

Chendamangalam Dhoti

Background:

Chendamangalam is a village of handloom weavers in the western Parur region of Ernakulam district in Kerala. The historical relevance of Chendamangalam handlooms is intertwined with that of "Paliath Achans". Chendamangalam Dhotis are renowned for the traditional design and production values. These dhotis are made from the best and fine quality of 60s, 80s, and 100s cotton yarn with Kasavu (zari) border.

Material used:

The basic raw materials used for the weaving of Chendamangalam Dhoties are fine count cotton yarn and Kasavu (zari).

Techniques applied:

The specialty of the Dhoti lies in preparation of warp thread by street sizing. The warp threads become almost round and uniform in shape after sizing so that the Dhoti has very clear surface without any protruding fibers on it. Borders are patterned with Kasavu (zari). The cross border of the dhoti is woven with Kasavu by employing rib weave.

How to distinguish genuine Chendamangalam Dhoti:

- Dhoti is woven with undyed grey cotton yarns.
- Design appears very prominently on Kasavu both side border and cross border.
- Basic texture i.e, thread density of the fabric is higher than that of similar cotton dhotis.
- Less starchy finish in the saree to get softer touch.

