细腻纤秀、淡洁清雅；或粗犷豪放、色彩鲜明，创造出了无数动人心弦的布艺作品。

中国古代的民间布艺主要用于服装、鞋帽、床帐、挂包、背包和其他小件的装饰（如头巾、香袋、扇带、荷包、手帕等）、玩具等。这些生活日常用品加以装饰、彩绣、贴花后，不仅美观大方，而且增强了布料的强度，提高了衣服的耐磨能力，极具审美价值和实用价值。

“图必有意，意必吉祥”。中国民间布艺多用一些象征性的图形。花卉、虫鸟、植物等表达作者祈盼吉祥，趋吉避凶的美好愿望；老年人的用品多

用“福、禄、寿”题材，祝愿老人健康长寿；儿童用品常用老虎、“五毒”（蝎子、蛇、蜈蚣、壁虎、蟾蜍）等图案，以取避邪镇恶。希望小孩子象小老虎一样健壮；新婚夫妇用品喜欢用鸳鸯戏水，莲（连）生贵子，鲤鱼闹莲（象征婚姻和谐）图案，期盼家庭美满，多子多福；姑娘送给情郎定情香包、手帕等，以蝴蝶翩翩起舞之形或并蒂莲花图案含蓄地表达隐藏在姑娘心底的秘密，针针线线都浸染着爱慕之情。

面对神秘莫测的大自然及人间的生、老、病、死现象，人们幻想自己能够超凡，遂借助猛兽来提高自身的能力，借助鱼类、蛙类的繁殖能力来延续子孙后嗣，逐渐形成一些谐音吉祥图案和具象征性、寓意性的吉祥符号，构图讲究饱满和对称均衡感。如：喜鹊梅花——喜上眉梢、牡丹——富贵、羊——三阳开泰、金鱼玉兰——金玉满堂、猴——马上封侯、猴子偷桃——晋爵增寿、鲤鱼莲藕——年年有余等。

中国古代的布艺主要有绣花、挑花、贴花等。

绣花的针法很多，有铺针、平针、散针、打子、套扣、盘金、辫绣、锁绣等。绣花以地域、风俗的不同也分不同的风格与流派。南方地区的织绣历史比北方长，技术较北方高，风格细腻雅洁；北方用针较粗，配色亮丽。

挑花又称十字绣，要求严格的按照面料经纬纹路，挑绣等距离、等长度的十字，



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排列成各种花纹图案的刺绣形式，有独特的变形吉祥几何纹装饰风格。刺绣时不伤布丝，能加强布料的耐磨损强度，此种针法适用于服装、手帕、头巾、围腰、门帘、窗帘等实用品，是刺绣中最早广为流传的一种针法。

布贴花是用小块的不同颜色布料拼接而成各种图案的刺绣手法，又称“补花”。我们古代民间有给小孩穿“百家衣”的习俗，即向乡邻收集各种颜色布料拼制童衣，取百家保护、护佑平安之意。百家衣上常缀有“五毒”的布贴花。虎鞋、虎帽、虎枕是我国北方地区广为流传的一种儿童服饰用品，它寄托了长辈对孩子的呵护和美好的祝福。聪明的妈妈关心着孩子们学步的每一细节，虎头鞋采用贴花和刺绣相结合，鞋后面那个翘翘的小尾巴，是孩子掉了鞋能及时穿上的鞋拔子，有的鞋底两边加上四只老虎脚，增加鞋底的宽度，使学步的孩子走

得更稳。虎头帽突出老虎的神威，个个精描细绣，累丝嵌银，孩子戴上后更是精神百倍，虎虎有神。虎枕既是孩子的玩具，又是孩子的睡枕，天天有神虎保护，还怕孩子受伤害吗？

锦是中国布艺中的又一样式，以彩色丝线用平纹、斜纹的多重、多层织成的复杂结构提花丝织物，质地厚重瑰丽，有粗犷、朴质、敦厚的民族风格。

中国布艺代代相传，表现出作者对生活的理解和渴望，倾注了人们无尽的智慧，具有鲜明的艺术特色。

周林一

1999年7月



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The art on cloth is a unique flower in the garden of Chinese folk handicrafts.

In the agricultural society in ancient China when men labored at farmland and women did needlework at home, the sewing and embroidering known as "*nuhong*" were very popular. The diligent and intelligent women put all fine feelings into their work. Some are fine, smooth and elegant; some are bold and unconstrained with bright colors, but all of them are moving.

The ancient Chinese cloth art are mainly found in clothes, shoes, caps, bed curtains, hanging bags, knapsacks, toys and other little decorations such as scarves, fragrance bags, fan ribbons, pouches and handkerchiefs. After decorated, embroidered and pasted with cloth flowers, these

things become more beautiful and solid. Also, the clothes are more wear-resisting. Both the aesthetic value and usage value are high.

The Chinese art on cloths always show some symbolic pictures. Flowers, insects, birds and plants express people's wish to seek auspiciousness and avoid evils. Articles for the elder are often embroidered with such words as "happiness, high salary and longevity"; while those for children with designs of tigers and the five poisonous creatures (scorpion, viper, centipede, house lizard and toad) so that these children can avoid and suppress evils and grow healthily like a tiger. Articles used by new couples are usually decorated with such designs as mandarin duck playing with water, lotus full of seeds and carps playing with lotus, which show people's expectations for a happy family, more sons and a harmonious marriage life. The fragrance bag and handkerchief presented to a young fellow by a girl always features a flying butterfly or twin lotus flowers on one stalk, expressing her secret love for the chat.

Facing the mysterious nature and such phenomena as life, aging, sickness and death, people hoped they could surpass themselves. So they tried to improve their own abilities by images of wild animals and strengthen their prolifera-



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tion by images of fish and frogs. Consequently, many auspicious patterns were endowed with certain meanings. For example, magpie and plum blossom may represent people's visible pleasure, peony for wealth and rank, sheep for prosperity, gold fish and yulan magnolia for a rich life full of gold and jade, monkey for an immediate official rank, monkey stealing peaches for a higher rank and longevity and carp and lotus root for a plentiful life year after year.

The Chinese art on cloths include embroidery, cross-switch work and applique.

Embroidery has various techniques and is divided into different styles according to different regions and local customs. The South of China has a longer history and higher techniques in embroidery than the North. Embroidered works in the south are fine and elegant, while those in

the north are relatively gross but with bright colors.

The cross-switch work requires the crosses be at an equal distance by strictly following the warps and wefts. The crosses will be arranged into different designs that are fully decorative. The cloth will not be destroyed in switching, instead, it will be strengthened. Such a technique is mainly used in clothes, handkerchiefs, scarves, aprons and curtains for doors and windows. It is among the earliest techniques to be widely spread.

Applique refers to piecing cloth in various colors into different designs. In ancient China, people had such a custom as putting a "hundred house jacket" onto their babies. Collecting cloths in different colors from their neighbors, they made a little jacket for the newly-born babies so that these babies could be fully protected. On the "hundred house jacket" were usually embellished with appliques. The shoes, caps and pillows in tiger shape are very popular in north China, which bear the cares and blessings of the parents for their children. Intelligent mothers pay attention to each step their children have made. The stuck-up tails at the heel can help the children easily put on the shoes. Some shoes are decorated with four tiger feet to make the walk more steady on a wider sole. The tiger-



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shaped cap is usually elaborately embroidered, which fills much vigor to the child wearing it. The pillow in tiger shape is also children's toy. Under the protection of a magical tiger, any child will not be hurt.

Brocade is another kind of art on cloths in China. It is a jacquard silk material woven with colorful threads in plain or twill directions, reflecting the straightforwardness, simplicity and sincerity of a nation.

Chinese art on cloths has its unique characteristics and has been transmitted from one generation to another. It demonstrates people's comprehensive understanding and deep love for life as well as their intelligence.

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虎头鞋

Shoe with the shape of a tiger's head



蜈蚣绣片

A piece of cloth embroidered
with centipedes



荷包

Small bags



信插

Letter container