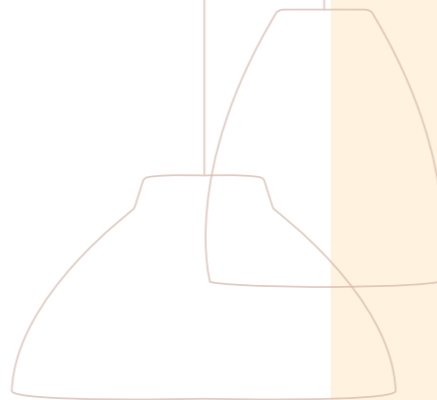


AAKS

Weaving for change

The Light Shade collection



A A K S has launched a long term weaving project which bridges the gap between innovation and traditional craft. The project aims to produce a limited edition of home interior products of hand woven pendant lamps; which creates a fair and dignified employment for refugee artisans in Burkina Faso.

We are inspired to create in a world already full of things because we believe that well designed objects embody original ideas.



The home décor project titled **'Weaving for Change'** reflects the preservation of an old age artisan trade of the Tuareg community from Northern Mali of whom some are living as refugees in Burkina Faso. Behind every handcrafted lamp you will find a cultural identity of the Tuareg. The design and craftsmanship combines unique artisanal skills and techniques in basketry which is an important activity carried out by Tuareg and Fulani/ Peulh women. They weave with straw and yarn to make traditional basket lids for food platters used during celebrations in their communities. The result is a beautiful range of lamps made from organic yarns in kaleidoscopic yellows, toned down reds, blues and rustic oranges combined with natural straw, artisanal dyed leather and hammered bronze metals.

Through creative collaborations such as these the refugee artisans living in extreme poverty may have an opportunity to change their lives. This collaboration also aligns with A A K 's brand values of ethical production and creativity while being mindful of our environmental impact.



Our lamps are handwoven with heart by refugee artisans in Burkina Faso. Practicing a time honoured Malian weaving technique, the artisans use a needle to wrap strands of organic cotton threads and leather around bunches of straw to create tightly coiled, durable lamps in an impressive range of patterns and colours. The collaboration of textures and tones are crucial to the cohesion of the overall design ideas. Depending on the size and shape, each lamp can take a weaver anywhere between 1 - 2 months to make!

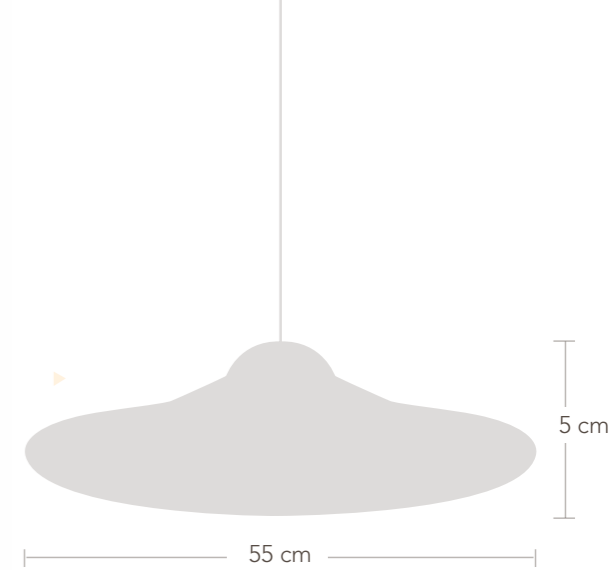
The Light Shade Collection offers open and semi closed shades with direct light source. When lit, the characteristics of the crocheted surfaces gives the entire shade an effervescent glow which captures the perfect equilibrium between light and shade.

Ihaya lamp

The Ihaya Lamp is a planetary pendant light inspired by the symbolic projection of the Tuareg life through the Sahara suggesting boundless boundaries.

Crafted in a post modern shape, this large and flat yet light weight design boldly blends straw, leather and bronze metal to render this spatial lamp orbiting right above our heads. Ideal for dining tables, over head lighting and as a feature piece. It is composed of straw, hand-dyed yarns and finished off with a hammered bronze cup.



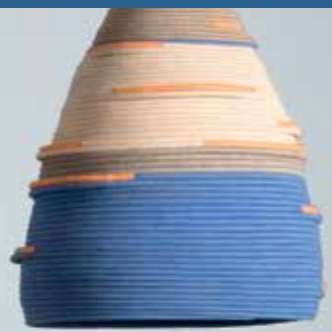


Components

Natural Straw
Hand Dyed Cotton Yarns
Hammered Bronze cup
Wrapped Leather

Each pendant is sold separately without wiring or bulbs. A bronze suspension ring is provided to hold wire and bulb in place once assembled. LED bulbs are recommended.

Oude lamp

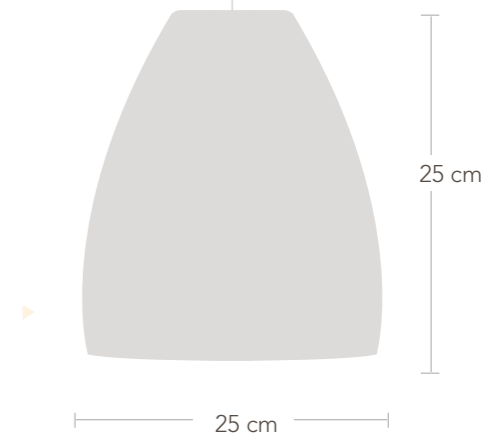


WEAVING FOR CHANGE 02 OUDE LAMP

The simplicity of the Oude Lamp evolved from the desire to create a timeless and quietly opulent lighting solution.

Whether as a single piece or clustered in a cascading tier; this is an arresting and sculptural shade which never fails to add presence and elegance. Ideal for bedrooms and social spaces. It is composed of straw, hand-dyed yarns, bronze plate and finished off with a bronze ring to hold the bulb and wire fittings in place.





Components

- Natural Straw
- Hand Dyed Cotton Yarns
- Bronze Detailing
- Wrapped Leather

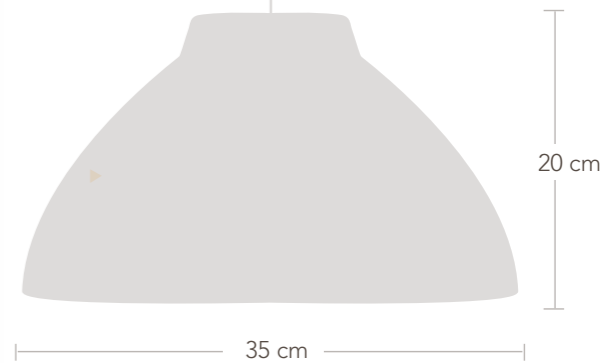
Each pendant is sold separately without wiring or bulbs. A bronze suspension ring is provided to hold wire and bulb in place once assembled. LED bulbs are recommended.



WEAVING FOR CHANGE 03 BELLA LAMP

Artisanal textiles are woven together to form a highly refined classic silhouette, allowing our Bella pendant lamp to transcend a variety of interior styles working harmoniously in a traditional, contemporary or a minimal environment. It creates a timeless yet playful lighting solution, adding warmth to any space. It is composed of straw, hand-dyed yarns and finished off with a bronze plate and ring to hold the bulb and wire fittings in place.





Components

Natural Straw
Hand Dyed Cotton Yarns
Bronze Detailing
Wrapped Leather

Each pendant is sold separately without wiring or bulbs. A bronze suspension ring is provided to hold wire and bulb in place once assembled. LED bulbs are recommended.

The artisans who produce the work in this catalogue are supported by A A K S and UNHCR. The project facilitates their access to quality raw materials and adequate work spaces and offer them product-line development and tweaking for international markets. Training in design and production techniques, working efficiently as a group, literacy and numeracy are also provided by A A K S and UNHCR. The objective of this collaboration is to bring out multi-cultural and innovative designs to assist in the growth of a sustainable business for the refugees. It is our belief that this may go some way in aiding the economic livelihoods of the refugee artisans whether they stay in their country of refuge or eventually return home.

A comprehensive training and follow-up support program is offered to refugees and local artisans to build production and marketing capacity whilst improving the socio-economic integration of refugees. Prepayments are offered to the artisans for all orders, reasonable production times are agreed upon, and prices are based on Fair Trade principles and the need for the artisans to earn sufficient profits to take care of their families, rebuild their communities and invest in their futures.

*grow sustainable businesses
and resilient livelihoods'*



All our products are handcrafted so there will be slight unique differences between each piece. This is the nature of hand-made and as such we feel this enhances the character of each product and is not considered a defect.

Yarns

Hand Spun organic cotton yarns and colours are mixed using natural dyes which may result in a slight variations in colour hues. Due to the unique characteristics of the yarns, the intensity of some colours may slightly evolve with time and exposure to light.

Leather and dyes

Artisanal tanned sheep hides from Burkina Faso. Colours are mixed using a leather dyeing drum and may result in slight variations in colour hues. Due to the vegetal nature of the tanning process the intensity of some colours may slightly evolve with time and exposure to light.

Metals

All metals are hand beaten and pattern variations are the trademark of individual artisans. Bronze can be polished with products intended for these metals or with lemon. All metals should be cleaned with a damp cloth. Bronze will naturally take on beautiful warm brown tones overtime. However, if the shiny bronze metallic effect is desired, then this can be sealed in after cleaning by specialised products found in most hardware stores.



Order times

Orders need to be made at least three months before the intended delivery date.

More informations

AAKS GHANA / BURKINA FASO

Info@aaksonline.com

aaksonline.com [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) [Facebook](#)





Weaving
for change

AAKS

GHANA / BURKINA FASO

info@aaksonline.com

aaksonline.com

