



Walrus, Whalebone, Lewis Iyakitan, St. Lawrence Island Yupik, 1982

Under the Indian Arts and Crafts Act all Alaska Native and American Indian art and craft products must be marketed truthfully regarding the Native American heritage and tribal affiliation of the artist or craftsman.

Shop Wisely...Tips for Buying

- When purchasing from a dealer, choose one with a good reputation.
- Request a written guarantee or written verification of authenticity
- Get a receipt that includes all the vital information about your purchase, including price, maker, and maker's Alaska Native village or Tribe.
- Familiarize yourself with the different materials and types of Native American arts and crafts, as well as the indicators of a well-made, handcrafted piece.
- Realize that authentic handmade pieces may be expensive...if a price seems too good to be true, be sure to ask more questions about the item and its maker.

Take Home a Treasure from Alaska - Buy works produced by members of federally recognized Tribes and Villages.

For a free brochure on the Indian Arts and Crafts Act, including how to file a complaint, contact:

Indian Arts and Crafts Board • U.S. Department of the Interior
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