

# Creating Textile Designs of Ancient Egyptian Writings and Employing them in the Graduation Ceremonies Gowns

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## Abstract

The art of handmade weaving has been one of the effective branches of art which is related to everyday life and it is used in many areas including floor covers, hangings and clothes. Students' interest has recently appeared in uniforms and graduation gowns, which are similar to foreign gowns and hats. The research problem is represented by the lack of Egyptian graduation uniform for the university graduation ceremonies, especially graduation garments. Therefore, the aim of the research is to create textile designs inspired by hieroglyphics and Coptic script and implemented by the handmade weaving and employ them in those gowns to give the product its Egyptian spirit. A collection of textile designs on the frame loom has been made and employed on the Photoshop program for gowns and the result was that the ancient Egyptian writings with their diverse vocabulary helped to produce innovative designs of handmade textiles; the use of various weaves helped to achieve the goal of the research.

## Keywords:

**Handmade weaving - graduation garments - ancient Egyptian writings - textile designs**

## Introduction:

The textile industry is one of the oldest industries in human civilization since the early ages as the art of handmade weaving has been one of the effective branches of art related to everyday life because this art is characterized by freedom of expression in multiple weaves and different touches resulting from these weaves which give richness to the creative designs. Textiles are regarded as the first drive to lay the basis for the development of fashion in garments to which they are closely related.

Recently, students' interest has appeared in graduation uniforms, comprising gowns and hats similar to the foreign ones which are by no means different although our the Egyptian civilization is full of plenty of decorations and heritages which can be a source for fashion showing the Egyptian identity and color through creating designs from hieroglyphic and Coptic alphabets with their diverse shapes, implementing them with handmade weaving and attaching them to the graduation currently-used robes, which are similar to the foreign ones.

## The Problem of Study:

1. To what extent advantage can be derived from our cultural heritage of ancient Egyptian writing (hieroglyphic and Coptic) for creating textile designs.
2. How far successful is the use of suggested textile designs in the graduation ceremonies robes.

### **Objective of Study:**

1. Creating textile designs inspired by ancient Egyptian writings.
2. Implementation of these designs in different weaves and employing them in graduation robes using the Photoshop program.

### **Hypotheses of Study:**

1. There is a statistically significant relationship between the weaves used and their suitability for the textile design.
2. There is a statistically significant relationship between the writings used and the extent of their success to extract from the Egyptian civilization.
3. There is a statistically significant relationship between the units and the colors which help to achieve the aesthetic values of the design.
4. There is a statistically significant relationship between textile designs and their suitability for final employment in the ceremonies graduation robes.

### **The Study Limits:**

1. Plain weave 1/1 and its derivatives – simple twill – somac – Gordes bar terry.
2. Raw materials (cotton- acrylic- polyamide ‘nylon’).
3. Decorations from ancient Egyptian writings (hieroglyphic - Coptic).

### **The Method of Study:**

The study methodology is the quasi-experimental approach.

### **Models of the Designs:**

#### **The First design:**

-**Weaves:** horizontal somac 2/2 – broken twill 1/2 – tip extending from the weft 3/3- Gordes bar terry.

-**Colors:** (white – black – gray – cream – red)

-**Design and Decorations** of Coptic units distributed randomly on the multi-color background weaves. The units appear visible and sometimes interfering with the background.



**Design (1) The Proposed Employment**

#### **The Second Design:**

- **Weaves:** (horizontal somac 2/2 – twill 1/3, plain 1/1 tip extending from the weft 2/2 – effects of tapestry)

- **Colors:** (yellow - green of varying degrees - brown - blue - cream)

- **Design and Decorations:** Design of Coptic decorations taken from the Greek alphabet and hieroglyphic decorations. The units appear distributed randomly on the multi-color background and on many areas.



**Design (2) The Proposed Employment**

**The Third Design:**

- **Weaves:** (Gordes bar terry - tapestry – horizontal Somac 1/1).
- **Colors:** (white – dark yellow - brown - cream).
- **Design and Decorations** of the hieroglyphics and Coptic alphabets distributed on tapestry background in brown and dark yellow colors.

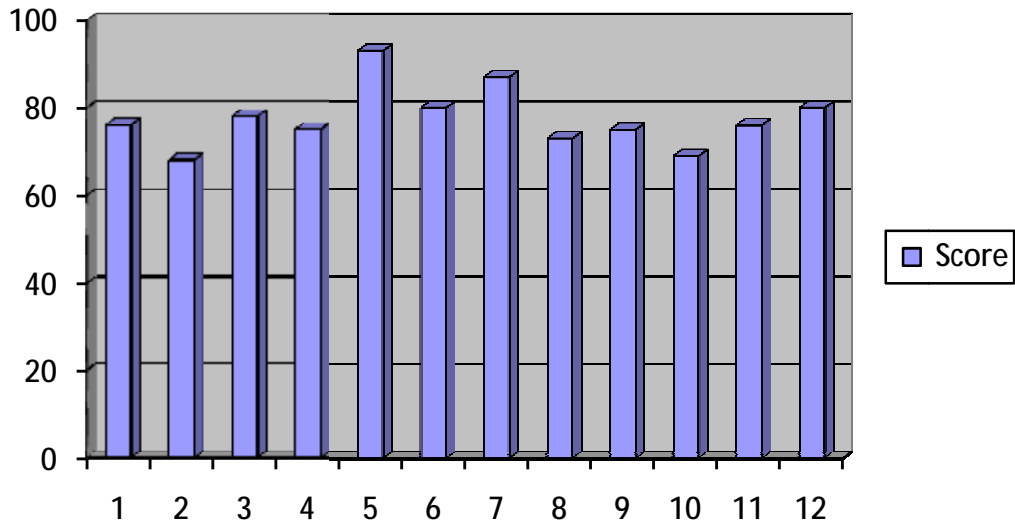


**Design (3) The Proposed Employment**

A questionnaire was developed for a number of (10) specialists from the Faculties of Applied and Fine Arts professors to arbitrate the designs and the results were as follows:

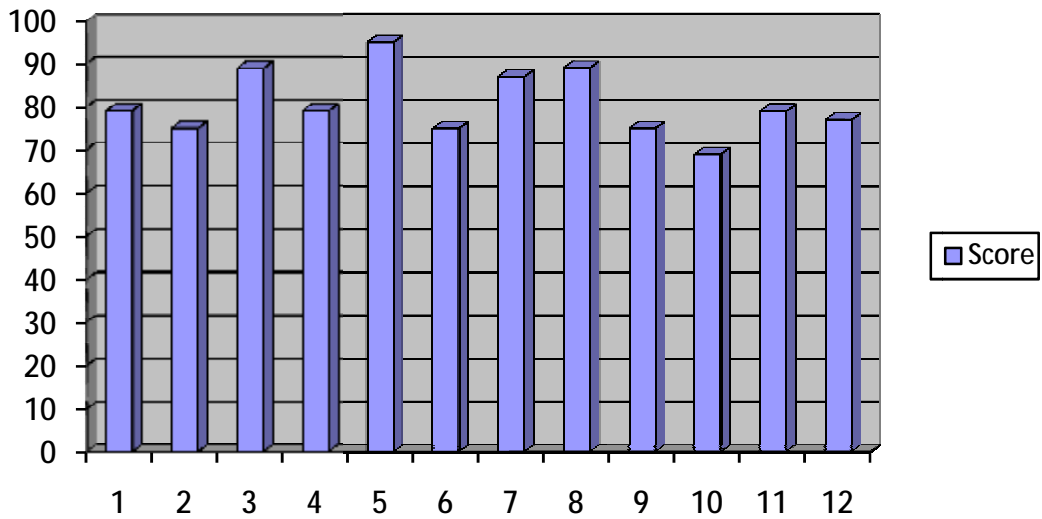
**1.The suitability of weaves used in the implementation of textile designs**

<b>Design</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Score</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>80</b>



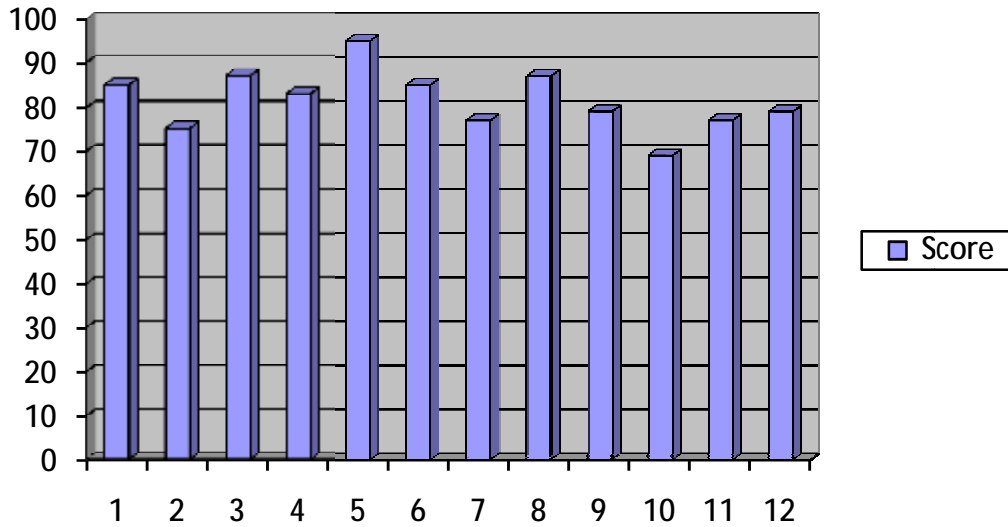
**2. The extent of the success of hieroglyphic and Coptic alphabetical decorations**

Design	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Score	79	75	89	79	95	75	87	89	75	69	79	77



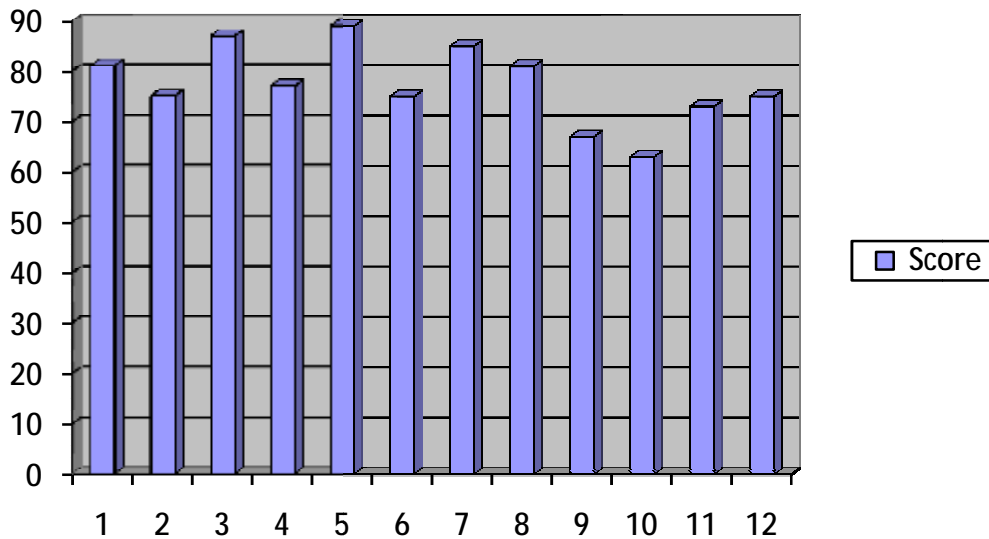
**3. The extent to which the aesthetic values in the weaves are achieved**

Design	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Score	85	75	87	83	95	85	77	87	79	69	77	79



#### 4. The extent of success of the employment of textile designs in graduation robes

Design	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Score	81	75	87	77	89	75	85	81	67	63	73	75



#### Results and Recommendations:

1. The fifth design has achieved the best results in the suitability of weaves for designs, followed by the seventh and then twelfth design.
2. The fifth design achieved the best results in terms of the degree of success of the hieroglyphic and Coptic decorations; third and eighth designs achieved the same results in the second place after the fifth design.
3. The fifth design has achieved the best results in achieving aesthetic values of the design, and the third and eighth design came second, followed by the first and sixth designs in third place.

4. The fifth design has achieved the best results in the extent of success of the employment of designs in graduation robes, and the third design was in the second in the result of the questionnaire followed by seventh design in the third place.
5. The fifth design has achieved the best results in the average scores of the questionnaire.
6. Implementation in the tapestry and somac techniques has had a positive impact in achieving the goal of research in contrast to the use of the bar (Gordes).
7. The use of acrylic and polyamide, despite the thread softness and movement making the decorative units appear unspecified abstractly, has had a positive effect in comparison to the use of cotton as indicated by the questionnaire because of the effect of thread gloss contributing to the success of the design.
8. The study recommends making a pattern for the woven pieces and weaving them after outlining the pattern so as not to cut the designs thus affecting the final form of the design.
9. The study recommends making creative constructed garments of the ancient Egyptian costumes and placing the woven designs on them to be employed in graduation gowns to give the product its Egyptian identity.

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[according to their appearance in the research]

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