



TEN THOUSAND
VILLAGES



Hammered Copper Napkin Ring

Watching makers from Aspiration International pound and hammer small dents in perfect alignment on a piece of copper, and it's instantly clear the 250 producers are skilled craftsmen. This straightforward copper napkin ring is the result.



Materials:

copper

Product Care:

Cleaning Instructions: To clean use a damp cloth, make a mixture of baking soda and lemon juice to help retain the shine.

About the Artisans

Aspiration International

Working with more than 45 artisan groups that employ 250 families, Aspiration International (AI) is providing makers in Northern India with a way out of poverty.

Traditionally, many designers and artisans have had little education and earn a meager living by learning a craft from parents and grandparents and attempting to sell their wares domestically. But whether they're handcrafting copper and stainless steel kitchenware, stone decor items, jewellery or wood handicrafts, selling locally can lead to exploitation. In some cases, artisans who are unable to read or do basic math either aren't paid for the work, or are paid less than what was promised.

Exporting to international markets, however, requires a business background and knowing how to design a product that will appeal to buyers in other cultures around the world while maintaining consistent quality. Many makers who work in cottage industries have never been taught these important skills.

Aspiration International began to change that, in 1981 when Padam N. Kapoor, Chief

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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