

BE AWARE

- **IMPORTED AND MASS PRODUCED INDIAN STYLE ART IS PUTTING NATIVE AMERICAN ARTISTS OUT OF BUSINESS.**
- **ANY ITEM THAT IS MADE AND SOLD AS NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN ART MUST BE FROM A STATE OR FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN NATION RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**
- **IS THERE A HALLMARK OR SIGNATURE OF THE MAKER ON THE ITEM? IS IT MARKED STERLING?**
- **IS THE ITEM YOU ARE PURCHASING A HANDMADE, HANDCRAFTED OR MACHINE MADE PRODUCT?**
- **WHAT TYPE OF MATERIAL IS THE ITEM MADE OF?**
Natural Materials, Stabilized materials, Plastic or
Man-Made Materials
- **DO YOU FEEL IT WAS WORTH WHAT YOU PAID FOR IT?**
- **REMEMBER THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT OF ALL. ALWAYS GET A WRITTEN RECEIPT FROM THE BUSINESS OR ARTIST THAT INCLUDES INFORMATION STATED ABOVE. THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT IN THE EVENT OF A PROBLEM.**
- **IF UNSURE OF WHAT YOU ARE BUYING. PLEASE ASK!!!**

**BUY AUTHENTIC
BUY NATIVE AMERICAN**

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Here is a brief explanation of terms used in the industry

- **HANDMADE-** Means that the item is entirely made from raw materials and fabricated by hand. Even if the item is made from BLOCK/PLASTIC.
- **HANDCRAFTED-** Means that the item is made by assembling pre-made parts and pieces that are of natural materials or stabilized materials or Mar Made materials such as Block (Plastic).
- **MACHINE MADE-** Means that the item is made by stamping, casting, die cutting or other mechanical means, injecting castings with metals or plastic to make an item. No hand work is involved.
- **NATURAL MATERIALS-** Materials that have not been stabilized, color enhanced or have any alterations to its Natural State. Other than being cut, shaped and polished to be finished and placed in a setting.
- **STABILIZED MATERIALS-** Natural low grade materials that are injected with resins, epoxies and/or dyes to enhance the base materials.
- **MAN-MADE MATERIALS / BLOCK-** Materials that were grown/made in a laboratory such as man made opals, pearls, rubies, diamonds, etc. Also Block is manufactured from epoxies, resins and dyes. Sometimes a crushed stone filler is added (this is reconstituted). Plastic usually feels warmer than stone.
- **STERLING SILVER or .925=** 92.5% Silver/7.5% other metals. Sterling polishes to a brighter shine than Nickel Silver.
- **NICKEL SILVER / GERMAN SILVER-** Consists of a combination of Nickel, Zinc and Copper. There is no silver present. Usually Nickel polishes to a greyer finish than Sterling Silver.
- **KARAT MARKING FOR GOLD-** Karat is a measure of the fineness of gold. 24 karat is fine gold. One karat is 1/24 (.0417). Thus 14 karat is 14/24 fine gold and the balance (10/24) is alloy.
- **CABS and INSERTS-** Settings that are pre-made in different shapes and sizes which are available at supply houses where materials are sold. These items may be made of real materials, stabilized materials and/or plastic.
- **GOLD FILLED-** Is a 1/20 ratio of Gold to base metal. 1/20 12k gold filled means 1/20 or 5% of the total weight is 12K gold. Items are usually marked 1/20 12kGF.
- **HANDMADE POTTERY-** Is made by **hand** from Natural or Commercial clay. It may be etched, painted with Natural or Commercial paints and may be fired in a kiln or traditionally fired.
- **CERAMIC POTTERY -** Is made from pouring liquid white or red clay (ceramic slip) into a mold. This type of pottery can be painted, etched, and may have animal hair or feathers burned into the pottery. This item is a hand crafted item.

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PLEASE ASK !!**