LEARNING A CRAFT

Craft is a handiwork or creative handiwork that is practiced with bare hands without or with little of mechanical means. Most crafts are acquired through apprenticeship. Apprenticeship is a learning system whereby a person learns a particular skill under a master.

During the period of apprenticeship, the apprentice takes part in all activities displayed by his or her master regarding the intended skill. Sometimes, crafts are acquired formally, i.e. in school. Unlike apprenticeship, acquiring skills in crafts formally requires two stages: learning the theory and then the practical.

Learning the Theory

The theory around a skill usually contains the importance of the skill, its history, tools and materials used, safety and operations carried out in the craft. The operations carried out are the step-by-step procedures involved in the craft to achieve a desired effect.

Learning the Practical

The practical aspect of learning a craft involves the learner getting the required tools and materials and then carrying out various operations in that particular craft to achieve effects. The master guides the learner and even grades his performance. *The learner continues the craft as a life affair so to master it exceptionally*.