

## *Crafts, professions of excellence*

### **BLUEPRINT**

**Related professional: František Joch**

**Workshop : Blueprint František Joch**

Blueprinting is a traditional technique of printing on textiles. The fabric is characterised by its dark blue colour and white ornamentation. Since the end of the 18th century, blueprinting has been used for sewing folk costumes in Horace and Wallachia. In the 19th century, a small blueprint workshop could be found in every town, but in the second half of the 19th century these small workshops were replaced by textile factories using direct printing. Today, there are two workshops in the Czech Republic: in Olešnice na Moravě (since 1816) and in Strážnice (founded in 1906). Since 2014, the blueprint technique has been included in the list of national intangible assets of traditional folk culture of the Czech Republic.



**What are the skills and expertise of craftsmen in this profession?**

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Working with paints, dexterity, logical thinking, mathematical skills (application of chemicals and to the dimensions of the fabric), creativity, printing skills, business skills.



## What materials are used in this craft? Are they local materials?

The materials used are: cotton cloth, reservation paste which consists of kaolin and gum Arabic. This paste is applied to the blueprint mould on which the designs are made, but they are not visible to the eye once printed on the cloth. The fabric is then immersed in a vat of indigo and lime and pulled out. After a few minutes it begins to turn blue and beautiful patterns appear on it, which are protected from the paint by the reserve paste.

## What specific tools are used in the craft?

Wooden moulds, a substance called pop (kaolin and gum arabic).

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**What markets are associated with these professions?**

Fashion accessories and art.

**Describe how the craft is involved in the markets offered above.**

This craft is historically linked to the printing industry, the creation of clothing and the related tourism industry or home design (upholstery) or motifs for backpacks and sneakers.

**What other sectors are these crafts linked to or can work with?**

Tourism, cultural heritage.

**If this profession disappears, which other professions or sectors may suffer?**

Cultural heritage of a unique craft supporting local tradition and visual identity.

**Is there a formal education available to teach this craft in your country/region?**

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Primary Art School Uherské Hradiště (www.zusuh.cz),

Youth Home at the Polytechnic Secondary Industrial School and Vocational Training Centre Zlín (domovmladeze.spspzlin.cz)

**There is no guild, but only two family-owned companies that own the above-mentioned companies:**

Danzinger family - <https://www.modrotisk-danzinger.cz/>

Skácel Family - <https://www.straznicky-modrotisk.cz/>

Moravian Beauty Foundation - <https://moravskakrasa.cz/cs/blog/lektorka-kurzu-malovanych-satu-z-modrotisku>



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