

# Research on the Application of Traditional Materials in Furnishing Design

hongyi Li \*

Geely University of China, Chengdu, Sichuan 610000, China.

---

**Abstract:** With the development of China's economy and culture, people's aesthetic level and aesthetic requirement keeps improving, The concept of "Decoration is more important than decoration" becomes more and more popular, people attach more and more importance to furnishing style and material application. In particular, the proportion of soft decoration in the whole furnishing is getting bigger and bigger. At the same time, with the development of globalization, China's international standing has been constantly strengthened, we need to become more confident on our culture.

Also, there are more and more people pay attention to the China traditional folk art and traditional folk material. The designer should not only learning Modern design style, but also look for design style and decoration material fit for China from traditional culture.

**Keywords:** Furnishing; Traditional; Materials1. Background and significance of the research

---

## 1. Current

### 1.1 Background of the research

Recently, With the continuous development of China's economy and politics, people's material living standard has been rapidly improved, and people's consumer demand has risen to the spiritual level from the material level, they are no longer only satisfy with the daily basic needs, they pay more attention to the pursuit of culture and spirit. In the modern society, design is constantly improving, and the interior design industry is also constantly improving. Especially in the First-tier and second-tier cities which have better culture and economics, people's demand on environment keeps raising. That gives more meaning to decoration, which includes the respect of nature, the importance and necessity of furnishing, the application of traditional material and the responsibility of protecting our environment<sup>[1]</sup>.

### 1.2 Significance of the research

Furnishing design has been born more than a century years ago. From the furnishing design of The Red House in the Arts & Crafts Movement to the different design system in different countries, furnishing are more suitable for consumers' demand on the size and shape design of the space than Interior Finish. The traditional material has been more and more important in contemporary China. China advocates the cultural confidence. More and more designers start to use traditional materials in interior design, which can not only Highlight the theme style, but also can protect the environment.

## 2. Summarize of furnishing design

### 2.1 The concept of furnishing design

Interior design is based on the living environment and living style demand of the householders. Designer uses the technology and principles of architectural design to create a reasonable, comfortable and convenient residence. Interior design usually has two parts, interior finish and furnishing. The furnishing is more changeable than interior finish. Designer can change the space theme with change of furnishing in short time.

### 2.2 Features of furnishing design

Designer often make personal furnishing design plan according to the size and shape of the space, the living habit and interest of the owner, which can embody the Aesthetic taste of the owner. Because furnishing design can be changed easily, it is more acceptable for people. They can change it with new element anytime than interior finish. The furnishing

### 2.3 The function of furnishing

The division of interior space is used to meet people's psychological needs, which can make the hierarchies of the interior space richer and people can have more private space. Because of the variability and malleable of the furnishing, it has been widely used. The division of space usually contains three purposes: firstly, it is to protect the building and its power, water and gassupplies.

---

Copyright © 2020 hongyi Li

doi: 10.18282/1-e.v9i4.1726

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>), which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Secondly, it can decorate the living environment. For example, we can use a screen at the entrance and make a beautiful lamp pool. Thirdly, it can meet the demand of special functions of some space and create a private space belonging to users.

### 3. Summarize of furnishing materials

#### 3.1 Classification of soft decoration materials

(1) According to the different classification of the furnishing material: they can be divided into natural furnishing materials, precision-machined furnishing materials, and man-made furnishing materials<sup>[2]</sup>.

Natural furnishing materials generally include fur and plant. Green design and environmental design is advocated these years. Natural furnishing materials in the house can make people feel close to nature, thus it is very popular and widely used. But it has some defect. It is not durable, and it can also hurt people with improper use. Precision-machined furnishing materials are from artificial works, for example, bed sheet and curtain made of silk.

They conform to people's aesthetic pursuit better and they are also widely used in life. Man-made furnishing materials are durable and they have properties as follows: fire proof and sound absorption, but it lacks of environmental feature<sup>[3]</sup>.

(2) According to the different classification of functions: it can be divided in two kinds of materials, usefulness materials and decoration materials. The curtain, sofa and so on show the function of decoration. The carpet and wallpaper show the function of usefulness<sup>[4]</sup>.

#### 3.2 Summarize of traditional materials

Traditional furnishing materials embody the texture of materials. There is a variety of texture and material in the nature. Traditional furnishing materials can make users feel close to nature and also make people comfortable<sup>[5]</sup>.

##### 3.2.1 Wood

China is particularly rich in wood resources. It has about 10,000 species of higher plants, accounting for about one third of the total in this country, and more than 4,500 species of resource plants, including more than 3,200 species of medicinal plants, 220 species of fiber plants and 150 species of tannic plants. There are many kinds of plants in Sichuan, and they are distributed in different regions, so wood is widely used in buildings<sup>[6]</sup>.

##### 3.2.2 Bamboo

Bamboo is strong, resistant, soft, straight, corrosion resistant. In ancient times, people often used bamboo to build huts and divide interior space. With the cultural demand of returning to simplicity, bamboo is increasingly used as decoration. Bamboo has color of the light and natural shape, so it is often made in windows and doors. Interior furnishings are often made of bamboo, and it is used for interior division and artwork display. Bamboo is natural material and has good functions, such as it grows fast, can purify the air and reduce noise.

##### 3.2.3 Brick

Brick has been widely used in Sichuan. It is tough, durable, thick and fit for natural environment. Brick has delicate texture and characteristics. It is made from firing clay. It can strengthen the relationship between man and nature, and because it is hard, thick and easy to get, it is usually used to construct the place to provide shelter and to build houses. At the same time, brick material itself is the calm, and tough temperament is in line with the Chinese cultural connotation and the pursuit of quality and spiritual needs of the Chinese people.

##### 3.2.4 Tile

Because of the fragile characteristics of the tile, it is often used in the roof to provide shelter. The neat tile is stacked in accordance with its shape. The tile can closely connect with each other. Thus it can form an overall compression surface.

### 4. Conclusion

With the continuous development of society and people's spiritual needs, materials in furnishing will keep developing. Furnishing industry also will continue to upgrade and improve. Although furnishing material has certain shortcomings and disadvantages, it can improve with the development of science and technology. there will be more and more furnishing materials meet people's aesthetic demand. People will also pay more attention to the protection of environment. The concept of people foremost will continue in this industry<sup>[7]</sup>.

As China continues to pay attention to traditional culture, furnishing design will keep using traditional materials and traditional forms. We sincerely hope that the research on traditional materials will become better and better in the future.

### References

- [1] Bamboo and Chinese Garden. Jinsha. Journal of Bamboo Research. Journal of Bamboo Research. 1993, (1).
- [2] Analysis of the historical process of Chinese interior decoration. Wang Wei. Journal of Chongqing University of Science and Technology. 2008, (4).
- [3] Resort hotel design. Li Renjing. China Water Resources and Hydropower Press. 2011.
- [4] Hotel design methods and manuscripts. Wang Qiong. Liaoning Science and Technology Press. 2007.
- [5] A resort approach to "leisure business". Adrian Smith. The Hong Kong Polytechnic International Press. 2016.
- [6] Soft decorative materials and their construction technology. Jiang Yihan. Sichuan Science and Technology. 2000, (1).
- [7] Interior decoration materials and applications. Li Dong. Southeast University. 2005.