



TEN THOUSAND
VILLAGES



Raw Edge Black Leather Hand bag

A rough, unstitched edge gives this otherwise polished, classic leather bag an authentic look. The two brown handles are finely stitched, however, to lift a hefty load. CRC (or Craft Resource Center) is committed to using only environmentally friendly methods and materials while developing self-sufficiency for a vulnerable segment of society through traditional handcrafting skills. They eliminate the use of toxic preservatives, turning back to more traditional tanning techniques in order to bring a high-quality product that is safe for environment, workers, and consumer alike.



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.

Materials:

leather

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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