

Design Resource

Mojari Making - Jaipur, Rajasthan

Special Handcrafted Footwear

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral, Divyadarshan C. S. and

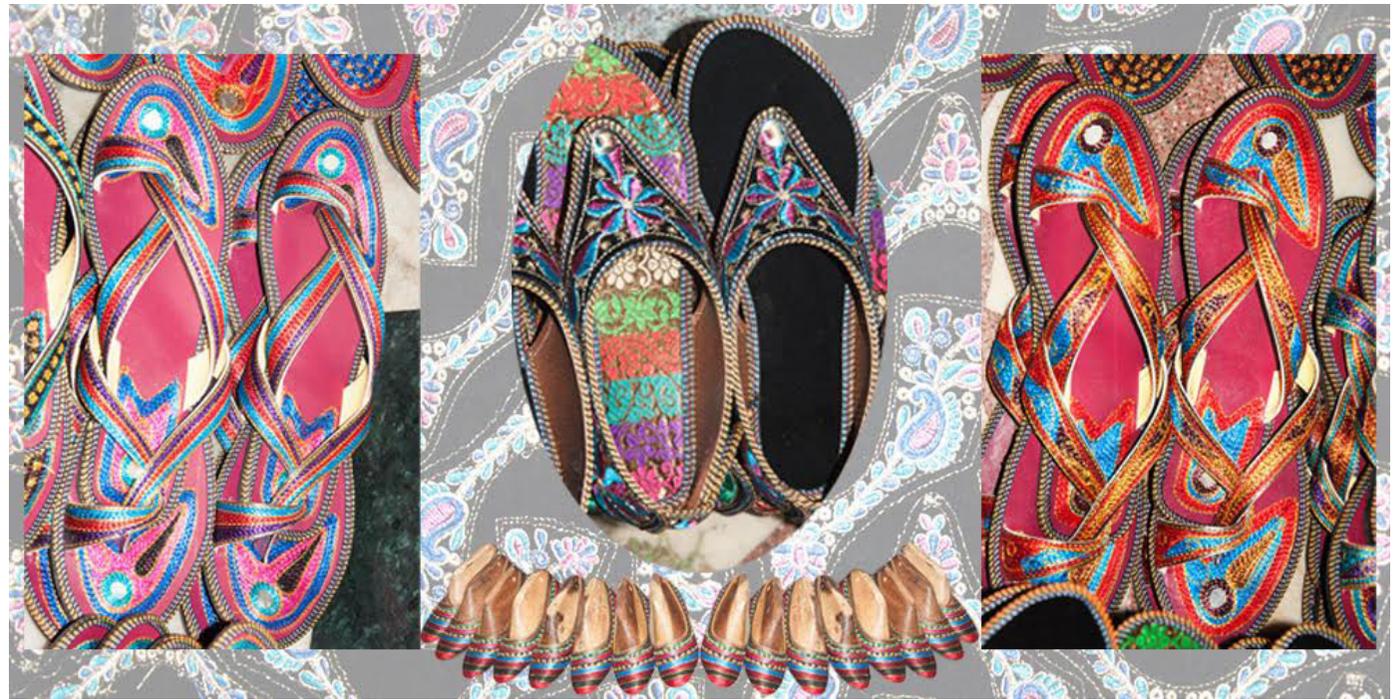
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Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/mojari-making-jaipur-rajasthan>

1. Introduction
2. Tools and Raw Materials
3. Making Process
4. Products
5. Contact Details



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Introduction

Mojari is one of the special hand crafted footwear of Jaipur in Rajasthan state of India. Though India is known for its rich cultural heritage and vastness, the mojari's of Jaipur stands for its own identity in itself hailing its origin from the rule of the Maharaja's and Maharani's who ruled Jaipur.

It is not right if the Rhmani community is not mentioned where ever the mojari is mentioned. As this is one of the community of Rajasthan that transferred this craft of mojari making to their younger ones from generations. Now a days it is not only this community of people continuing this craft even others are involving in learning and making of this craft.

As Rajasthan was rich for its camels, in olden days most of the mojari's were made from them as days and years went by this was made on the goat, buffalo leathers and nowadays with a mixture of resin leathers and rubber as availability and cost effectiveness.

Most of the mojari craftsmen can be seen at the Hawamahal Bazar making different parts of the mojari each with a group of about six to eight people. Hawamahal Bazar generally makes the mojari of the sizes varying from 5 to 12 of both male and female types. As the foot wares of Rajasthan are largely known for the workmanship quality and the wide richness of its design.



Embroider decorative motifs Mojari being stacked up for packaging.

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Embroider cloth being stitched to leather, and the required piece is cut accordingly.



Artisan displaying a piece of shoe with modern kind of embroidery on it.



Artisan stitching the sole and embroider piece together, which will form into a shoe.



Artisan placing the ready shoes in the mold, as a part of the process.

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Tools and Raw Materials

The following are the tools and raw materials required for the Mojari making of Jaipur:

- **Scissors:** It is used to cut the required materials.
- **Pliers:** It is used to align the material along the sole part of the chappals.
- **Adhesive:** It is used to stick two surfaces together.
- **Hand Press Machine:** It is specially used to make the specific sizes of the rubber soles as per the need.
- **Mould of the Foot Size:** Generally wood moulds are preferred for mojari making.
- **Needle:** Long size needles are preferred for stitching the sole and the strap part of the mojari.
- **Cotton Thread:** It is used to stitch the goat/ buffalo leather mojari.
- **Sponge:** It is used to apply the adhesive evenly on the surface of leather/rubber.
- **Rubber for Sole:** Nowadays rubber is generally preferred as the sole material of mojari.
- **Steel Scale:** It is used to measure the length and width of the designs on the mojari.
- **Leather:** Generally the traditional leathers are made from the skin of goat, buffalo and in some cases with camel leather.
- **Resin Leather:** It is preferred nowadays as it is cost reducing.
- **Rapi (cutter):** It is used to remove the extras from the leather.
- **Gulsam:** It is a tool used to obtain the circular/ round shape.
- **Katarni:** It is a tool used to hole the sole and strap that makes it easy for stitching them together.
- **Muasle:** It is used to impact on the strap and sole together.

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Scissor used for cutting cloth, thread and leather pieces, used in making Mojari.



A heavy chisel called Rapi, which is used in tearing heavy leather pieces into required pieces.



A hole-punching chisel called Katarni, used in punching hole in leather to sew through heavy threads.



An iron handheld hammer called as Musale, used in beating two pieces of leather, which are glued together.

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A flat iron chisel used in cutting through leather and thick clothes.



A plier that is used in holding the rubber sole while giving it a shape.



Steel scale to measure the cloth and leather, which will go into cutting.



Fevicol SR glue, used in stitching leather pieces together.

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Presses die in the shape of shoe sole, which will cut the soles out of rubber mat, in a press cutting machine.



Leather sheets of various animals like Sheep, goat and buffalo.



A wooden mold of shoe interior, which is inserted when the shoe is inserted, such that it can take shape of a shoe.

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Making Process

In the mojari making it consists of following parts that is:

- Sole part
- Strap part
- Combining of the sole and the strap part

Strap Making:

In the mojari making of the strap, it consists of embroidery part and the leather part. In olden days the embroidery of the mojari were specially made by hand which had its own uniqueness. Due to the time consumption and cost reduction of making the mojari, nowadays it is machine embroidered. The embroidery works are cut pieces pasted either on the leather or resin leather and dried completely. The remaining leather piece are cut out leaving only the strap size. Depending on the designs the straps are further attached with the leather materials.

Sole Making:

As per the size of the sole of foot it is cut on the leather which is then pasted pair wise on the resin leather with a smooth finish. Rubber material of the same sole size is cut on the Hand press machine to the required sizes with the stencil press. The rubber and the leather part both are applied with the adhesive, it is semi dried and fixed together by impacting with muasle tool (locally called) in some cases. In some others they are cut of the same size and kept ready for the next process.

Combining of the Sole and the Strap Part:

As the strap and sole part of the mojari is completely dried, the strap part is inserted to the sole part by making either horizontal or vertical small holes on the sole by which the strap is inserted keeping the wooden mould as the reference of the sizes. After the sole and the strap are firmly fixed, the rubber sole is pasted to the bottom and impact with muasle tool. In the other case the strap and the sole parts are stitched together with the long needle and cotton thread, after that as per the sole colour the polish is applied. Either the plain or the coloured piping's are stuck or stitched to the edges to beautify the outlook of mojari. At every stage it is hammered so that the layers of the sole are held together. There are many varieties, as per the design of the mojari patterns, the craftsmen specially make for the men and women.

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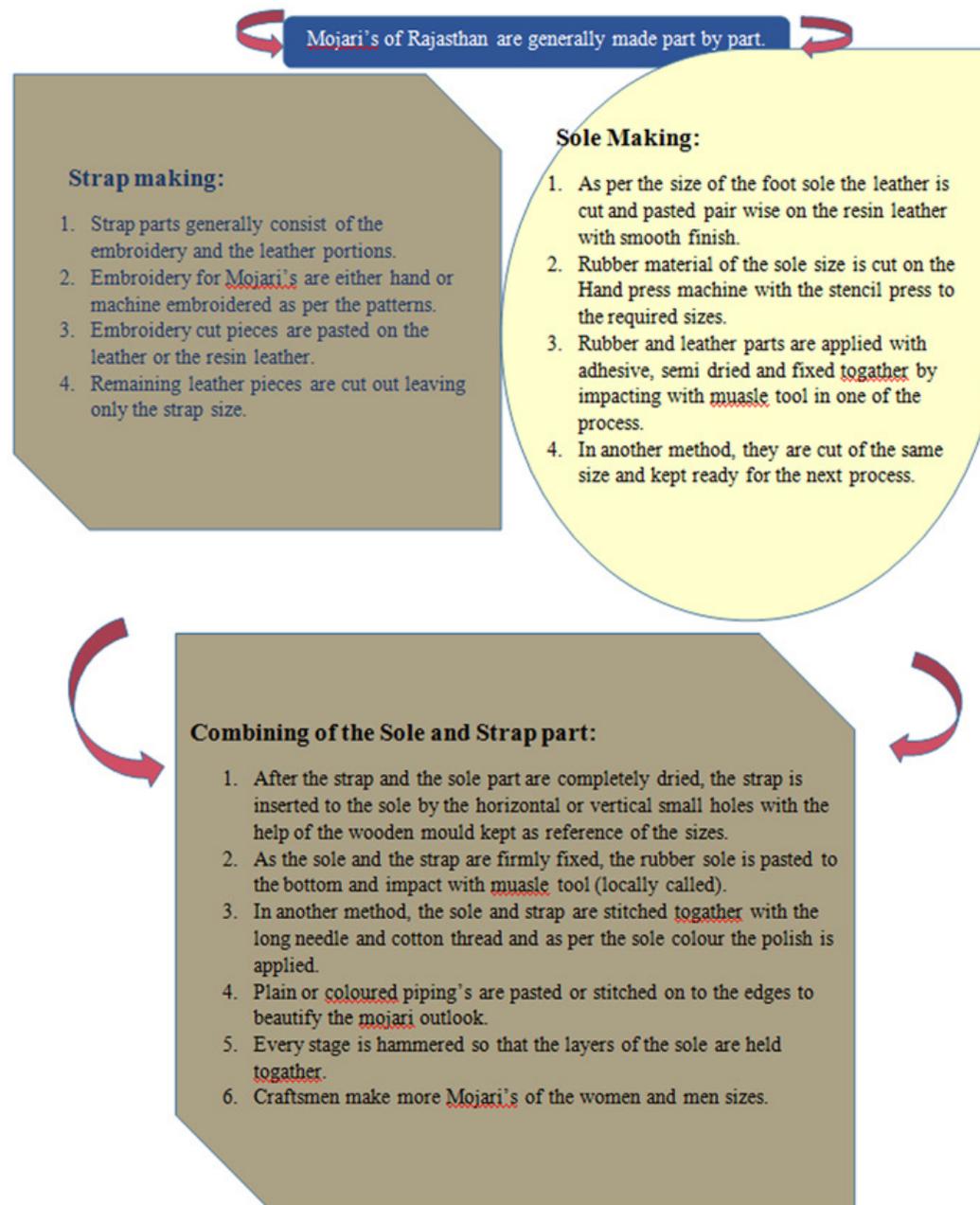
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Flow Chart of Making Process:



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A rubber mat is pressed in the die cut machine, which makes the soul of the Mojari.



The sole is then pasted to a thin sheet of leather, which gives a soft padding to the legs.



Shoe soles are then kept for drying for a stronger bondage.

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An image showing a velvet cloth piece with embroidery on it ready to be cut into a shape which forms upper part of the mojari.



The excess piece of leather is trimmed away from the embroidered pattern.



It is also pasted on a thin sheet of leather, which gives a smoother surface to the interior part of the mojari.

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An image showing bundle of such pieces stacked together.



Finally the sole and the upper part of the mojaris are stitched together.



Wooden molds are inserted in the finished shoe piece, so that it retains the shape post drying.

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Products

Mojari's of Jaipur has a variety of chappals / jutti's that are commonly worn during weddings, official and festival occasions. It is generally worn by both men and women with its varying styles and patterns. Some of the mojari's the craftsmen have are as follows:

For the ladies are Phavadi, Kholo, Kashiba, Lacto chapel, Dhadi chapel, lucky mojari, Khakhi ja etc.

For the gents are Phatiala kush, Vaevadi kusha, Jodhapuri, Kanpuri chapel, Ghar dholma etc.

Previously it was made of camel leather, then with the goat, buffalo leather and nowadays with a mixture of animal leather, resin leather and rubber. The cost of a pair of the mojari varies between Rs.150 to about Rs.500 depending on the patterns.



A red colored mojari with embroider piece of work on it.

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A pink colored base with combination of blue colored embroider mojari.



Mojari with mirror work embroidery on it.



A multi colored embroider mojari, which suits all the occasions.

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Contact Details

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You can get in touch with

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You could write to the following address regarding suggestions and clarifications:

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