# CRAFT



Craft is a manual work t is practiced with or without little mechanical support. It involves using the hand with some tools for making objects of beauty or utility. Examples are basketry, mat weaving, textile weaving, crocheting, knitting, embroidery, etc.

Most crafts are acquired through apprenticeship. Apprenticeship is an informal

learning system whereby a person learns a particular skill under a master for a period of time. Also, crafts could be acquired formally in an academic environment. Acquiring skills in crafts formally requires learning the theory and then the practice.

## Types of Crafts

a. Calabash Decoration: These are the making of design on calabash by carving, scraping, engraving, or pyro-engraving methods.
b. Pottery: Pottery is the art of making pots and other related wares. Pottery is produced from prepared soft clay.
c. Textile: Textile involves the various craft that are used to make fabrics and to make them beautiful. It includes cloth weaving, batik, tie and dye.
d. Leather work: Leather is a tough matter produced from the skin of animals, by tanning or similar process used for making shoes, sandals, bags, purses, wallets and cushions.

e. Basketry: This is the art of making baskets from certain grasses, palm fronds, and canes. Baskets are woven in form of containers with or without lids.
f. Mat weaving: Mat weaving is the craft of weaving mats. It is very similar to cloth weaving as it could be done with a loom. Weaving, twinning and plaiting are the three methods used for making mats.
g. Beadwork: Beads are small round or cylindrical wood, glass, or plastic discs with holes through which they could be threaded together.
h. Metalwork: Metal work is the art of using metal, steel, or iron to form shapes or figures. It involves the use of furnace to smelt iron, metal or steel. The iron, metal or steel becomes red-hot when it is heated in the furnace. Then, it is easier to bend to form the desired shapes or figures.

## Uses of Craft

a. Crafts are used for home beautification
b. Some craft products like beads and staff are used as part of fashion
c. Crafts like mask are used during festivals
d. Some crafts like baskets, calabash are used for storing grains and other items
e. Fabric craft are used in making weaving apparels
f. Turning stick (spatula) and mortar-pestle are used as cooking utensils
g. Figurines and carved dolls are used for ritual purposes.