

## History & manufacturing

The manufacturing process was introduced by shipwrecked Arabs arriving on the east coast of Madagascar approx 1000 years ago. In order to replace the Koran that had been lost with the ship, the Arabs searched for fibres which could be used for making a new. (At this time, ca 700-1000 AD there where no written language, neither any paper on Madagascar. ) When they found the wild growing Avoha-bush the manufacturing of paper could be started.

The technique is described below.



Step 1. Bark is collected from the Avoha bush. The bark fibres is boiled in water. No bleach or binding agent is used.



Step 2. The mass that is received from boiling is worked so that the coarse fibres are crushed and the mass gets smooth.



Step 3. The mass is spread out on a wet cotton cloth stretched over a wooden frame. Each individual paper sheet is formed and flowers and straws are placed as decorations in the still wet paper mass.



Step 4. The frames are placed in the sun and when the drying is finished, the sheets are carefully detached from the cotton cloth.

**Result!**



Designer and producer Mme Jéistine + daughter.

