

Who was William Morris?

William Morris was the son of a wealthy business man. He was born in 1834.

He was originally a priest then decided to being an artist instead

His career started when he decorated his own house in London.

He designed furniture, fabric, stained glass windows, tapestries and patterned wallpaper.

A famous quote of his was 'Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful.' - William Morris.

William Morris was most famous for the development of patterned wallpaper. Before his time wallpapers were very plain, his designs were very bold. William was inspired by plants and flowers and his wallpaper reflected this.

William made designs of floral patterns that could be repeated many times by block printing techniques. This was done on large pieces of paper to produce patterned wallpaper. The process was later improved through technology using printing machines and synthetic inks.

Glossary

Technique - A way of carrying out a particular task.

Technology - The application of scientific knowledge for practical purposes.

Synthetic - Made by chemical synthesis, especially to imitate a natural product.

