node

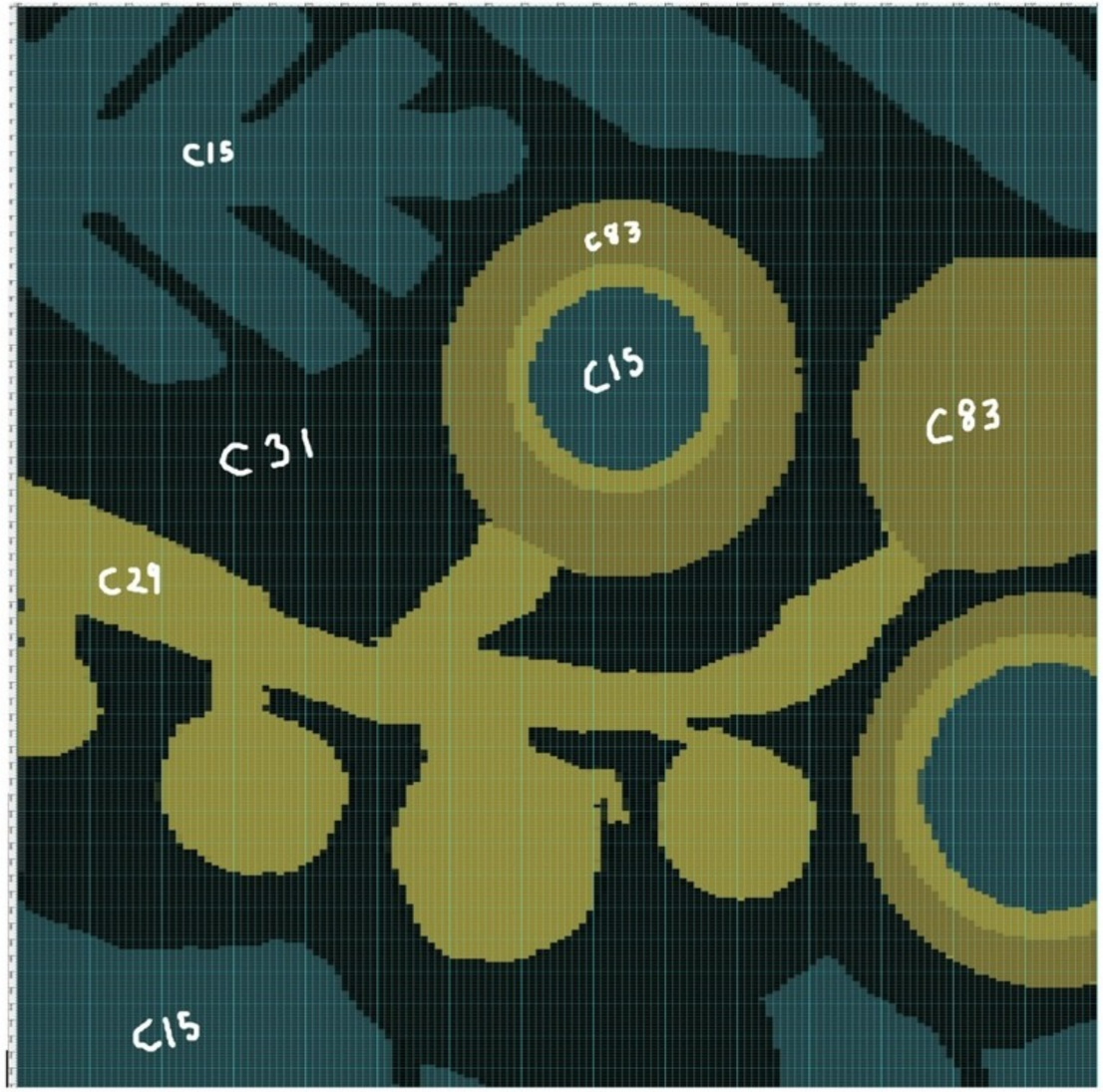
some guidelines

It's useful to treat this design similar to how you would design for a screenprint, simple block colours and shapes work well.

Please take a look at these pointers as a rough guide to help design your rug the best you can in whatever way of working you feel comfortable with, if you find this too technical please just email us the design and we can do it for you.

Our prices are

£250 for 60 knot
£350 for 100 knot



1. SIZE

You can create a rug of any size up to 5m x 5m.

We have found it is helpful to design with the individual carpet knots in mind.

In 100 knot there are 560 carpet knots per 1m of rug.

Therefore, a rug that measures 1m x 2m could be designed as a digital file of 560 x 1120 pixels.

For best results please make sure any line is at least 2 pixels wide to ensure lines wont 'disappear' (see the image on the right)

original

too low resolution...disappearing lines..

2. PIXEL x PIXEL

We can interpret artwork as carpet for you but for best results it may be helpful for you to design it as closely as possible to how it will appear as a rug.
That way you can specify your design almost pixel by pixel which can be exactly translated to individual carpet knots.

Here is a way to do this in Photoshop:

2. Set pixels to be 'aliased'

anti-aliased: pixels are a mix of white and black (shades of grey)

aliased: pixels are either white or black

To alias your file follow these 3 steps:

2a. preserve hard edges.
Photoshop Preferences: General: Image interpolation > preserve hard edges
This means if you resize an image it does not blur between pixels it keeps their color value integrity

2b. anti alias
Click off 'anti alias pixels' on the tool bar preferences

2c. individual pixels
Then use the pencil tool to colour individual pixels accurately

3. THRESHOLD

Its best to avoid gradients and subtle tones. You may break down the image very effectively by using 'threshold'

and limiting the amount of colours. Let us know if you need help with this.

As all this is woven by hand it isnt possible to do very complicated gradients.

Its best to try and design around that

original

a very basic two colour example

a finished rug that made use of 'thresholds'

4. COLOUR

Everything has been dyed by hand in our project.

The dyes are natural and it comes out quite earthy when combined with unbleached natural wool. It is worth bearing in mind that very vivid colours aren't possible in the traditional way our rugs are made.

If you want to do your design as you wish we can do a mock up of it in our toned down available colours and we will email it back for you to OK it or make changes

We can create Pantone colours to order but because of the natural processes involved colours do vary slightly (+/- 10%) For best results if you want to see your design accurately you can choose your colours from this colour range as they are tried and tested.

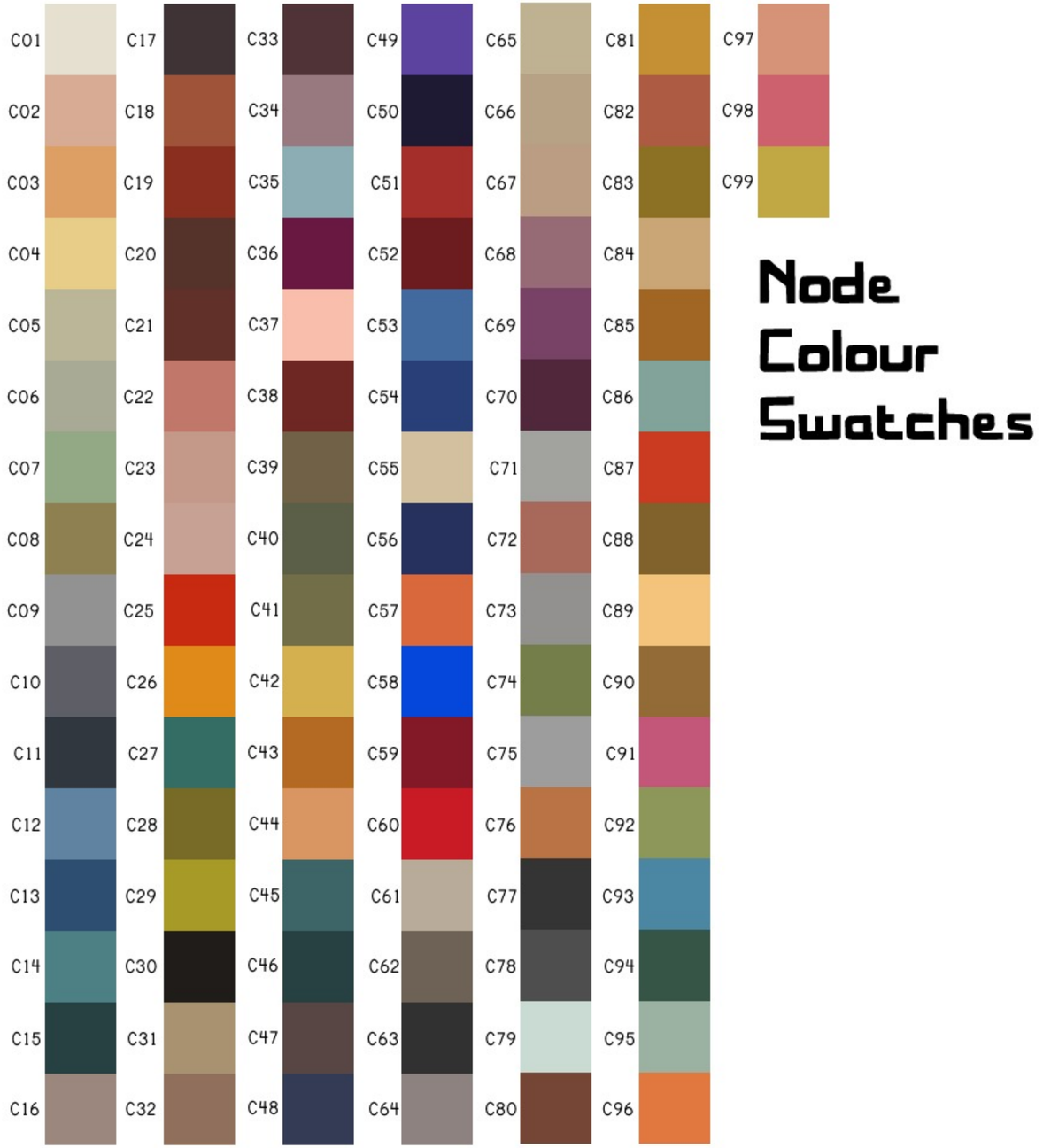
For ease we have created a colour swatch in Photoshop

(see the attachment with this email)

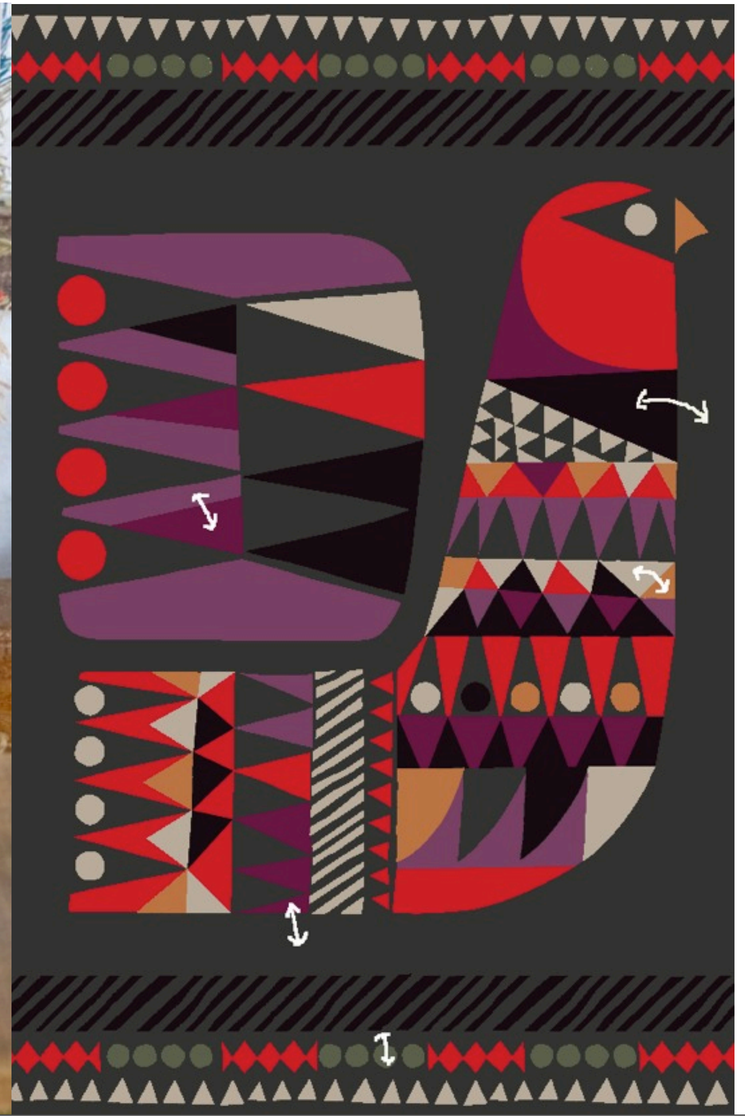
Load it as follows:

Save it in the folder:
Applications > Adobe Photoshop > Presets > Colour Swatches

Then to load in your swatches panel in Photoshop. Go to 'colour swatches'. In the top right of the panel click the pop out menu to load colour swatches.



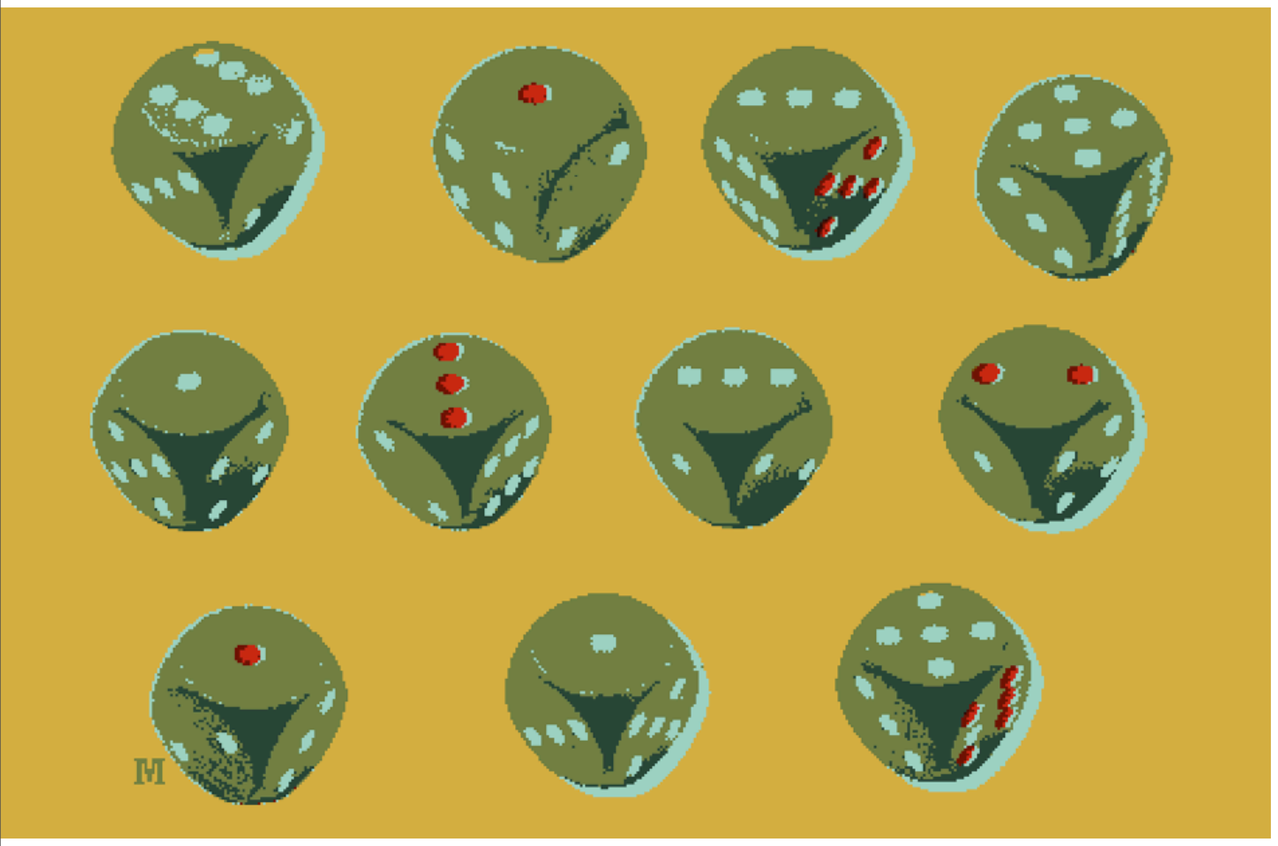
As the colours vary slightly its best to steer as clear as possible away from colours that may cause dis-harmony if they get them just a little wrong. if they are too similar to each other or if they could come close to clashing if the tones are a teeny bit off its best avoiding



To give you some idea of the different approaches we think would work nicely we've put together some artwork from others we have worked with. Please feel free to work in whatever way you feel most comfortable with and we can accommodate.

We're really excited to work with you. Thanks for helping grow this little fair trade project and we are looking forward to seeing your work as a rug.

chamo



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