

leggings and other articles of clothing. Women who did this work were so respected they were believed to have supernatural abilities. Later beading tended to replace porcupine quill work as it was easier to do. While designs seldom could be attributed to specific tribes, each had certain characteristics which commonly appeared in its work: the Blackfoot made frequent use of heavy plain diamonds while the Sioux preferred more complex designs of varying small geometrical forms; Crees sometimes borrowed floral designs from their woodland neighbours, but also used heavy diamond patterns.

The nomadic life of the Plains Indians largely restricted their art to the decoration or design of useful objects.

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