

Khipu Codes

Common abbreviations used in recording khipu data.

Attachment

R	recto
V	verso

Beginning (of Primary Cord)

B	broken
D	doubled
K	knotted
NB	needlework bundle
WB	wooden bar
X	affixed to other cord
T	twisted
TL	tassel//borla

Color Patterning Codes

-	barber pole	Two or more colors twisted together.
:	mottled	Multiple colors are spun together to create the cord, resulting in an irregular mottled appearance.
%	with element...	Cord is primarily one color, with one element of another color run through it.

Khipu Codes

Common abbreviations used in recording khipu data.

Cord Types

PA	loop pendants	Pendant strings affixed to the primary cord at both ends.
M	marker	Tassels, small strings, needlework bundles, or other miscellanea attached to primary cord.
K	knot	Used to denote knots on the primary cord.
TPA	top loop pendant	A loop pendant which "hangs" in the opposite direction from the majority of other pendants

Fiber Types

A	alpaca	
L	llama	
CN	cotton	
W	wool	Sheep's wool
V	vegetal	Plant fiber
CL	camelid: llama or alpaca	
CC	cotton & camelid	
CW	cotton & wool	
X	indeterminable	Fiber classification cannot be determined
H	human hair	
AH	animal hair	

Knot Types

L	long	Used for unit values 2 - 9
E	figure eight	Used for 1
S	single	Denote 10's or multiples of 10 (100, 1,000, etc)

Cord Terminations

B	broken
C	cut
R	ravelled
K	knotted
D	doubled
U	unfinished

Structure Types

P	plied cord
B	braid
W	wrapped cord