

Implements and Tools

Many tools are used by Polynesians such as chisels, clubs, whisks, adzes, fans and fly swats.

Handles are quite decorative and important parts of any tool. They help to identify the owner and act as a handle.

Fans

Fans can be any size.

Using stiff card, the fan can be the base for many designs either applied or painted.

Handles should be a strong feature of the overall design.

Flat card, tube or bamboo can be used as the handle. Then glue or bind the handle to the fan.

Different themes and shapes can be found in the exhibition.

Whisks

Whisks are used as a status symbol and an accessory for an orator.

Whisk materials can be thin sticks, root fibre, string, card etc.

Adding small beads, stones, shells etc. can make the whisks very colourful and decorative.

Handles again are an important part of the overall design.

Flints

Polynesians used flint tools as both cutters and scrapers. Used carefully, flints can be used in the classroom to scratch designs on the fans or whisks.

Split a stick of green wood such as ash, sycamore or fruit wood such as apple to insert the flint. Bind the two together with string or strong twine.