

#### **EXPERT TALK**

A skilled weaver may have spent as long as eight months to a year, tying each knot.









# The magic carpet

A good hand-knotted rug can include 100,000 knots per square metre, says Kavita Chaudhary, Design Director, Jaipur Rugs.

#### **WORKS OF ART**

A hand-knotted rug is as distinctive as a Rembrandt. These wool or silk rugs are creations you would be proud to pass down to the next generation. As you rummage through a rack of hand-knotted rugs, consider the hard work that went into each piece. Large hand-knotted rugs often involve a team of skilled master weavers working for months to accomplish the intricate patterns and designs.

### AN ENDURING QUALITY

In addition to the exquisite workmanship, these are the most long-lasting rugs you can own, since they don't contain any glue or adhesives and therefore don't deteriorate like machine-made rugs, which usually last from three to 10 years. Each strand of silk or wool is looped around an adjacent knot and secured with its own knot. These rugs can endure years of heavy traffic and still look as good as the day you brought them home.

## **USE THEM ANYWHERE**

These rugs have a space in any kind of room, from the living room to the kitchen, from hallways to the bedroom or even the bathroom. A beautiful rug hung on a wall can bring a lot of character in a room. Besides, hand-knotted rugs can be effortlessly cleaned because they don't contain chemicals that react to water. While other machine-made rugs lose their value within a year or so, most hand-knotted rugs upsurge in value over time.

#### NATURAL CHARM

The rich beauty of a hand-knotted rug lies deep within its colour and texture. Natural fruit and vegetable dyes are usually used to create each of these masterpieces. Therefore, these are free of chemicals and synthetic fabrics. They are purely organic. Due to the craftsmanship, and because the weaving of hand-knotted rugs is a dying art form, they can increase in value substantially over generations.