Indian Women Keep Secret Of Baskets To Themselves

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The growing public interest in hand-made crafts and native arts and crafts has drawn many Indians into the spotlight. Some are making baskets, others are painting, weaving or sculpting. The result is a renaissance of traditional arts and crafts among many Native American groups.

The baskets are not only beautiful but also functional and durable. They are made from a variety of materials, including willow, hazel, and sweetgrass. The design and color of each basket is unique and reflects the culture and values of the community that created it.

However, there is a secret behind the making of these baskets. Many women, who are the main creators, keep their techniques and methods hidden and passed down through generations. This keeps the tradition alive and ensures that it is preserved for future generations.

“Making baskets is more than just creating something beautiful,” said Mary Johnson, a basket maker from the Cherokee Nation. “It’s a way of preserving our culture and passing it down to our children.”

Many of these women work in small groups, keeping their techniques secret from outsiders. “We don’t want our baskets to be copied,” said Johnson. “We want them to be unique and special to our community.”

Despite the secrecy, there are some who are willing to share their knowledge and teach others. “I’ve been teaching my daughter how to make baskets since she was a little girl,” said Johnson. “She’s learning quickly and I hope she’ll carry on the tradition.”

The baskets are sold at local markets and events, and some are even sold online. However, the women who make them are careful not to sell them too widely, as they fear that the tradition will be lost.

“Making baskets is a way of connecting with our ancestors and preserving our heritage,” said Johnson. “We want to keep this tradition alive so that future generations can continue to enjoy the beauty and craftsmanship of these baskets.”

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