

Indigo Ajrakh

Seven pages for one week, by hand, in the diary with this cover.

READ YOUR COVER

Your cover is cotton, hand block-printed in the Ajrakh tradition: indigo bands of paisley and leaf motifs. In Kutch, printers don't call that teardrop a paisley. They call it *keri*, the mango. Ajrakh has a name for almost everything it prints.



keri
MANGO



kakkar
CLOUD



mifudi
RAINDROPS

Simplified drawings, not copies of a printer's block.

THE ONLY RULES

- ◆ One page a day
- ◆ By hand, about ten minutes
- ◆ No rubbing out
- ◆ Nobody else has to read it

A page written by hand is the one nobody else could have written.

FROM THE STUDIO, AHMEDABAD

THIS WEEK

- 01** **WRITE**
10 min
Keri is the mango. Write about one fruit that belongs to a place you love: who picked it, which month, what the kitchen smelled like.
- 02** **DRAW**
5 min
Draw *kakkar*, the three-lobed cloud, ten times down the page. Let each one come out a little different. Real printing blocks differ from family to family too.
- 03** **LOOK**
10 min
Find one repeating pattern at home: a window grille, a floor tile, a sari border. Copy a single repeat, then note the place where the pattern breaks.
- 04** **WRITE**
10 min
Ajrakh is printed and dyed in layers, each with its own block. List the layers of your day so far, one line each, in the order they happened.
- 05** **MAKE**
10 min
Rule a loose grid across the page by hand. This is your *jaal*, the lattice that holds an Ajrakh together. Fill each square with one small mark, and never repeat a mark.
- 06** **WRITE**
10 min
Mifudi means raindrops. Write about the last rain you remember properly: where you were, who was there, what you did next.
- 07** **RETURN**
5 min
Turn back through this week's pages. Circle one line you didn't expect to write, and copy it onto the first page of the diary.



TWENTY SHEETS

One for every diary print, free. Scan the code or visit houseoffalguni.com/pages/haath-se

SHARE A PAGE

Made one you like? Tag @houseoffalguni.

Motif names from the Gaatha craft archive, the M.S. University of Baroda Textile Art Museum and the International Folk Art Market, as gathered at houseoffalguni.com/pages/ajrakh-motifs