



To all group members,

These are ONLY GUIDELINES, as many tribes have different associations with what would be considered taboo in the way of fabric.

This is NOT by any means a guide to reject fabric. On the contrary. We get many requests, such as migrant, schools, special-needs, homeless communities, even first responders etc. and any fabrics that are questionable may be used for non-native requests. These are our guidelines designed to assist you on some of the questions you have had about Native Culture and what patterns you may want to avoid.

The following is our own list of things to avoid for Native Tribes (generalization)

- ◆ Teepees
- ◆ Feathers
- ◆ Headdresses
- ◆ Dream catchers
- ◆ Anything that could be considered racist – swastikas, Confederate flag (battle flag or other), etc.
- ◆ Crosses, Menorahs – or any religious symbol
- ◆ Egyptian symbols
- ◆ Solid Black (patterns on a black background are OK)
- ◆ Reptiles (including snakes, lizards, dragons, dinosaurs.)
- ◆ Kokopelli
- ◆ Trickster
- ◆ Canines (Fox, wolf, dog, coyote)
- ◆ Arrows (or bullets, or anything used to take lives)
- ◆ Bones (anything dead, really, including extinct species)
- ◆ Skulls
- ◆ Owls, Crows, Ravens (black birds), Vultures

It is important to remember that there are very diverse cultures across America.

- “ While skulls are generally not allowed, some Communities celebrate the Day of the Dead with skulls, and fabric with skulls, bones, sugar skulls, etc.
- “ While Turtles are reptiles, some Nations consider Turtle Island sacred, and turtles might be worn in those communities.

It is important for you to remember that this is a GENERALIZED LIST that we have created on our page to give you a guideline. We can use many, many fabrics around the native communities that still have high numbers of native requests around them. If you have a question about the fabric choice you are making, please reach out to us! We do not like to turn away masks when the need is so great! You can reach out to our sewing advisors and they can guide you, or you can reach out to us at our email at SewingAdvisor@SewingForNativeNations.org.

Blessings,
Admin Team

*** Please know that we NEVER turn fabric or Masks away! Even if it is not suitable for First Nations people, we can find a home for them.