

The exhibition 'Linen fashion' presents the last production process carried out in the Linen Factory in Żyrardów, namely the stage of finishing, i.e. sewing and embroidering, during which the products acquired their final appearance. The main exhibits are several industrial sewing machines from the 1970s and 1980s including machines for decorative finishing of fabrics. Also on display there is an embroidery machine with a pattern copier and original embroidery patterns designed and made by the Central Laboratory of the Linen Factory in Żyrardów. The exhibition is enriched by showcases made of sewing tables, which contain, among others, original goods produced in the factory in Żyrardów as well as display boards presenting the manufactured goods and their distribution network and the awards won by the factory.

The exhibition 'Linen Fashion' opens the visit to the Linen Museum in Żyrardów, allowing you to get acquainted with ready-made goods, whose technological cycle of production has been presented at other exhibitions.

A GUIDEBOOK FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

If you are visiting the exhibition with a blind or visually impaired person, ask the Museum employee for a free guidebook printed in black and in Braille.

Visiting the exhibition

Monday
closed

Tuesday – Friday
10:00 – 15:00

Saturday – Sunday
11:00 – 18:00

*(open at weekends only from April
to the end of October)*

Guided tours require prior telephone contact



**Muzeum Lniarstwa
im. Filipa de Girarda w Żyrardowie**

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**LINEN
FASHION**

GUIDE TO THE EXHIBITION



Co-financed from the funds
of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
of the Republic of Poland from the Fund for
Promotion of Culture

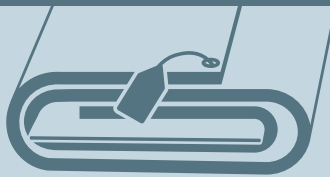


**Ministry of
Culture
and National
Heritage of the Republic
of Poland**



MUZEUM LNIARSTWA
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LINEN FASHION



INTRODUCTION

From the very beginning of the opening of the factory in Żyrardów, the goods produced there were considered to be of excellent quality. However, they gained their greatest fame at the end of the 19th century when the factory was recognised as the largest factory in Europe, becoming a monopolist on the linen market. With time, even the name 'Żyrardów' became a guarantee of the highest quality of products, design and aesthetics, as evidenced by numerous awards and medals received at international exhibitions and fairs. The reputation of the factory returned in the post-war period, when it produced mainly linen and linen-cotton fabrics, including jacquard fabrics. The factory offered a wide range of fabrics for clothing, decoration and upholstery, as well as serviettes, tablecloths.

After the closure of the Linen Factory in 1999, when a private company made an attempt to save the industry in Żyrardów and moved some of the machines to the building which now houses the Linen Museum, a sewing room was opened in this exhibition hall, which until 2012 enabled sewing bed linen, tablecloths, napkins or bags on site.

Step 1 - Variety of linen designs

In an illuminated display case there are colourful serviettes and tablecloths with screen prints, which were produced in the Linen Factory in Żyrardów (Zakłady Przemysłu Lniarskiego im. Rewolucji 1905 r.) in the second half of the 20th century. In this part of the exhibition, on one of the walls, wooden templates for making tablecloths are also presented.

Step 2 - Żyrardów linen inspires

Two sets of garments from the collection of women's clothing designed by, the well-known designer, Xymena Zaniewska were presented on mannequins. The collection was created at the beginning of the 21st century from fabrics produced in the factory in Żyrardów.

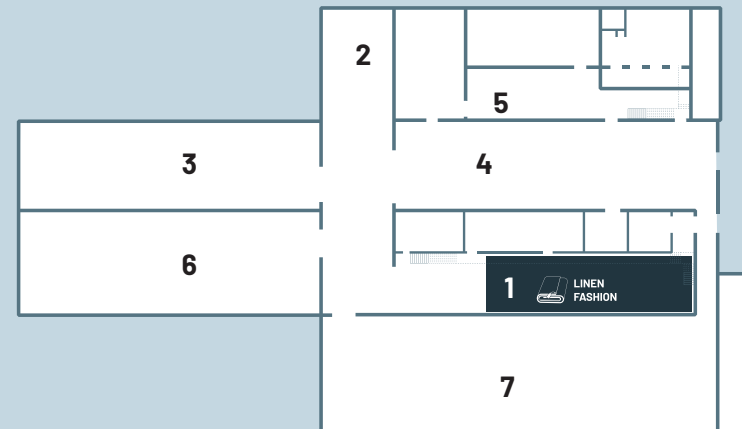
Step 3 - World distribution network of goods

On the exhibition board, a graphic map of the world is presented in a spatial manner, showing the distribution network of products from Żyrardów from the second half of the 20th century. Using linen yarn, a point on the map indicating Żyrardów was connected to the most important countries to which the goods were exported, including Japan, Australia, Canada and the USA.

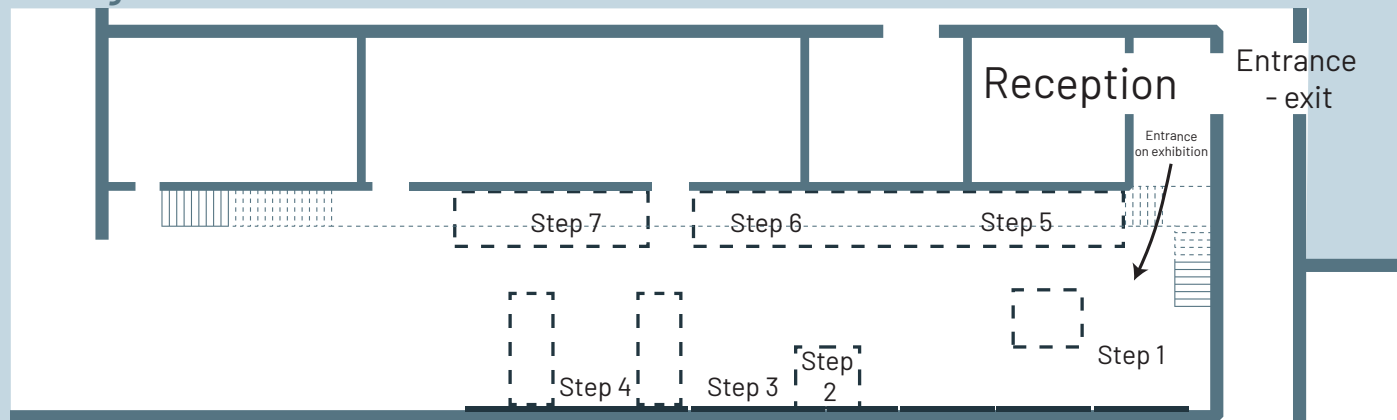
Location of the exhibition at the Linen Museum

The order of visiting the exhibitions:

1. Linen fashion
2. Żyrardów - the linen town
3. Spun into thread
4. Jacquard patterns
5. A thread linking the past with the present
6. The finished fabrics
7. Silkscreen & Textile



Visiting the exhibition 'Linen fashion'



— Exhibition information boards

- - - Showcases and machinery displays

Step 4 - The sewing department

This part of the exhibition presents eight original embroidery patterns, as well as pattern books of fabrics produced in the factory in the second half of the 20th century. On the other hand, in the illuminated display case, which was made of the original cutting table, there are bales with plain and jacquard fabrics, which were woven on looms being the exhibits at the Linen Museum.

Step 5 - Decorative stitching

Decorative machines were used for making decorative stitching, which was mainly used for finishing tablecloths or napkins. Here we can find a 'kroszetka' - the machine which creates specific chain stitching, as well as a machine making baratto stitching or a 'merezka' - the machine which creates openwork stitching called a 'merezka'.

Step 6 - Basic machines for finishing products

The lockstitch machines (stębnówki) presented at the exhibition are some of the most common sewing machines used for finishing products, allowing sewing with straight stitching, forming a single uninterrupted line. The next three machines were overlocks, which were used mainly for edging fabrics, creating elastic stitching.

Step 7 - Embroidery machine and a pattern copier

The embroidery machine was used by the Central Laboratory of the Linen Factory in Żyrardów to embroider one-coloured patterns on fabrics in order to check them before putting them into industrial production. It was equipped with a tape pattern reader, which allowed you to control the machine and embroider a particular pattern written on the tape. The pattern copier, on the other hand, was used for making tape patterns with the pattern programmed in the form of small punched holes.

Thank you for visiting the exhibition!