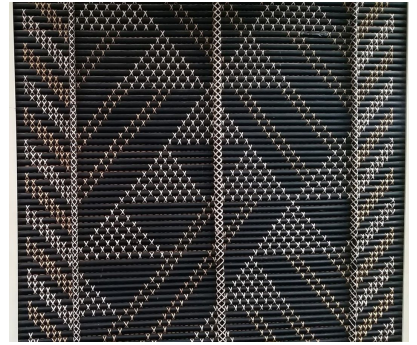


Tukutuku patterns

Tukutuku or arapaki is a type of ornamental weaving using reed latticework rather than threads. It is used mainly to adorn the inside walls of wharenui (meeting houses). The tukutuku panels are placed between the carved wall slabs of the wharenui, and, like the carvings, convey a complex language of visual symbols.



The meaning of the tukutuku panels:

Nga Hau E Wha - the four winds embrace all the tribes of the school

Taniko - the weavers

Patiki - fish of the Papakura Estuary

Whanaungatanga - relationships, the binding of together of people

Poutama Purapura Whetu Constellation - stairway to heaven - summa pete the highest level

Niho Taniwha - Guardian of the Tainui people

