



MAYA
ORGANIC



MAYA ORGANIC SUPPORT SERVICES
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ABOUT US

Maya Organic Support Services is a Bangalore based organisation and is a registered Section 25 Non Profit Company.

MAYA ORGANIC assists artisans and worker co-operatives to develop and market high quality products and services. Maya Organic supports skill development of workers and ensures access to health and education facilities.

MAYA ORGANIC is a member of the World Fair Trade Organisation.

The products are marketed under the brand name MO.





CORE VALUES

Equity and Fair trade

- Redistribution of profits and safe guarding fair labour practices

Responsibility

- Ensuring social and environmental sustainability
- Bottom up Social Compliance

Reliance on nature

- Earthy designs made out of natural materials

Design and Innovation

- Innovative designs which ensure aesthetics and comfort

Craftsmanship

- Focus on reviving traditional craft as viable livelihood options



MO = People and Products





MAYA ORGANIC is recognized as a FAIR TRADE ORGANIZATION which works with the LACWARE cluster in Southern India to produce high quality wooden lacware toys.

MO Toys are

- Hand crafted
- Non toxic
- Coloured with natural vegetable colours.
- Safe and comply with the EN71 and ASTM standards.

Lacware is a traditional handicraft from Karnataka, India. It is practiced by artisans in Channapatna, a small town located 60 kms from Bangalore city.



Lacware refers to wooden articles that are turned on the lathe and finished with lac*. The entire process from shaping the wood to lac application is completed on the lathe itself and hence the products are a combination of circularly symmetric shapes.

The lacware products are mostly crafted out of Hale wood (*Wrightia Tinctoria*).

The wood does not require any chemical treatment. It is seasoned and used directly. The wood is shaped by turning it on a lathe.



ABOUT LAC



The beautiful shiny finish of these articles is obtained by using lac.

Lac – a natural resin secreted by microscopic tiny insects on tree bark.

A coloured lac stick is pressed against the wood while it is turning on the lathe. Lac melts due to the frictional heat and sticks to the wood. This is then evenly spread and polished to a shiny gloss finish. The entire process is carried out on the lathe itself and hence these products are also referred to as **Lac-turnery**.

Lac is an organic non-toxic finish and can be used in food as well as non-food products. It has a tenacious adhesive quality sticking to anything from porous wood to glossy smooth surfaces. Shellac has been used in a variety of ways for several thousands of years in India.





ECO-FRIENDLY CRAFT



- Lacware craft is an ecologically friendly manufacturing process.
- Hale wood is the main raw material used by the lacware industry. It is not treated chemically. It is seasoned and directly used for making the products.
- Optimum utilization of wood - All the sections of the wood are used by the artisans as the product range involves many small parts for completion.
- This is a perfectly safe wood that has been used by artisans traditionally and there is no evidence of any occupational health hazards (respiratory ailments, dust allergy etc) arising due to the usage of the wood.
- Lac which is used as a finishing material is a natural resin and is a time tested non toxic natural material that has been used in India for thousands of years.
- Lac application (colouring & finishing) is a friction based process where lac, in its solid form is used. Since there are no liquids used, this process remains completely free of volatile contents and the associated respiratory hazards.
- Maya Organic only uses natural dyes that are blended with lac for colouring the products. Any wood waste generated (wood chips, wood dust etc) is used as raw material for the incense stick industry in Channapatna and surrounding areas.

