



TEN THOUSAND  
VILLAGES



## Ikat Stitch Cushion - Light/Dark Grey Mix

Cozy and Cool. This uniquely stitched cushion is made using wool and banana yarn. Banana yarn is made using the trunks once the banana has been harvested. Handcrafted by the makers of Kumbeshwar Technical School in Nepal. KTS offers training in wool spinning, hand knitting, carpet weaving, carpentry and jewellery to members of low-caste communities, disabled individuals and destitute women in Nepal. In fact, KTS now has over 2,300 producers, benefiting over 4,000 families and local community members.



### About the Artisans

## Kumbeshwar Technical School (KTS)

The Kumbeshwar Technical School (KTS) offers training in wool spinning, hand knitting, carpet weaving, carpentry and jewellery to members of low-caste communities, disabled individuals and destitute women in Nepal. Graduates of the training program have the opportunity to move into employment at KTS or to establish their own workshops. KTS embraces environmentally friendly practices such as the use of AZO-friendly dyes for carpets and the use of replanted trees from a community forest for their carpentry production. In addition to the technical school, KTS operates an orphanage for abandoned children, a nursery, a primary school for children of impoverished families and a workplace daycare. Other benefits include literacy classes, training in writing and basic numeracy, women's health education, health and accident insurance and access to loans.

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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