

# R.E.D. project

## ROOTS OF THE EUROPEAN DESIGN RESEARCH

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# Sfilato siciliano

(Sicilian embroidery)

The Sicilian embroidery is dated from the late 14th century but established himself in Sicily in the '500 becoming very popular at the Lords in Italy and in the churches where it was used for sacred ornaments. Over the years the Sfilato joins the finest kit embellishing the Sicilian girls garments and lingerie, that were then passed on from generation to generation.

Sfilato still runs in some areas of Ragusa. There are so many different drawings represented: geometric, floral, allegorical and are used to decorate household linens, table cloths and vestments.

It runs only on very fine fabrics such as pure linen and regular pattern with very fine wires. It's possible to work by hand or on the frame. In addition to fabric and cotton yarn we must first use embroidery fine needles, thimble, scissors very sharp.

The technique consists in extracting three or four threads of the canvas, both from the warp and the plot and cover to create a drawstring with the wires, to form a grid that is the setting for a drawing.

The different processing steps are carried out depending on the skills that women have to work, it will pass, first, under the hands of the designer, than the "sfilatrice" (the one who will extract the threads), the seamstress and in the end the ironer.

