



白 織

bái

.white.

.clear.

.wrongly-
written.

.mis-

pronounced.

.in vain.

zhi

.crochet.

.knit.

.weave.

The design depicted is the end result of an activity aimed to generate an atmosphere of bonding through the engagement in an ostensibly pointless task. The design consists of a tapestry of the dimensions of approximately 50x70cm, constructed using strands of toilet paper woven together using a crochet method. Users of the design will acquire a set of instructions, tools and materials to manufacture their own tapestries, with the construction of tapestries intended as a group activity. The design itself contains no function beyond the experience of the manufacturing process itself and its existence as an item of art.

The most significant aspects of this design in relation to Chapman's framework are the principles of detachment and attachment. Detachment from the material is the first experience the user encounters upon acquiring the design. Handling a material of refuse, usually found in situations rarely regarded as artistic endeavors, the user begins to construct the design.

As the easy task progresses, the user may start to form an attachment to the material and the project, by virtue of the pleasant, meditative experience of the simple task, particularly if performed in a group setting. Through occupying the hands and the experience of the manufacture as a social process in a group, this design is particularly intended for users experiencing anxiety or depression - the simplicity of the task in conjunction with the social environment is likely to be conducive to an experience of momentary mental tranquility, beneficial to the user. As the construction of the tapestry is somewhat challenging, the experience of learning together may also function as a bonding process. In the engagement in this task, the user is encouraged to consider the vanity and futility of their task - creating an object of high fragility using a by-and-large worthless material via a time consuming method - and thus come to the conclusion that the idea behind the design is the generation of the experience of its construction, rather than the assembly of an object of utility or particular artistic ingenuity.

The design is produced using a large size toilet paper roll, as commonly found in public restrooms. The toilet paper is rolled between the hands to create one long strand of material, which is then woven into a tapestry. The production of the strand is time-consuming - the strand used in the design was manufactured within one week, in the space of approximately 35 hours. The length of the strand determines the size of the tapestry: The design depicted was constructed using most of one roll of paper. Upon completion, the design retains only the function of an item of art. Special care needs to be taken to ensure the longevity of the design - tossed in a corner the design will quickly degrade through exposure to dust and dirt. Even displayed, particular care needs to be taken to ensure the design is not subject to water damage or other deterioration. If destroyed, the design is quick to degrade, easily burnt, buried or dissolved, with no environmental impact.

