

# The creation process of Amami Oshima Tsumugi

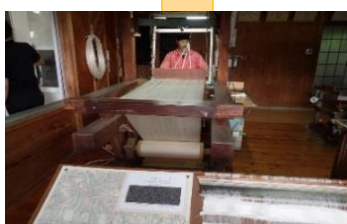
## 本場奄美大島紬の製造工程

The creation process of Oshima Tsumugi consists of many complicated steps. Let's take a look at the process below! (大島紬の製造工程は非常に複雑で多くの作業があります。簡単に説明すると以下の通りです。)



### ① Designing the pattern 図案製作

First, the colors of the threads are chosen based on the graph paper pattern of the original design. (原図デザインを基に方眼紙に糸の色指定などをします。)



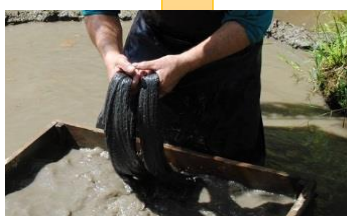
### ② Binding 締め加工

Then, the "Shime-bata loom" is used to tighten the silk threads with cotton threads to make "Kasuri-Mushiro". (「締め機」という織り機を使い、絹糸の染めない部分を木綿糸で締めて「かすりむしろ」を作る作業。)



### ③ Techigi dyeing テーチ木染め

Next, this kasuri-mushiro cloth undergoes a dyeing process using a water dye made from the "Techigi tree". This process is done 20 or more times. (糸や「かすりむしろ」をテーチ木 (シャリンバイ) という木の煮汁で20回以上染めます。)



### ④ Mud dyeing 泥染め

The cloth is then transferred to a nutrient rich mud field to cause a permanent color change. Steps 3 and 4 are repeated several times until the cloth is black. It will be dyed about 80 times. (次に糸を鉄分の多い泥田で染めます。③と④の工程を4回繰り返します。つまり合計80回ぐらい染めをします。)



### ⑤ Processing 加工

Then to achieve the desired appearance, some cotton threads are removed so the silk threads may be dyed to match the specific color in the design. (「かすりむしろ」から木綿糸を取り除き、模様に合わせて染料をしみこませます。)



### ⑥ Weaving 機織り

Finally, the fabric is carefully woven to match the pattern. Fine checking is performed every 8 cm where threads are adjusted to ensure accuracy and consistency. (経糸 = たていと、緯糸 = よこいとの様を合わせながら織ります。約7-8センチ織るごとに針で1本1本微調整をして、細かい模様を合わせていきます。)

(協力: 本場奄美大島紬協同組合、奄美大島紬村)