170 Mile Creek Road Grand Portage, MN 55605



manidoominensikaan (beadwork)

The Ojibwe beadwork tradition is inspired by things in the natural world to create a floral or geometric design. Beadwork can be made into necklaces, earrings, hairpieces, leggings, moccasins, etc. Appliqué beadwork is sewn/embroidered onto a beading foundation, felt or leather.

Prior to colonization, the Ojibwe people were doing quillwork, an art form similar to be adwork with porcupine quills instead of glass beads. During the fur trade, Ojibwe people began to trade furs for colorful beads and so they started to transfer techniques and designs from quillwork into beadwork.



