

Line Art Making Method Made from Batik Patchwork

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ABSTRACT This research is based on the entrepreneurship program that recycles batik patchworks to be a line artwork to increase its economic value and also to reduce the inorganic waste. The line art made from batik patchwork can be done either by cutting or spiraling method. This article aims to explain the comparison of both methods applied in this program. The research was conducted under a qualitative method with direct observation, process documentation and in-depth interview with the craftsmen. Based on the data obtained, it can be concluded that each method has its positive and negative aspects. The cutting method exposes the batik motif as the aesthetic point of the two-dimensional artwork. Meanwhile, the spiraling method results in three-dimensional texture. However, the batik patchwork was spiraled then it hides the batik motif and only shows the color of the patchwork.

Key Words: batik patchwork, line art, spiraling method, the cutting method

INTRODUCTION

The textile waste is categorized as inorganic since it cannot be decomposed. If burnt, the textile garbage will create poisonous smoke and gas degrading the environment. Such a condition leads to an issue, as presented by the 2011 data, textile waste is ranked 4th among the biggest waste percentage, which is 6,36% in terms of weight, 5,1% of volume and 3-5% in terms of annual raise (Susilo & Karya, 2012). The waste includes small pieces of fabric from the convection industry. Most tailors discard them. However, for creative people, they can be altered to be into ready-to-use products with good price.

Some of them have interesting patterns, especially the ones with batik motifs. The fabric with such patterns owns an aesthetic point when it is recycled into a new product. By creating it aesthetically, it shall receive higher economic value. Such a phenomenon leads to the presence of patchwork craftsmanship. This industry can be operated with minimal or even without any capital. It is because the craftsmen use waste that is commonly considered as of no value, but they can make a living out of it (Rahayu, 2016 and Sunarno, 2014).

There are many creative industries recycling the textile waste into new products such as brooches, bags, wallets, praying carpets, mats, bedcovers and also as the main soundproofing material and furniture. Those products prove that a patchwork industry has a selling point. However, the craftsmanship to deal with textile waste as the most important aspect of line artwork has not been available yet.

Compared to other products, line art production needs less textile but can be sold at a higher price because of its aesthetical value. Moreover, there is a rapid development of digital artwork recently is. It includes the one that in the modern era can be made digitally in monochrome in pure black lining without any variations. It may be the reason why line art is gradually replaced by the WPAP and vector from the 1990s which have more varied and colorful appearance. Therefore, it is necessary to improve it with an aesthetic touch using affordable material that can lead to patchwork exploration as the main aspect of line artwork.

LITERATURE REVIEWS

a. Patchwork method applied in current craftsmanship

There are many methods that can be applied in reusing textile waste. Wisesa and Nugraha (2015) use the knot technique by twisting each other the string and joining the patchwork in a variety of color and pattern, a winding technique for making accessories such as necklace, bracelet. Some use the joined patchwork for furniture (Susilo & Karya, 2012), bag (Rahadjeng et.al., 2015), brooch (Anggarini, n.d. and Risqiana n.d.), doll and souvenir (Haryanto and BP, 2016), quilt and looper (Purwaningrum 2011) and clothes (Ramadhan, 2016). Noviandri and Harjani (2016) cut and roll the patchwork to make sound-proofed partition.

b. Line Art

Line art means the artwork of lines made by a straight and curvilinear line that present contrast with the background color without gradation effect, shadowing or coloring. Basically, it is a product of

digital vector made by computer application (Corel draw or photoshop) as it makes the tracing process of the original image easier (kamusinternasional.com). Fu, Zhou, Liu, and Mitra (n.d.), state that line art is a popular art form, and widely used for illustrations, caricatures, cartoons, etc.

Before the development of photography and halftones, line art is a standard form that is used for printed publication presented in black (of ink) and white (of paper). The less appearance of color and shadow makes the audience focus on the line itself (mymodernmet.com). Kang, Lee dan Chui (n.d.) use the line art approach as a nonphotorealistic rendering technique. It automatically generates a line drawing from a photograph by setting a coherent, smooth, and stylistic line that effectively capture and convey important shapes in the image. However, Elber (n.d.) suggests that line art is not only made based on the image. The shadow, texture pattern and shadowing can be added.

c. Spiraling and cut method applied

Jumaeri (1977 in Purwantiningsih and Nahari, 2015: 45) states that a spiraling method can be done by rolling the textile to make it compact and strong. Meanwhile, a cutting method is conducted by cutting the fabric based in such a way and gluing it based on the design made.

PROBLEM STATEMENTS

As the research is based on the activity that applies the new approach in patchworking, it is necessary to discuss the effectiveness of both methods. Hence, this article is aimed at explaining the comparison of spiraling and cutting methods and their application in line art making.

METHODOLOGY

The article is based on the research that is conducted under a descriptive qualitative method. It compares the application of the spiraling and cutting methods in line art-making as the methods are considered an innovation in the area. The data were collected by interviewing the craftsmen as well as conducting an experimental process, a survey and a close observation. The primary data were then supported by the secondary data gained from the literature and online browsing.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The initial process of line art making might be similar to any other crafts made of patchwork. It is started by choosing the pieces of batik textile as the main material based on its pattern considering the color, the texture, and the form. It is continued by making the line art on a base, which can be done manually or digitally. Then fill the line art design

with patchwork. The filling process will be discussed later in this section. After finishing the filling process, then the line artwork is framed.

As mentioned above, the filling process as the focus of this article can be done by two methods; the spiraling and the cutting methods.

a. The spiraling method

This method is applied by cutting the textile on 1-2 cm width; the smaller the dimension, the thinner the textile rope created. The cut textile then is rolled tightly to form a rope. After that, it can be glued to the line art pattern. The point of interest using method is the three-dimensional effect created by the thickness of the textile rope. Moreover, since it is in the form of flexible material, it can easily follow the line art pattern. The weakness of this method is that it consumes more time for rolling process before filling the pattern. Besides that, as the batik textile is rolled, the pattern cannot be clearly presented.



Figure 1. Spiraled patchwork

b. The cutting method

This method is applied by tracing the batik textile following the line or silhouette design of the line art. The traced pattern then cut and glued based on the line art design. The point of interest using this method is that the batik pattern can appear and add the aesthetic value of the artwork. As it only needs cutting and gluing process, it only consumes less time than the previous method. The weakness of this method is that the line art only appears in flat twodimensional work.



Figure 2. Cutting method

CONCLUSION

The application of patchwork in the line art making can be done in two methods; the spiraling and the cutting methods. Both of them have their strengths and weaknesses. The spiraling presents an organic line that appears three-dimensional and flexibly follows the line art pattern. However, the fabric rolling process in the method hides the batik pattern. On the other side, the cutting method presents the batik pattern as its aesthetic point, the one that can not be fulfilled by the previous method. It can be done in less time than the spiraled method.



Figure 3. Final result of spiraling patchwork (left) and cutting patchwork (right)

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