H. S. M. Coxeter and Tony Bomford's Colored Hyperbolic Rugs

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Tony Bomford (1/17/1927 – 5/10/2003), geodesist and polymath.



Rug #1, a commercial design: "Kabistan 2295" by Paton & Baldwin.



Rug #10, a tiling based on Penrose's "Kites and Darts".



Bomford's first inspiration from an article by Coxeter: M.C. Escher's hyperbolic pattern *Circle Limit IV* in the chapter *Angels and Devils* of The Mathematical Gardner.



Rug #12: Hyperbolic Spiderweb.



Rug #13: Hyperbolic Lagoon.



The tessellation $\{6,4\}$.

In general $\{p,q\}$ denotes the *regular tessellation* by regular *p*-sided polygons meeting *q* at a vertex.

The tessellation is hyperbolic if (p-2)(q-2) > 4.



Rug #15: Squares and Pentagons.



The tiling (5.4.5.4) (bold lines) superimposed on the tessellations {5,4}.

In general one can obtain the semi-regular (or uniform) tiling (p.q.p.q) from the tessellation $\{p,q\}$ by connecting midpoints of adjacent sides of the p-sided polygons.

A *color symmetry* of a pattern is a symmetry of the uncolored pattern that permutes the colors — taking all parts of one color to parts of another (possibly the same) single color.



Rug #12 (*Hyperbolic Spiderweb*) exhibits color symmetries.



Rug #15 (Squares and Pentagons) also exhibits color symmetries.

A pattern has *perfect color symmetry* if every symmetry of the pattern is a color symmetry.



Rug #16, *Triangles and Heptagons*, exhibits perfect color symmetry if we consider each "bright color" and its corresponding tan to be a single color.

Bomford's second inspiration from an article by Coxeter: Figure 10, an annotated (7.3.7.3) tiling in *Regular compound tessellations of the hyperbolic plane* in the Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, Series A 278 (1964).

Rug #17 exhibits the same kind of color symmetry as Rug #16 and is also based on the (7.3.7.3) tiling.

Some corresponding triangles in Rug #17 whose tan corresponds to the blue around the central heptagon.

A "missed" inspiration from an article by Coxeter: Figure 8, an annotated (5.4.5.4) tiling in *Regular compound tessellations of the hyperbolic plane* in the Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, Series A 278 (1964).

A rug design based on Coxeter's Figure 8 and having the same kind of color symmetry as Bomford's Rugs 16 and 17.

Future Work

Make the hooked rug shown in the last slide!