



TEN THOUSAND
VILLAGES



About the Artisans

CRC Exports Private Ltd.

The Craft Resource Centre (CRC) provides marketing, design, finance and exporting assistance to a large number of artisan groups across India. CRC works with artisans in 26 workshops and cooperatives, representing some 2,000 leatherworkers, textile creators, silk weavers and tailors. CRC also provides raw materials and training as needed, and coordinates production between its many workshops. The organization insists on using environmentally-friendly production materials and methods and supports its associates in areas such as effluent treatment, drainage, re-use of energy and other environmental measures. CRC has succeeded in developing a sense of connectedness that has allowed artisan groups to work together in partnership during times of need. In 2002, when a serious flood overwhelmed workshops in West Bengal, leatherworkers gathered food, matches, soap and clothing. They then hired a boat and delivered the emergency supplies to their partners in the flood zone.

Ikat Design Leather Wallet

Stash cards and cash in this snappy wallet crafted from enviro-leather and hand-loomed ikat cloth. Ikat is a dyeing technique used to create patterned textiles. The yarn is patterned first before ever seeing a loom. Individual yarns or bundles are tightly bound by a tight wrapping to create the chosen pattern. The yarn is then dyed and the binding can be moved to another area and the yarn is dyed again with another colour.

Wrap, dye, repeat. Because the surface design is created by weaving this yarn, in ikat, you'll find the pattern on both sides of the fabric. This intricate dyeing and weaving technique takes years to master.



Materials:

leather, cotton ikat fabric

Travel the world with each visit to Ten Thousand Villages.

Learn how Fair Trade really makes a difference. Our goal is to provide vital, fair income to artisans by marketing their handicrafts and telling their stories in North America. Ten Thousand Villages sells product from more than 30 countries, providing work for nearly 60,000 people around the world.

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