

PLUSH, in *Commerce, &c.*, a kind of stuff having a sort of velvet nap or shag on one side; composed regularly of a woof of a single woollen thread, and a double warp, the one wool, of two threads twisted, the other goats' or camels' hair; though there are also some plushes entirely worsted, and others composed wholly of hair.

Plush is manufactured, like velvet, on a loom with three treadles. Two of these separate and depress the woollen-warp, and the third raises the hair-warp, upon which the workman throwing the shuttle, passes the woof between the woollen and hair-warp; and afterwards laying a brass broach, or needle, under that of the hair, he cuts it thereon with a knife destined for that use, conducting the knife on the broach, which is made a little hollow, all its length; and thus gives the surface of the plush an appearance of velvet.

Some ascribe the invention of plush to the English; others say it was first made in Holland, and particularly at Haerlem. Be this as it will, it is certain the French are the people who make the most of it; there being several very considerable plush manufactures at Amiens, Abbeville, and Compeigne.

There are other kinds of plush, all of silk; some of which have a pretty long knap on one side, and some on both.