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The Blue Trumpet



The Blue Trumpet offers a large selection of natural shell tea light holders with a Lotus motif, as well as display stands. Their soothing aura will renew your spirit!



Capiz (pronounced "capeez") shells are found only in the shallow coastal waters of the Philippines and parts of Indonesia. These beautiful translucent shells are actually the outer covering of a mollusk (scientific term is *placuna placenta*). Traditionally, capiz shells have also been referred to as "windowpane" oyster, as they were used in early Philippine houses as sliding windowpanes. The *placuna placenta* is not an endangered species, although the Philippine government exercises certain controls over the export of capiz shell products. Harvesting the shells does not result in any environmental damage.

Each shell is unique, with distinctive swirls or other markings. Like humans, they are imperfect but beautiful in their individuality!

Capiz shells are harvested by divers working independently or in small groups. Most capiz shell products are created by extended families. The shells are cleaned, cut to size and shape using patterns, then assembled by hand into a wide variety of products. Brass or metal edgings around the shells enable the artisan to join shells into many different styles of product. Painting of the shells may occur before or after assembly.

Capiz shell products should always be handled with care. The shells themselves are flame resistant.

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