

## **Zapotec Indian Weaving**

Zapotec Indian textiles are produced in Teotilan de Valle, a small village in the Oaxacan Valley of Southern Mexico. They are comprised primarily of cotton, wool, and some plant fibers and their bright and saturated colors are derived from the use of natural dyes, such as cochineal and nopal cacti. Textiles are completed within a family unit; with children tending the sheep and women carding, dyeing and weaving the finished product. Most design elements encompass pre-Hispanic antecedents, while others take inspiration from other contemporary American Indian groups and modern art.

The loom used is flat as opposed to the Navajo weaver, who uses an upright loom.

The Zapotec weavings are segregated in the shop as they are from Mexico.