# Application of Chinese Traditional Edge Pattern in Modern Design

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Chinese traditional Abstract: edge decoration pattern is an important part of decorative art, bearing rich aesthetic value cultural connotation. The form characteristics of traditional edge decoration patterns and the auspicious characteristics contained meaning different studied. periods are the application carrier of traditional edge decoration patterns is analyzed, and the design key points of traditional edge ornaments in modern design are summarized, so as to achieve the integration of traditional edge decoration elements and modern design and realize the inheritance development of traditional decoration patterns.

# **Keywords: Traditional Edge Decoration; Modern Design**

### 1. Overview of Traditional Edge Patterns

### 1.1 Common Classification of Trim Patterns

The edge decoration pattern generally refers to the edge pattern, which is mostly a strip pattern connected from end to end. The shape form and pattern composition usually change with the shape outline of the carrier [1]. The word in the arts and crafts of the edge decoration often refers to the "long and narrow strip pattern, mainly by unilateral, two or multi-continuous methods to form a variety of border patterns" [2]. China has a long history and has a profound cultural heritage. With the development of history and the evolution of different cultures, the traditional decoration patterns present a rich and colorful forms of expression. The traditional edge decoration patterns are based on mountains, rivers, plants, birds, animals, insects and fish, as well as social life, and are displayed in various forms after artistic processing by the people. The following is an overview of the common classification of traditional edge

decoration patterns: (1) geometric patterns: geometric patterns are famous for their simple shapes, and have been continuously used in all kinds of objects since the prehistoric period. Geometry lines as edge ornaments are mainly back lines, broken lines, beads and so on. Many geometric patterns do not directly use visible lines, but instead use them as bone patterns to form more complex patterns.(2) auspicious birds and animal patterns: from the creative inspiration of birds and animals. In addition, people also create animals that do not belong to nature according to myths and legends, giving them auspicious meaning. Such as dragon and phoenix lines represent power and dignity. Kirin represents the fortune, many children more blessing.(3) Plant patterns: Plant patterns are people visualized plants in nature and show a vivid image through the simplified treatment of lines and colors. Such as treasure phase flower pattern, pomegranate pattern, tangled branch pattern, etc.(4) Mire: with clouds as the theme, showing lightness, mystery and unpredictable beauty. The lines are smooth, delicate and elegant, rich in variation and layers, sometimes in combination with other patterns or patterns. Mire often adds a flowing and ethereal feel to the work [3].

### 1.2 Application of Traditional Edge Trim Pattern

Chinese traditional edge decoration patterns are widely used in various processes, and their application carriers are also diverse. In the embroidery process, often with silk thread, gold thread, silver wire and other materials, through the exquisite embroidery skills of the edge decoration pattern embroidery in the clothing collar, cuff lock edge, rich in uniform and rich effect. In the textile supplies such as carpet, embroidery is also widely used. Usually as the edge decoration lock edge, so that the work has a stronger sense of integrity and richness. In addition, the traditional edge decoration patterns will also be printed on the

edge of the cloth or clothing edges through the printing and dyeing process, the traditional edge decoration created by this process has a more unique sense of handwork and national characteristics. In the ceramic process, the edge patterns are mostly arranged around the porcelain, with the axis of the porcelain as the center, through drawing, carving and other techniques, the edge patterns are painted or carved on the surface of the ware. Most of these patterns appear at the edge, mouth edge or base of the ware to add its ornamental value. Furniture is a common application scene of traditional edge decoration patterns. In wooden furniture and palace furniture, you can often see carving, metal inlay, lacquer line edge inlay and other forms of edge decoration patterns, which enriches the shape and decorative effect of furniture. In the columns, doors and Windows and other parts of traditional ancient buildings, you can often see all kinds of traditional ornaments, giving Chinese architecture with unique aesthetic characteristics and historical and cultural connotation.

# 2. The Design Characteristics and Aesthetic Value of Traditional Edge Patterns

### 2.1 Design Features

(1) symmetrical balance design: the design of symmetrical balance is an important feature of traditional edge decoration patterns. Symmetry and balance are regarded as one of the important rules of the traditional Chinese pattern form beauty, which can bring the visual balance and the overall stability effect to the pattern. The symmetrical design is bounded by the center line and the central point, so that the pattern is symmetrical up and down or left and right. This design makes the pattern show a sense of order and stability, and makes the whole design more unified and beautiful. The balanced design, through the combination of different shapes, creates the upper, lower and right edge patterns, using the visual and psychological characteristics to balance the number and size of various elements to make the pattern more stable and coordinated. Compared with symmetrical design, balanced design can create a more dynamic and interesting picture effect and increase the visual tension of patterns.

(2) The composition is repeated cycle, rich

levels: the traditional edge decoration patterns are mostly two-sided continuous patterns, and there are also two or three overlapping two-square continuous and four continuous styles. The continuity and repeatability of the binary continuous pattern give it a sense of rhythm, creating a sense of rhythm through the repetition and arrangement of the elements, making the whole pattern look vivid and dynamic. By increasing the size, shape and color changes between the unit forms, the pattern is more colorful and full. The traditional edge decoration pattern pays attention to the coordination and organization between arrangement and change, emphasizes the unity of the overall pattern also does not lose the sense of hierarchy, showing the unique aesthetic characteristics of the pattern art.

### 2.2 Aesthetic Value

(1) Cultural symbols: traditional edge decoration patterns contain rich implied symbols, which are mainly divided into two forms: homophonic and borrowing. The homophonic meaning is a unique way of creation of Chinese art, which closely links the pattern form with the meaning of the text, reflecting the concept of "pictures must be intentional, meaning must be auspicious" [4]. For example, in the clothing, the Ruyi pattern as the edge of the clothing body. Ruyi pattern comes from "Ruyi". It is a kind of artifact held for pointing. It is often used in monks to preach Buddhist scriptures. The scriptures can be recorded on it to avoid forgetting."Ruvi" makes it with auspicious color and meaning [5], full of wisdom and interest. Homonymous pattern creation not only brings people visual enjoyment, but also cares about people's spiritual quality. The meaning of borrowing form conveys the meaning of patterns through the common points produced by people's universal cognition of a certain thing. For example, pomegranate and grapes have rich and full grains, symbolizing many blessings, and these traditional meanings are expressed in edge patterns with images and symbols, showing rich implication and cultural connotations.

(2) The era of traditional edge patterns: social existence determines social consciousness, and social development in different times affects the aesthetic requirements and creative trend of traditional edge decoration. Since the pre-Qin

period, various patterns and patterns have been widely appeared on the bronze ware, pottery and jade ware. These pattern lines are bold and rough, and the modeling is full of mysterious and solemn atmosphere. The representative bronze decoration is based on the creatures in various myths, such as Taotie, Kui dragon, phoenix and other animal patterns, with strong religious color. In the Qin and Han dynasties, the patterns became more delicate and complex, and the moire patterns gradually prevailed, and they experienced continuous innovation, showing the beauty of elegance and stretch. The ideological and cultural pattern of Confucianism, law, Taoism and Confucianism as the center has deeply influenced the edge decoration patterns of this period. During the Wei and Jin dynasties and the Southern and Northern Dynasties, Buddhist art influenced the development of decorative patterns. The pattern in the filling frame has become the mainstream form, and the decorative content is more vivid and elegant. During the Tang Dynasty, Baoxiang flower patterns began to become popular, reflecting the social prosperity and loose aesthetic style of the Tang Dynasty, and borrowed a large number of religious elements and foreign cultures, showing the characteristics of an open and inclusive society at that time. In the Song and Yuan dynasties, plant patterns such as broken flowers and tangled flowers became a trend, reflecting the pursuit of natural beauty and elegant aesthetic taste in the Song and Yuan society. The pattern of this period, yearning for nature and emphasizing freehand brushwork, reflects the further promotion of social humanistic spirit. In the Qing Dynasty, dragon patterns began to become popular, symbolizing the supremacy of imperial power. At the same time, flower patterns such as tangled flowers acted as an auxiliary, reflecting the combination of imperial power culture and folk art in the Qing Dynasty. The luxuriant and fine patterns of the Oing Dynasty reflected the aesthetic preference and technological level of the society at that time. To sum up, the decoration of each historical stage has its own unique style. and in the continuous development, various forms and expressive patterns, some deep meaning, some vivid images. China's traditional edge decoration patterns have been well inherited and developed in the development of generations.

The composition and richness and diversity of different edge decorations all show their unique aesthetic charm.

## 3. The Design Points of Edge Pattern in Modern Design

With the continuous development of society, Chinese traditional edge decoration patterns should also be developed in a new form in modern society. Modern edge patterns should extract the essence of traditional patterns in the decorative pattern design, and combine modern design methods and innovative artistic expression forms to make the traditional edge patterns more contemporary and aesthetic.

(1) The use of edge decoration pattern in modern design should focus on the extraction of its core elements, and combine the auspicious meaning contained in the edge decoration pattern with modern values. And the use of modern design techniques and innovative graphic art to reinterpret, to give it a stronger sense of The Times and aesthetic nature. This method emphasizes that the redesign of traditional trim should avoid simply copying or completely abandoning the traditional pattern, but should retain its fundamental essence on the basis modernization, so as to make the design more innovative and unique. On the basis of maintaining the traditional core elements, we should carry out modern reinterpretation, and use techniques such as geometry, decorative exaggerated deformation addition, reorganization to innovate, so as to shorten the distance between tradition and modernity, arouse the public's interest in traditional culture, and more meet the needs of modern design.

Take the "Concentric" medal of the 24th Beijing Winter Olympics as an example, its design was inspired by the concentric jade in ancient China, which symbolizes the harmony of heaven and earth. The medal has two sides of moire and ice stripes. Among them, the ice and snow pattern is to extract the traditional ice plum pattern for innovative design. The ice plum pattern, also known as ice crack plum blossom pattern, is a kind of pattern formed by the combination of ice crack and plum blossom pattern, which means noble and beautiful, and is a common pattern in ancient clothing, porcelain and architecture. The "ice" in the ice plum pattern fits with the ice and

snow theme of the Winter Olympics. The "plum" reconstitutes the snowflake elements, and the ice plum pattern is separated from the restrictions of the traditional meaning and upgraded to the ice and snow pattern. As a new edge pattern applied in the medal. This design is not only in line with the theme of the Winter Olympics, but also highlights the unique charm of traditional Chinese culture to the world.



Figure 1. Ice and Snow Lines on the 24th Beijing Winter Olympic Medal



Figure 2. Alibaba HP Body 3.0 Preheating Poster

(2) The color collocation of the traditional edge decorative pattern emphasizes the overall harmony and auspicious meaning. In terms of color collocation, the saturation and contrast of color are relatively low, in order to make the picture present a harmonious atmosphere. At the same time, the use of more auspicious symbol of color, such as red, yellow, etc., to give the traditional edge decoration festive atmosphere. In the modern edge decoration design, we can break through the shackles of traditional color collocation, use the color

matching with more modern sense and science and technology to express the traditional edge decoration, innovate the traditional edge decoration pattern in the color, and coruscate new brilliance.

Take the Alibaba HP body poster design in Figure 2 as an example. Alibaba HP launched the rare character library in 2023. In order to better promote the character library, the designer used the rare character map to let people see the picture and read. The poster uses the modern shape to express the meaning of rare characters, and combines the highly saturated folk culture color with the traditional edge decoration patterns, so as to produce the impact visual effect and give people a new visual experience while retaining the traditional style.

(3) At the same time, the carrier of the edge decoration pattern in modern design has also been updated. In the digital media carrier, the edge decoration pattern can be integrated into the mobile phone software interface, web frame or virtual reality scene, giving the traditional edge decoration pattern new vitality through dynamic and interactive design. For example, the dynamic border of curly grass lines in the Palace Museum's digital exhibition not only echoes and promotes traditional culture, but also enhances users' immersive experience when watching the digital exhibition. On the carrier of industrial products, traditional edge ornaments can be decorated with modern furniture, doors and Windows, railings and other items, giving these objects a unique modern artistic charm and aesthetic feeling. In the edge design of the product, embedded in the simplified geometric edge pattern, such as the minimalist variant of back pattern and moire. It can also highlight the collision between tradition and modernity through material contrast, and make decorative edges with acrylic materials.acrylic transparent material and bright color can make it coruscate new modern aesthetic feeling. The application of decorative frame products can make the traditional edge decoration patterns appear more in the modern daily life, making the traditional decorative patterns more integrated into the modern society.

#### 4.Conclusion

The pattern design in different historical periods in China reflects the cultural values

and aesthetic trends of the society. In the long history of our country, it has produced a rich variety of edge decoration patterns, and has been widely used in various processes. These traditional edge decoration patterns show the unique aesthetic taste and cultural connotation, which is worthy of being deeply explored and studied by modern designers. Designers can extract inspiring elements from the traditional patterns, decoration and provide inspiration for modern design innovation with modern design activities. Through the design and application of the traditional edge decoration, the content of the traditional edge decoration is expanded, and the expression form of the traditional edge decoration is enriched, and its beautiful spiritual core is deepened to better show the charm of the traditional edge decoration to the public.

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