

Black brings warmth and energy to the carpet, enhances the power of other colours.



The natural, uncoloured wool symbolizes warmth and tenderness.



For the seventh consecutive year, the municipality of Chiprovtsi organizes the "Chiprovtsi Carpet Festival". The aim of the festival is to promote the Chiprovtsi carpet, presenting both the tradition in the craft and the entry of modern motifs in its production.



On some of the carpets, the skillful women also wove their year of production.



Bulgaria is known all over the world for its Chiprovtsi carpets. Even today it attracts the attention of specialists and connoisseurs from all continents.



The first stage is from the beginning of the 17th century. The early so-called, constructive period lasted until the end of the 18th century. It is characterized by a geometric treatment of motifs in natural colors: yellow or ochre, brown, blue and green. The whole range of colors was obtained from vegetable dyes, which the Chiprovtsi masters prepared themselves.



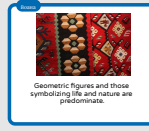
The most typical from this period are the models "vineyard", "Wreaths", "Car", "Bird's Nests", "Wings", "Feathers", "Four Eyes" and others.



Green is the colour of health, new life and wisdom.



The color blue is associated with the sky and the ancient language god Tangra. Blue brings truth, serenity and harmony.



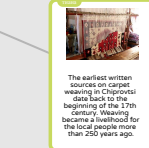
Geometric figures and those symbolizing life and nature are predominant.



The production of a single carpet takes about 90 days.



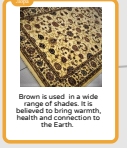
Chiprovtsi masters from dozens of generations follow the ancient traditions of carpet weaving from more than 1300 years ago.



The earliest written sources on carpet weaving in Chiprovtsi date back to the beginning of the 17th century. Weaving became a livelihood for the local people more than 250 years ago.



The next period of Chiprovtsi carpets, called decorative, lasted until the end of the 19th century. The masters take the motifs from nature - trees, bushes, birds, animals and flowers stylize them in ornaments and combine them into complete compositions.



Brown is used in a wide range of shades. It is believed to bring warmth, health and connection to the Earth.



Red brings strength, determination, challenge, masculinity and money.



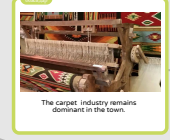
The white color is an expression of the divine and the spiritual and brings purity and light to the carpet.



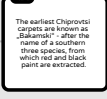
The Chiprovtsi carpet is a type of handmade carpet, with 2 completely identical sides.



Green color - Walnut (Juglans regia), Maderni (Berula), Nettle (Urtica dioica), Tenge of Zelenika (Viviana).



The carpet industry remains dominant in the town.



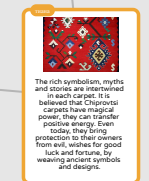
The earliest Chiprovtsi carpets are known as "Salsinski" after the name of a southern tree species, from which red and black paint are extracted.



The first carpets were in only two colours - red and black.



The basic colours are yellow, brown, red, blue and green.



The rich symbolism, myths and stories are intertwined in each carpet. It is believed that Chiprovtsi carpets have magical power. They can transfer positive energy. Even today they bring inspiration to their owners from evil, wishes for good luck and fortune, by weaving ancient symbols and designs.



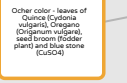
In 2014, the Chiprovtsi carpets were included in the World Representative List of Elements of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO.



From the end of the 19th century until today is the third period of Chiprovtsi carpets, called ornamental. The change in the way of life of the urban population encourages weavers to expand the use of the color range on the original motifs.



Blue color - Indigo (Indigofera tinctoria, Indigofera suffruticosa), flowers of SinchostCentauria cyanus).



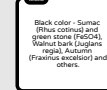
Other color - leaves of Quince (Cydonia vulgaris), Cragano (Cragnum vulgare), seed brom (Brodar plant) and blue stone (CuSO4).



Pink color - flowers of Sandine (Paeonium officinale), green stone (FeSO4), flowers of wild poppy (Papaver rhoeas), branches of blue plum (Prunus domestica) and others.



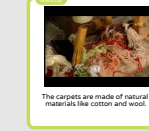
Yellow color - decoction of milkweed (Euphorbia cyparissias), yew bark (Taxus baccata), Plum (Prunus domestica) and others.



Black color - Sumac (Rhus cotinus) and green stone (FeSO4), Walnut bark (Juglans regia), Autumn (Fraxinus excelsior) and others.



Of the dyes of animal origin most commonly used for home painting are cochineal and cuttlefish.



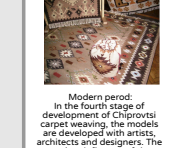
The carpets are made of natural materials like cotton and wool.



Brown color - decoction of walnut pods, green leaves and shells (Juglans regia), Hawthorn (Crataegus), roots of Gal (Quercus cerris), elder bark (Alnus glutinosa).



In Chiprovtsi many things from everyday life have been formed on the basis of carpets.



Modern period: In the fourth stage of development of Chiprovtsi carpet weaving, the models are developed with artists, architects and designers. The modern influence of the modern interior already appears here.



The British royal family, legendary actor Jagger, Harry Potter, dukas and counts from major families - all they sleep on unique Bulgarian carpets. Thirty Bulgarian female weavers from the town of Kostandino, 15 km from Veliko Tarnovo, Southern Bulgaria, demonstrate amazing skills that have opened to them the doors of the busy European markets.