Tools and Materials in Art and Craft Skill



Tools and Materials

Tools are items used to manipulate **materials** to make them into products. This is the concept of tools and materials. While tools do not get used up every time you work with them, materials, contrarily, always gets used up.

Several tools and materials are used in art and craft work. Since art and craft touch all aspects of human endeavours, there are just too many tools and materials.

The tools and materials can be categorized based on the operations they are used for. For example: for drawing and drafting, we have pencils, paper, graphic table or graphic tablet computer, etc.; for painting, we have paint brushes, paints, graphic tablet or graphic tablet computer, etc.; For pottery, we have clay, the potter's wheel, etc.

Tools in fine art

Some tools used in art and craft works are:

1. **Pencils and eraser:** pencils are used for drawing and shading artworks. Different pencils have different thickness. Erasers are use for cleaning unwanted pencil marks.



2. **Stylus pen:** stylus pens are used for drawing and shading artworks just like pencils but in a digital environment of graphic tablet or graphic tablet computer.



3. **Paint brush:** paint brushes are used for applying paint to surfaces to create art impressions. Also, they can be used to clean finished artworks. There are just too many types of paint brushes based on the type of surface it is to be used on and the kind of paint.



4. **Graphic tablet:** a graphic tablet is a computer peripheral device that can be sketched on to draw into a computer directly. It is useful for digital illustration both real time and non-real time.



5. **Graphic tablet computer:** a graphic tablet computer is just like the graphic tablet but you see your drawing on the media you draw.



Materials in fine arts.

Anything can be a material in art. For example, PET scraps, saw dust, feathers, metal scraps, leaves, clay, stone, etc.



Saw dust



Polyethylene scraps



Feathers

Hint: *Every waste material is valuable in the hands of an artist as they can be upcycled into art or craft pieces.*

See a video

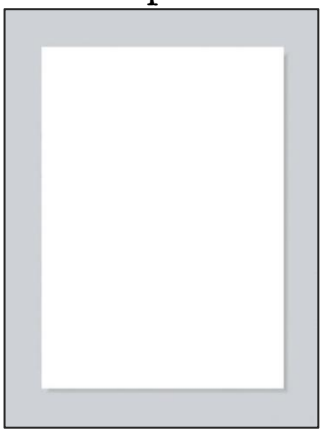
Fine art is usually done on materials (e.g. canvas, wood, paper, metal, fabric, etc.) with suitable surfaces for the choice artwork piece.



Canvas



Wood



Paper

Paint is another fantastic material in fine art. It is used to create a colour effect on a suitable surface. There are different kinds of paints for different surfaces. Below is a simple paint with a brush you can buy and start using.



Tools in craft

Just as there are too many kinds of craft (e.g. woodcarving, interior design, etc.), so also there are too many tools used in craft. The tools can be categorized according to the kind of craft they are used in. For example, in calabash decoration, we have knife of different sizes and shapes, iron needles, saw, perforated polished can, scrapper, nails, white chalk, etc.; in wood carving, we have V-tools, gouge, coping saw, mallet, etc.

Craft	Tools
Pottery	Pottery wheel, calipers, etc.
Wood carving	V-tools, gouge, mallet, etc.
Cane weaving	Knives, scissors, etc.
Beadwork	Scissors, beading pliers, etc.
Leather work	Scissors, needle, etc.
Calabash decoration	Knives, iron needles, saw, scrapper, etc.

Materials in craft

Materials in craft is a different thing, since each kind of craft is based on type of material(s). For example, pottery is the craft of moulding clay; calabash decoration is the craft of carving and painting designs on calabash gourds; leather work is craft of making leather into different useful objects like shoes, sandals, bags, purses.

Craft	Material
Pottery	Clay
Wood carving	Timber
Cane weaving	Cane
Beadwork	Beads, beading threads
Leather work	Leather
Calabash decoration	Calabash