

COPPER COATED BELLS



Bell making is a traditional art form which originated out of the need to track herds of cattle through remote areas of India. Herders could recognize their own cattle by the tone of the bells hanging around their necks. Generations later, these bells are still being made: some for temple purposes, some for herding purposes, and some for decorative purposes like those which we bring to you. The Luhar family has been making these bells for generations and the tradition has been passed down from father to son. They preserve the technique by sharing their skills with family.

The bells are formed from metal once used as water or oil drums. The metal sheets are outlined so each piece can be cut with the least amount of metal going to waste. Once cut, the sheets are transformed into rounded bell shapes using basic hand tools and are riveted together for strength. They are then coated with copper shavings and mud and are submerged in fire to create a rustic and distinct look. No welding or nails are used in the bell making process. The last step is to hand tune each one to perfection. Each bell design has its own pitch that the artisans match.

