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Pattern Research Project: An Investigation of The Pattern And Printing Process - Herringbone

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Herringbone



Herringbone



"Villa di Catalus/Grotte di Catullo," (Hartill Art Associates Inc.).



"Baths of Neptune (Terme di Nettuno)", (William L. MacDonald Collection).

Culture & History

The herringbone pattern dates back to Roman times, where this pattern was found to be used in roadways and laid down in such a pattern called "opus spicatum," which is referred to as the herringbone design found in modern textiles, sidewalks, and other interiors. Laying down the brick/ tile/cut stone in this pattern allowed for shock absorption where people would walk along the ground.¹

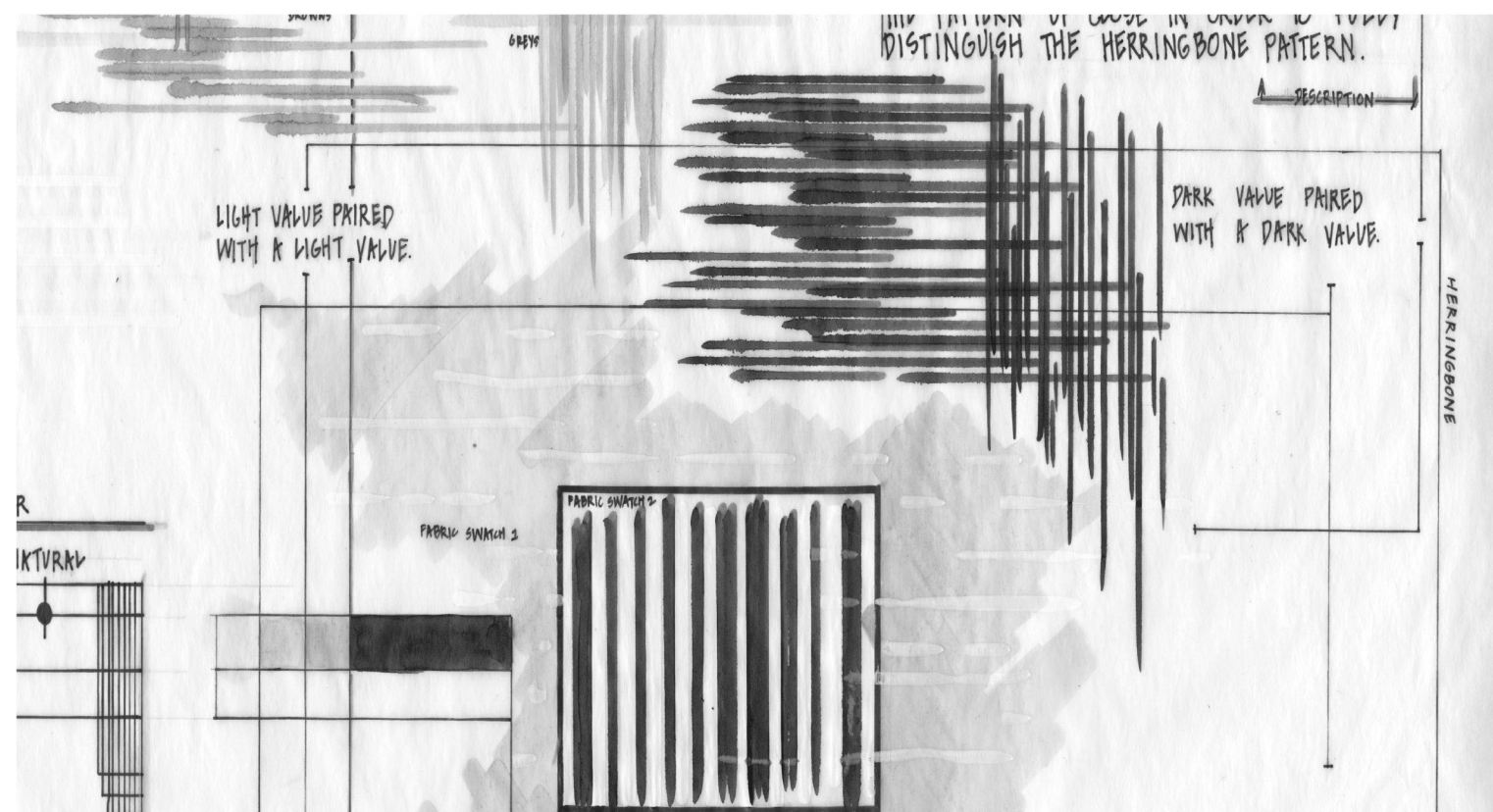
1. (DeLeon, 2013)

Color & Design

The colors within the pattern aid in its design since the design is a simple arrangement of the same shape. Using contrast between a light and dark color distinguishes the pattern completely, where a monochromatic pattern tends to create a look that's more subtle up-close and more difficult to find the pattern when viewed from afar. The formation of the pattern within textiles is through a warp twill, where it's sometimes woven in pairs, thus creating the herringbone pattern.¹

The bulk of the pattern consists of rectangular shapes interlocking within each other, creating this look of a broken chevron since the original way this pattern was created was laying brick/tile/cut stone pieces.

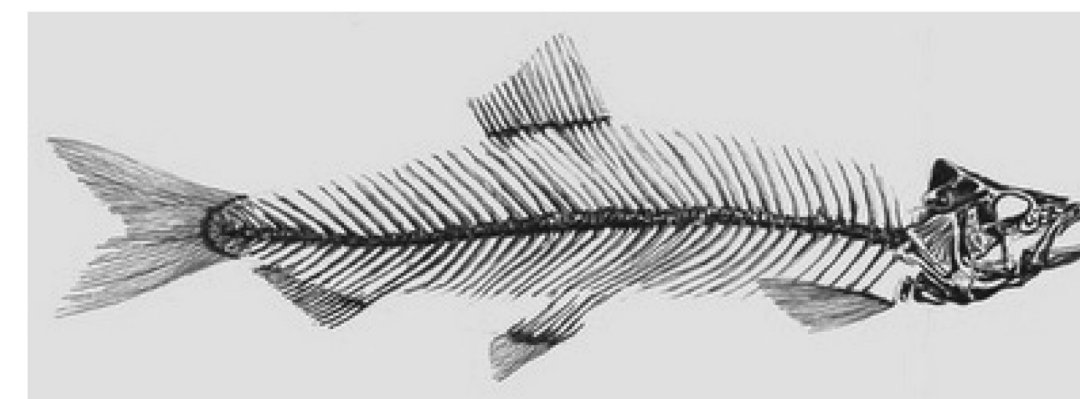
1. (Reath, N., & Philadelphia Museum of Art., 1927).



Craft & Use

The original way that this pattern was made was the use of masonry techniques, which involves creating structures (or in this case, a pattern) using smaller parts (brick/tile/some sort of cut stone) into a bigger, main piece. In this case, this bigger main piece would be the end result of the herringbone pattern after the brick/tile/cut stone pieces were all laid together.

Its original usage was within road pavement systems dating back to the Roman empire. This pattern also has history found in textiles, most notably coats and outerwear, where the use of the usual thick wool fabric worked well in applying this pattern to these clothing items.



"Skeleton of Herring fish," Stout Brothers Co. Inc. (2016, August).

Its name actually derives from of a herring fish due to the fact that there's a strong resemblance between the pattern itself and the spine of the fish.¹

1. (Jones, Sereni, Ricci, 2010).

Materiality

Although the original material of this pattern wasn't textile based, rather it was made from rectangular pieces of brick/cut stone, this pattern has found its way within the fashion world.

Most commonly woven as a tweed fabric, usually using wool, its popular among suits and outerwear. It's also found within scarves and even woven using other fabrics such as linen, cotton, and polyester.



"Polo Ralph Lauren Levien Herringbone Blazer," Emenfashion (2012).