

Tukutuku Patterns

You need square dot paper

Activity

The wharenui on a marae is named after an important ancestor of the tangata whenua. Carvings and designs tell the story of that ancestor.

Tukutuku can be made of flax strips that are stitched or woven through holes in wooden panels.

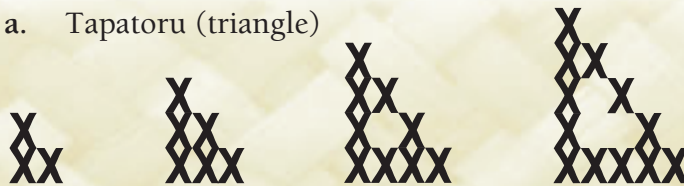
1. The pattern below is known as poutama (the stairway to heaven):



- Find some quick ways to count the number of crosses in each step.
- Draw the next step in the pattern.
- How many crosses would the 10-step stairway have?

2. Below are some other tukutuku designs. How many crosses would be in the tenth step in each pattern

- a. Tapatoru (triangle)



- b. Tōrino (spiral)



- c. Ripeka (cross)

