

BROCADE' (Sp. *brocado*, It. *broccato*; cf. Fr. *brocher*, to stitch, embroider). A woven fabric of silk on which figures are formed by the threads of the warp or filling being raised so as to produce the required pattern. Brocades have long been manufactured in Oriental countries, and in Europe since the thirteenth century. The earlier and richer brocades were composed in part of gold and silver threads, and the name is often applied to the simplest silk fabrics thus enriched.