Respecting traditions
Promoting craftsmanship
Conserving resources
Meeting needs

Custom MADE
CRAFTS CENTER

FABRIC CATALOGUE
The CustomMade Crafts Center, Inc. (CMCC) is an initiative of NTFP–EP Philippines (Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme Philippines), a collaborative network of non-government organizations and community-based organizations that empower forest dependent communities to utilize and manage their forest resources in a sustainable manner.

CMCC works with master weavers and indigenous artisans all over the Philippines to create beautiful and functional products that express the timeless traditions of these cultural communities while meeting the needs of the modern market. Through innovative product design, CMCC is expanding the market for these works of art to ensure that these communities will continue their traditions, way of life and keep on nurturing the forests that sustain them.

CMCC engages in environmentally sustainable consumption and production practices, ensuring that raw materials are gathered in an environment-friendly manner. CMCC adheres to fair trade practices. The pricing of products is guided by the principle of protecting both the rights of the artisans and the consumers while maintaining economic viability. Income generated from sales is given back to the communities through continuous product development, technology transfer, capacity building, marketing and other related services.
The Philippines has a rich tapestry of weaving traditions that span centuries and pre-date the arrival of Spanish colonizers. For the indigenous cultural communities of the Philippine archipelago, weaving is not just a means of livelihood or a pastime. Weaving is an expression of the community’s unique culture and identity. Weaving binds families and communities together in their shared history and traditions, and collective hopes and aspirations.

Hinabi (meaning ‘woven’) pays tribute to the rich cultural traditions and craftsmanship of our Philippine indigenous artists and artisans. This book showcases the products of their skill, hard work and creativity as the works of art that they are.
Piña

Piña weaving in the Philippines began during the Spanish colonial period, when the colonizers introduced the Red Spanish Pineapple plant to the country. Piña fabrics are primarily used for garments and linens. Because of their expensive and luxurious nature, Piña is reserved for prestigious occasions such as weddings and formal events.

The Piña weaving process begins with the harvesting the mature leaves of the Red Spanish Pineapple plant. The pineapple leaf fibers are extracted by hand to separate the rough fibers from the fine fibers, and they are air-dried and combed and knotted by hand to prepare for the loom warp. Weaving Piña is often an exasperating venture that demands perseverance and hard work – a simple gust of wind can cause a thread to break. In fact, for a 10 hour workday for a weaver, only 40 centimeters of Piña cloth can be made.
Pure Piña Fabric

Weavers: Aklanon
Fiber Content: Pineapple Fabric
Design: Plain
Dimension: 30” x 36” (1 cut length is 4 yards)
Production Capacity: 30 yards per month

PhP1,650/yard

Fabric Care Instructions:
For hand wash, soak in water with mild soap, rinse gently.
Do not rub or wring the piña cloth. Drip dry or air dry.
Dry clean for best results.
To iron, spray the cloth with water to dampen and iron it on low temperature.
Piña Seda Fabric

**Weavers:** Aklanon  
**Fiber Content:** Pineapple Fabric & Philippine Silk  
**Design:** Plain  
**Dimension:** Cloth - 30” x 36” (1 cut length is 4 yards); Shawl – 30” x 2 yards; Scarf – 15” x 2 yards  
**Production Capacity:** 500 yards per month

PhP900/yard

**Fabric Care Instruction:**  
For hand wash, soak in water with mild soap, rinse gently.  
Do not rub or wring the piña cloth. Drip dry or air dry.  
Dry clean for best results.  
To iron, spray the cloth with water to dampen and iron it on low temperature.
Piña Seda Cotton

Weavers: Aklanon
Fiber Content: Pineapple Fabric & Philippine Silk and Cotton
Design: Plain
Dimension: Cloth - 30” x 36” and 39” x 36”
(1 cut length is 4 yards); Shawl – 30” x 2 yards;
Scarf – 15” x 2 yards
Production Capacity: 100 yards per month

PhP1,000/yard

Fabric Care Instruction:
For hand wash, soak in water with mild soap, rinse gently. Air dry.
Dry clean for best results.
To iron, spray the cloth with water to dampen and iron it on low temperature.
T’nalak

The T’boli women weave beautiful T’nalak that are often described as “woven dreams,” the gifts of Fu Dalu, spirit of Abaca from where the threads of the T’nalak come from. Using a backstrap body tension loom, the weaver literally uses her entire body to weave the tapestry inch by inch. It takes 3-4 weeks to weave a full roll of T’nalak, sometimes more depending on the complexity and intricacy of the design.

T’nalak patterns are designed using the ikat (resist-dye) method. They are dazzlingly complex and mathematically precise; remarkable feats of higher mathematics from simple people who have no advanced mathematical training. But as sophisticated as they appear, these patterns are symbols taken from nature and daily life. Pythons, eagles, butterflies, and shields are some of the more common motifs that are abstracted into the T’nalak.

As a bride-price, the T’boli woman’s ability to weave good quality T’nalak determined her worth in the community. To this day, clans arrange marriages to ensure that top weavers become part of their family. T’nalak of the highest quality has been exchanged for horses, carabaos (water buffalos) and high-prized gongs. It is also said that a sacrifice of a piece of T’nalak cloth to the spirits can release a person from the grip of illness.

The weaving and use of T’nalak is accompanied by various taboos. Do not step on your T’nalak or use it as a floor mat or for shoes lest the god of Abaca be angered.
T’nalak, Traditional Design

Weavers: T’boli

Fiber Content: Abaca (Manila Hemp)

Design: Traditional Ikat Design

Dimension: 14” x 39” | 16” x 39” | 23” x 39”

Production Capacity: 30 – 50 meters per month

Traditional = PhP1,200/meter
Natural Dye = PhP1,500/meter

T’nalak, Modern Two-Color Design

Design: Plain | Stripes | Ikat Design

Natural Dye = PhP1,500/meter
Synthetic = PhP1,000/meter

Fabric Care Instruction:
Spot clean or soak in water with mild detergent without bleach.
Do not wring, squeeze or twist the fabric.
Air dry only.
T’nalak Designs
Malong

The Malong is a traditional cotton “tube skirt” part of the traditional attire of many of the Mindanao indigenous cultural communities. Used primarily as a skirt, the malong is very versatile and can be used for various purposes: as a dress, baby sling, ceremonial sash, blanket, sleeping mat, hammock, headdress, sunshade, among many other uses.
Malong Fabric

Weavers: T’boli
Fiber Content: Polyester
Design: Stripes | Plain
Dimension: 27” x 156” per piece
Production Capacity: 120 pcs per month

PhP3,200 per piece

Fabric Care Instruction:
Gently handwash or soak in water with mild detergent without bleach.
Do not wring, squeeze, or twist the fabric.
Air dry only.
Malong Designs
Hinabol

Hinabol weaving is a timeless tradition among the Higaonon people of Bukidnon province. Hinabol is the binukid term for woven. It is used to refer to the woven hemp skillfully made by the Higaonon women. It is characterized by the use of different colors and interesting designs produced through resist dyeing (binudbod), twisting (gunti) and alternating techniques (kinatupi). Higaonon people believe that weaving is a happy activity. No weaving activity should be conducted when they have a death in their community.

Every 2 to 4 years, Higaonon weavers perform panlabuwon, a ritual imploring the ancestral spirits to bless the weavers with good health. Participated only by women weavers, this ritual takes an entire week and and no other members of the community are allowed to go inside or eat in the house where the ritual is taking place.

In Higaonon olden culture, Hinabol is used as a clothing material, blanket, fishing net and bag. Traditional bags made of Hinabol are the kamuyot and aba-aba that are used by Higaonon men and women to carry their bolos and betel nut chewing paraphernalia. These bags are also used as a peace offering when there are conflicts. It was used as an item to bail out a person who had wronged someone in the community. Nowadays, Higaonon people give Hinabol as sug-ot or gift of friendship to those who visit them.
Hinabol, Natural Dye

**Weavers:** Higaonon  
**Fiber Content:** Abaca (Manila Hemp)  
**Design:** Traditional  
**Dimension:** 16” x 39”  
**Production Capacity:** 280 meters per month

PhP650/meter

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Hinabol, Synthetic Dye

**Design:** Plain | Stripes

PhP550/meter

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**Fabric Care Instruction:**  
Spot clean or soak in water with mild detergent without bleach.  
Do not wring, squeeze or twist the fabric.  
Air dry only.
Hinabol Designs
The Ramit, primarily characterized by its distinct stripe patterns with cultural Mangyan designs, are used by the women as skirts, belts, headbands and blankets. Men are culturally prohibited to weave as this is a task reserved only for the women, including the embroidery and sewing. The men instead support in the preparation of the materials to produce the Ramit.
Ramit, Traditional Design

**Weavers:** Mangyan Weavers

**Fiber Content:** Cotton | Polyester

**Design:** Bugtang | Minatahan | Tinikling | Busang
Alimumot | Binanalyo | Sinuknap | Ga Suloy Bayong
| Dobol Pinamgasan | Pakudos | Diduyan

**Color:** Black and White

**Dimension:** 23” x 108” per piece

**Production Capacity:** 10 pcs per month

Cotton: PhP1,800/pc.
Polyester: PhP1,500/pc.
Natural Dye, Cotton: PhP2,500/pc

**Fabric Care Instruction:**
Gently handwash or soak in water with mild detergent without bleach.
Do not wring, squeeze, or twist the fabric.
Air dry only.
Ifugao

The Ifugao indigenous cultural community live in Central Cordillera in Northern Luzon. They call themselves Ifugao, which literally means “inhabitants of the known earth”: a self-ascription intended to distinguish them from the spirits and deities that inhabit the different worlds in the Ifugao cosmology. They are known for the Banaue Rice Terraces, an agricultural and engineering feat that has been hailed as the “eighth wonder of the world.”

Ikat is a style of weaving that uses a resist-dyeing process on the threads before they are woven in backstrap looms. The Ifugao ikat uses natural colors extracted from tree bark, special mud from the rice terraces, bushes, shrubs, and yellow ginger combined with lime.
Ifugao Fabric

Weavers: Indigenous Ifugao
Fiber Content: Cotton
Design: Ikat Design
Dimension: 14” x 72” | 18” x 72”
Production Capacity: 10 pcs per month

PhP1,700/perc

Fabric Care Instruction:
Gently handwash or soak in water with mild detergent without bleach.
Do not wring, squeeze, or twist the fabric.
Air dry only.
Kalinga

The Kalinga indigenous cultural community live on the eastern side of the Cordillera mountain range. The Kalinga are dubbed as the “Peacocks of the North” because of their elaborate dress, personal ornamentations, and tattoos.
Kalinga Fabric

**Weavers:** Mabilong Weavers  
**Fiber Content:** Cotton  
**Design:** Gilamat | Ilaglis | Gililing  
**Dimension:** 20” x 216” (6 yards per piece);  
Tapis – 28” x 58”; G-String – 11.5” x 130”  
**Production Capacity:** 10 pcs per month  

**Cloth:** PhP1,500 / meter  
**Tapis:** PhP3,800  
**G-string:** PhP1,800

**Fabric Care Instruction:**  
Gently handwash or soak in water with mild detergent without bleach.  
Do not wring, squeeze, or twist the fabric.  
Air dry only.
Inaul

For the Maguindanao, weaving is a spiritual exercise and one of the highest forms of artistic expression. The inaul (pronounced “inol”), the Maguindanao traditional fabric, depicts the community’s rich Muslim culture and heritage with its striking colors, intricate brocade patterns, and use of metallic threads. The dominant colors of the inaul symbolize virtues and qualities that are valued in Mindanao culture: red for bravery, orange and yellow for royalty, green for peace and tranquility, black for dignity, and white for purity and mourning.
Inaul Fabric

Weavers: Maguindanaon
Fiber Content: Rayon and Silk
Design: Stripes
Dimension: 27” x 156” per piece (4 meters);
Scarf – 13” x 74”; Shawl – 21” x 70”
Production Capacity: 12 pcs per month

PhP825/meter or PhP3,300 for full cut
Scarf: PhP1,500
Shawl: PhP2,500

Fabric Care Instruction:
Gently handwash or soak in water with mild detergent without bleach.
Do not wring, squeeze, or twist the fabric.
Air dry only.
Binakol

The Binakol fabric is woven by the Tinggiuans of Abra and the weavers in Ilocos. The dizzying patterns form optical illusions that are meant to confuse and ward off evil spirits. Traditionally used as ceremonial blankets or as sails on boats, the patterns such as the kusikus (whirlwind), marurup (milky way) and the ti pusa (cat’s paw print) are still among the common designs woven today for contemporary use.
Binakol Fabric

**Weavers:** Binakol Weaver from Abra
**Fiber Content:** Polyester or Cotton
**Design:**
**Dimension:**
**Production Capacity:**

PhP550/meter

**Fabric Care Instruction:**
Gently handwash or soak in water with mild detergent without bleach.
Do not wring, squeeze, or twist the fabric.
Air dry only.