



AOW *Handmade*

2018

TOP 5

Export-ready products from Egypt

We discovered that Egypt has an abundance of resources for product development. We want to connect you with vetted suppliers that are export-ready and aligned with your brand.

We want to share key Egyptian materials and techniques that we feel have the highest potential for export in the global marketplace. Of course, Egypt has much more to offer, but this is simply our initial curated selection of Egyptian products.

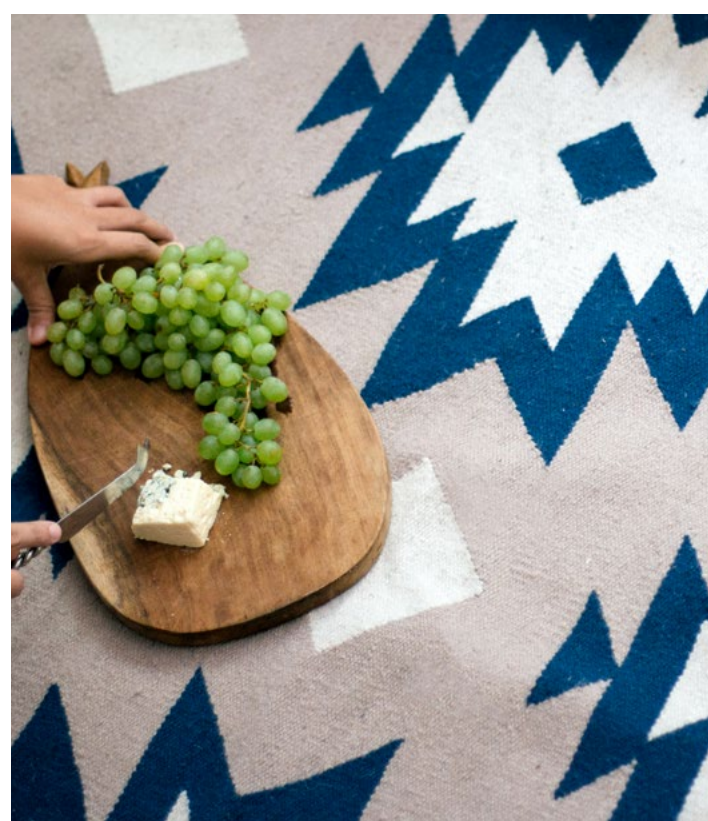


1

WOOL:

KILIM RUGS

Just a few decades ago, Fowa used to be the hub for kilim weaving and home to thousands of workshops. AOW works with an export-ready enterprise that is working hard to compete with machine-made rugs and reviving this tradition, to put this area back on the local and international map for authentic handwoven kilim rugs and craftsmanship. Rugs are made using the finest wools and dyes, made to last a lifetime. Rugs can be made to order, custom sizes and patterns available upon request. Sophisticated yet whimsical.



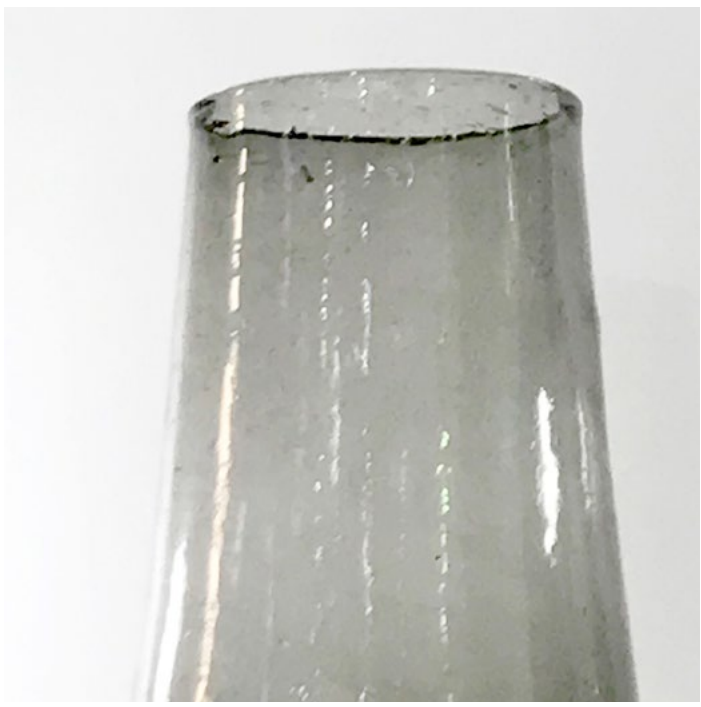


2

GLASSWARE:

CUPS, TUMBLERS, CARAFES, PLATES, BOWLS, VASES

Surprisingly, there are only around 10 master glassblowers left in Egypt. Fortunately, there are still a few Fair Trade, export-ready suppliers of glassware sustaining a technique that dates back to the fifth dynasty. Handblown glassware is made from recycled glass bottles and the design options are vast. Egypt offers an array of cups, tumblers, water pitchers, carafes, plates, bowls, and vases. Glass is offered in a wide array of colors from a smokey grey to marbled pastels.



3

STONE:

CANDLE HOLDERS, TABLETOP, LIGHTING

Egypt is a country rich in stone including limestone (for a snow white flaky crystal look), alabaster (for a white and white stripe translucent look), granite (offered in dark grey, light grey, white, green, caramel, beige and black) and salt for a more textured, organic appeal. Alabaster is particularly malleable and gorgeous as the white stone is translucent, creating unique lighting pendants and candle holders, warming any environment. All of these white stones are particularly unique when mixed with copper and wood. Alabaster products are often made with the help of machinery, whereas limestone is often hand carved.



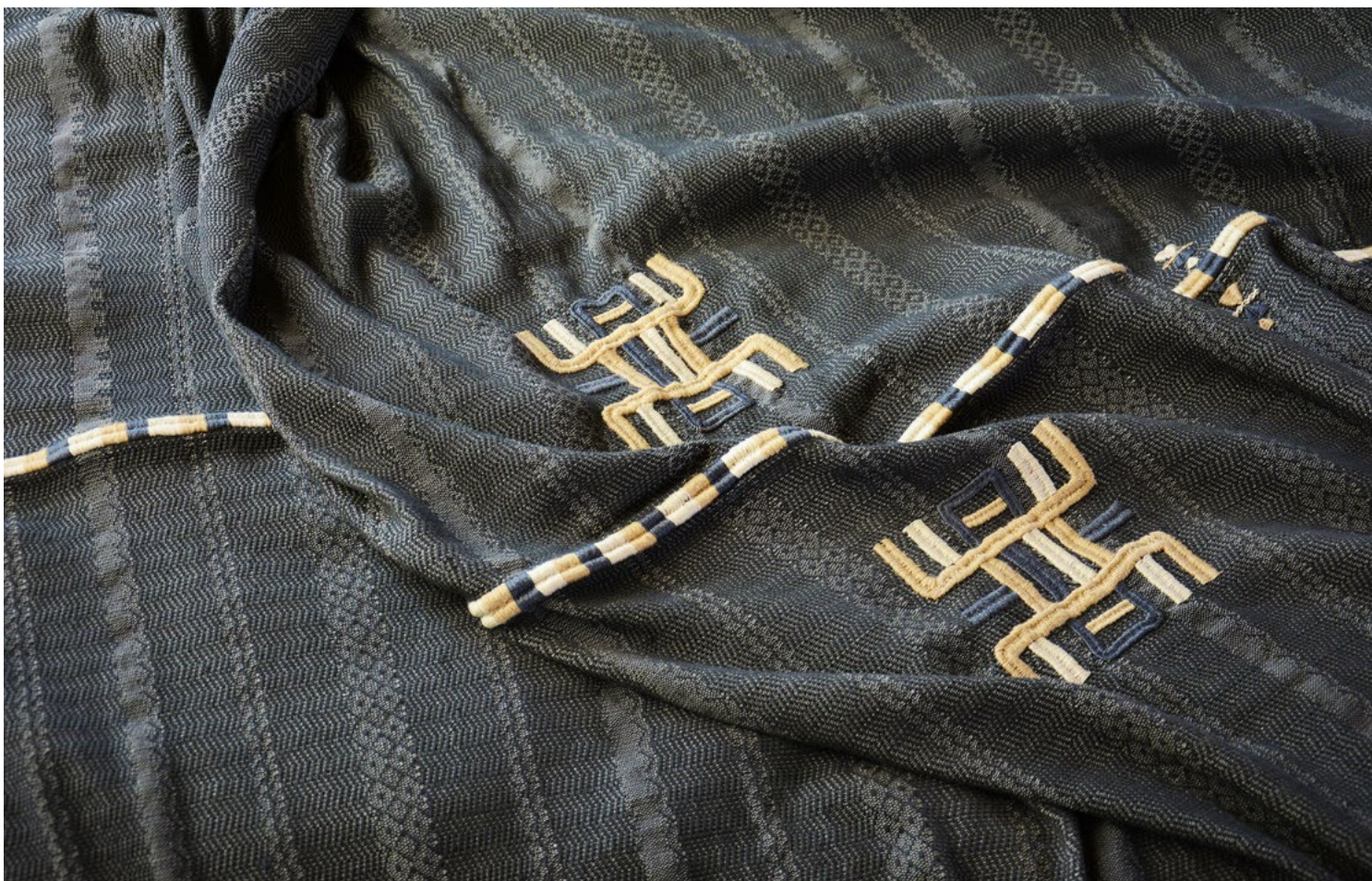


4

COTTON:

BED THROWS, TOWELS

The most common towels you might see from Egypt are the futtah woven towels, commonly with chic stripes. Double layer towels are also available (one side is terry cloth, one side woven). The thickness, quality, softness, and durability sell themselves. Embroidered bedspreads also caught our eye but please note, they can take around one month to make or there could be a maximum capacity of 20 per month due to the time required to embroider. These hand-embroidered bed coverings are the most time-consuming item but they also pass through the most hands; therefore they have the biggest impact on the artisans: Siwan women from the Western desert of Egypt (Sahara).



5

METALS:

CANDLE HOLDERS, LIGHTING, TABLEWARE

Egypt is extremely innovative when it comes to mixing materials. The mix of alabaster and brass is particularly beautiful when used to make candle holders, tableware and lighting. Egypt offers experienced exporters of these brass and copper products very loyal and determined producers.



*AOW Handmade -
bringing artisan
resources*

*directly
to you*



Interested in learning more about suppliers from Egypt and beyond? Do you need help finding the appropriately vetted artisan supplier to create a new collection that aligns specifically with your brand or design concept? Or maybe you're interested in having AOW identify and curate vendors for your online retail site or brick and mortar shop? If so, we are here to help. AOW has spent 13 years working in the artisan field and strives to bring these talented artisans and handmade makers to your attention. We will quickly learn about your brand's aesthetic and business goals to find the perfect partners to bring your creative concepts to life.

-Annie

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