



TEN THOUSAND  
VILLAGES



### About the Artisans

## Thai Tribal Crafts

Thai Tribal Crafts is a non-profit marketing agency for tribal groups in the mountainous areas of northern Thailand and along the country's western border. By marketing tribal weaving, needlework, basketry, and other crafts, traditional skills can be maintained while providing tribal peoples with an alternative income to farming. Eighty percent of Thai Tribal's artisans are women, many of whom work from home and have no formal education. Each village has one representative who is responsible for maintaining communication with Thai Tribal, picking up orders and returning finished products. Artisans are provided with loans, financial advances and training. Since 1987, Thai Tribal Crafts has been a major contributor to New Life Centre in Chiang Mai, a program giving young tribal girls a basic education and skills in craft production - an essential precaution in protecting them from the burgeoning sex trade in Thailand.

## Lau Purse

What's black and white and carried all over? This Lau purse with multi-zippered compartments! Traditional Nepalese weaving is characterized by geometric designs woven into plain background cloth. Using looms of wood and bamboo, artisans produce 15 to 20 centimetres of fabric per day in this labourious technique. They use no charts when laying out designs. All is done from memory and dependence on the artisans' creative skills and planning.

### Materials:

cotton, polyester



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**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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