

# Thimbles made from unusual materials

These thimbles were created for the collectables market – created mainly in 1980s and 1990s. There must have been a big demand for thimbles made of different materials for such a huge number created. There are still thimble collectors today who specialise in the unusual materials range.

I knew of the popular types of material like stone thimbles or those crocheted from cotton – the papier mâché from the Philippines. Once I started to find photos for this topic, I was stunned – there are thimbles from over 100 different and unusual materials. 1% of them were created in the late 1800s and during the 19<sup>th</sup> century: gutta percha, tortoiseshell (no apologies for including John Piercy's thimbles here) and vulcanite.

Some of the materials used were quite fragile, so unable to retain their thimble shape. In this instance they were placed over metal, wood or plastic thimbles (like beaded thimbles). Some were made to be used for the purpose created – like leather thimbles. I have made it clear under the specific materials, the thimbles that are not included within the scope of this topic.

Clever craftsmen created some of these thimbles to be able to exchange their thimbles with other collectors  
(Yvonne Winspear of Australia)

I have attempted to list the materials in the following order within each group: maker, then country of origin and then the rest where neither of the above is known.

I have included as many catalogue references as I can find to help with the year they were made, using the following abbreviations:

CC – Collectors Circle (New York)  
Fel – Feldman (Germany)  
Gim – Gimbels (Maine)  
KS – De vingerhoed (Netherlands)  
PJW – PJ Walter (Germany)  
TCI – Thimble Collectors International Bulletin (USA)  
TTG – The Thimble Guild (Scotland)  
TO – Thimbles Only (Jean Shoup USA)  
TSL – Thimble Society of London  
VH - John von Hoelle  
VN – Vingerhoednieuws (Netherlands)

For similar topics see

Bog oak thimbles  
Glass thimbles  
Horn and bone thimbles  
Ivory thimbles  
Jenny Blair Designs' thimbles

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## **abalone**

see also: paua shell



in acrylic

**acetate**



France  
mother of pearl style

**agate**



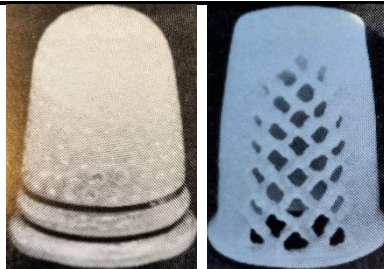
over brass

**alabaster**

see also: lavender alabaster - pink alabaster - strawberry alabaster - white alabaster



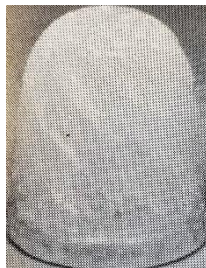
Italy  
MR  
handpainted



Philadelphia USA  
John von Hoelle  
L: gold bands  
VH 13-14  
b&w photo



Argentina



Italy



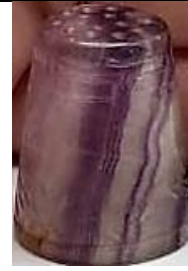
**amber**  
fossilised pine resin from Russia



**amethyst**



India  
carved lotus  
limited to **50**  
TTG March 1990



**aventurine**



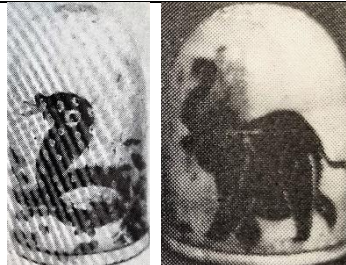
India  
L: blue – R: green  
carved lotus  
limited to **50**  
TTG March 1990

**bamboo**

see also: wicker



China  
TTG March 1991



India  
VH 1178, 1180  
b&w photo



Philippines

**bark**



Healesville Australia  
Michael Morris  
1989



Melbourne Australia  
Ann Shuttleworth  
salmon gum bark with  
paperbark apex  
over metal thimble  
1990



Sydney Australia  
Yvonne Winspear  
handpainted paperbark  
over leatherwood  
TTG January 1987



Australia  
plaited

beads



Egypt

Randa Ahmet Unique Design



Bellevue WA USA  
Bead Loom Gallery  
 includes Swarovski crystals  
 several made as British royal commemoratives



Canada  
Olga Bushkova  
 over metal thimble  
 2010-



Mexico  
B Kena (Huichol)  
over wood



Russia  
Olga Malyshkina  
over plastic thimbles  
2003



Japan  
Miyuki



Mexico  
Nicholas and Adolina (Huichol)  
 over ceramic  
 TCI winter 2013



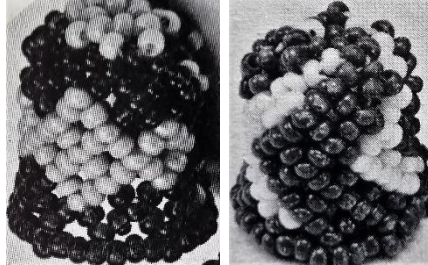
Sarah Lee Parker  
 mainly open-topped  
 L: over metal thimble



USA  
Janet Pitts  
 Bee - Twin Towers 9-11-01 - candy cane - butterfly - black birds - palms stag - masks  
 beads glued onto wooden thimbles



Coventry UK  
Jacqui Walker  
L: limited to **195**  
L: TTG January 1989



Denmark  
KS June 1985  
b&w photos



Kenya  
TTG September 2005



Russia  
 over wood (except bottom row R)  
 bottom R: rainbow colours limited to **250**  
 some Matruschka-shaped  
 TTG 1998-2001 - VN 2006-2009



South Africa  
 using galvanised wire  
 TCI fall 2021



South Africa  
 Fel 12 1990 - VN 1994



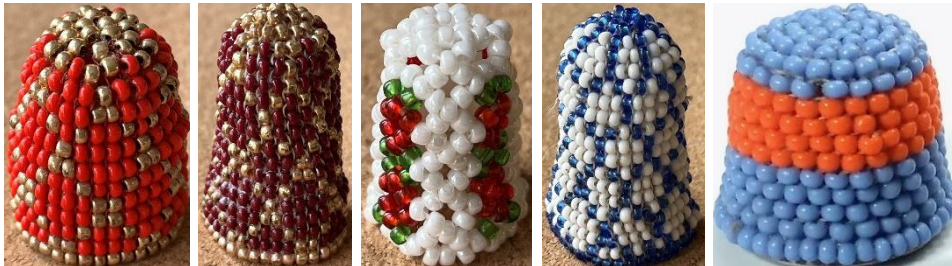
South Africa  
Zulu beads



South Africa  
over plastic



UK  
Tailor of Gloucester – over wood



unknown makers

## bear claw quartz



Argentina  
Sewing Corner 1978



## birch bark



Urals, Russia  
Alex and Alfiya Guriny

## black marble



UK  
Caroline and John Smith  
marble from Belgium  
TTG June 1988



Taiwan  
Sewing Corner 1978



VN 2001

## black onyx



India  
carved lotus  
limited to **50**  
TTG March 1990

## blue onyx



Argentina  
Juan Arrieta Quiroga

## Blu Tack

commercial putty-like adhesive, Leicester UK 1969-



Brisbane Australia  
Sandra Menger  
'Thimbles of Australia Sue Gowan 1998'

## brick



UK  
house brick  
limited to **750**  
TTG August 1991

## calabash



Argentina

## Carrara marble



marble mixed with resin

## carrot



Finland  
VN 67 2001



Finland  
VN 77 2003



USA

## chalk



UK  
Kingmaker  
bonded resin  
TTG September 1986

## coal



Wales  
Kingmaker  
bonded resin

miner's face (plain and handpainted) – miner - pithead - miner's lamp and tools  
all commemorating the end of the 1985 miner's strike  
(plain and handpainted limited to **3500**)  
some miner's face thimbles are signed EJ for Eddie and Janet  
TTG March 1985



Wellsburg West Virginia USA  
compressed  
TO 1980-1983 - VH174

## coconut shell



Diamantina Minas Gerais Brazil

AP  
late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
maker's initials on apex  
18ct gold apex and clouté studs in a ring  
R: carved simple fleur de lis pattern by local women



Diamantina Minas Gerais Brazil  
late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
18ct gold apex and clouté studs in two rings



Egypt  
Randa Ahmet Unique Design



Philippines  
over metal thimble  
TTG March 1996

**concrete**



UK  
Christine and John Smith  
created from old pavement  
TTG September 1989

**coral**



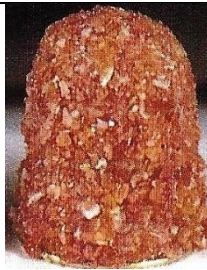
France  
carved  
19<sup>th</sup> century  
Christies 1995 117



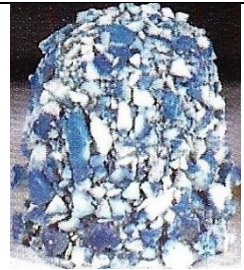
Philippines  
etched  
TO 1984 - VH



Thailand  
TTG June 1988



pink coral Great Barrier Reef  
over metal  
TTG April 1988



blue coral Indian Ocean  
over metal  
TTG April 1988



over metal

**cork**



Bridge of Weir Scotland  
Carina Down



**corn**

plaited after the style of corn dollies



UK  
Betty Blackwood  
TTG June 1985

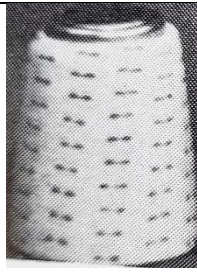


UK  
Mrs Horsfall  
butterfly  
limited to **250**  
TTG October 1998



UK  
flowers

**corncob**



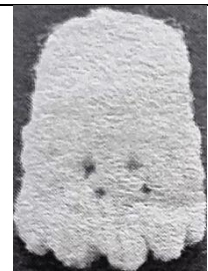
USA  
brass apex  
VH 1177  
b&w photo

**cotton**

thimbles are created of crochet, tatting, knitting or lacemaking. They were usually stiffened with sugar water or starch. Many are embellished with beads and ribbon  
see also: silk, linen



Valledolid Spain  
Rosa Aragon  
crochet  
2025



Connecticut USA  
Edith Archibald  
crochet  
TO 1984



Toowoomba Australia  
Beryl  
crochet



Melbourne Australia  
Joan Blaney  
crochet



Shropshire UK  
Vilma Buck  
crochet



Brisbane Australia  
Kay Collins  
tatting



Illinois USA  
Lurene Connor  
crochet



Gauteng South Africa  
Gili Davis  
crochet



Queensland Australia  
Elena Dickson  
knotted lace over  
stiffened board



Conwy Wales  
Pat Durrant  
crochet



Perth Australia  
Betty Dutschke  
crochet



Helsinki Finland  
Irja Helsila  
tatting



UK  
Lynne Hutchings  
crochet  
limited to **250**  
TTG May 1986  
b&w photo



Kilcoy Australia  
Margaret Hickling  
tatting



Perth Australia  
Barbara Martin  
sewing



Brisbane Australia  
Sandra Menger  
crochet



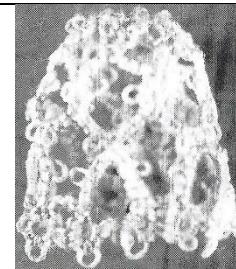
Melbourne Australia  
Ann Shuttleworth  
crochet



Mexico  
Nicholas and Adolina  
 over moulded plastic  
 TCI winter 2013



USA  
Florence Regan  
 crochet, some with crossstitch  
 Gim 1996



UK  
Christine Ross  
 tatting  
 limited to **200**  
 TTG May 1987  
 b&w photo



North Carolina USA  
Jane Sapone  
 crochet  
 b&w photo



Connecticut USA  
Doris E Shaw  
 crochet

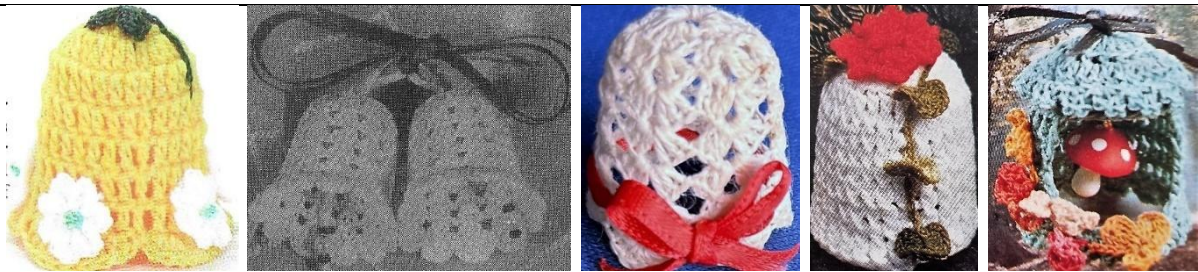


Melbourne Australia  
Ann Shuttleworth  
 crochet



Netherlands  
Miep van Eijk  
 crochet  
 TTG November 1983  
 b&w photo





Coventry UK  
Jacqui (Jacqueline) Walker  
 crochet

find those commemorating Armistice, Olympics and a chair shape  
 mostly no limited numbers available but the limited editions range from **75 to 300**  
 TTG from March 1985-2005



California USA  
Chris Weber  
 crochet  
 TO 2007 - 2007 - 1984



USA  
Helen Werner  
 for Hawkeye Thimblers 1991



UK  
Cathy Whithead  
crochet  
limited to **250**  
TTG May 1991



USA  
R: created for Hawkeye Thimblers



Finland  
needle lace



unknown makers

**dark rose onyx**



Mexico 1975

## Deliciosa Monstera



Perth Australia  
Barbara Martin  
stitched dried calyx

### fabric



USA  
Status Thimble  
kit to create this stitched fabric



Argentina  
made from woven cloth

### feathers



handpainted feathers over plastic  
Marina Nestorova  
VN 67 2001



handpainted feathers over brass  
Marina Nestorova

**FIMO**  
commercial modelling clay



Benoni South Africa  
Tessa Browne



Empangeni South Africa  
Wendy Seymour



South Africa  
metal thimble

**fish skin**



Quebec Canada  
Les Cuirs Fins de la Mer



USA  
Boulder Bay  
carp with filigree cap



Scotland  
salmon  
over brass or metal  
TCI September 1989 - TTG July  
1990



Scotland  
dyed fish scale over wood

**fossils**



UK  
Pinpoint Design  
(later name used by Christine and John Smith)  
limestone  
TTG May 1993

## granite



UK

Caroline and John Smith

Berlin Wall - Italian granorosada - Russian pink yemel

C - R : TTG February 1988 - TTG October 1991



## grass

see also: raffia, straw



Robyn  
basketry

## green marble



UK

Christine and John Smith

marble from Portugal

limited to **200**

TTG December 1988



Taiwan

Sewing Corner 1978

## gumnut



Kalbarri Western Australia

### gutta percha

Rubber-like material discovered in 1843. Palaquiium trees from Malaysia and Borneo  
It is brittle and lightweight. It was used as mourning jewellery as well as jet



### haematite



### heather

the roots are picked, dried, dyed, blocked, compressed, glued, turned and lacquered. First made into thimbles in 1980. Thimbles ceased by 2004





Pitlochry Scotland  
Hugh Kerr of Heathergems  
 no two alike



Pitlochry Scotland  
Hugh Kerr of Heathergems  
 metal rims



Pitlochry Scotland  
Hugh Kerr of Heathergems  
 thistle-shaped

**Helsinkiitti**



Helsinki Finland  
Pekka Kiviluoto  
 1990

**horse hair**



Arizona USA  
Donna Mendoz  
 TCI spring 2001  
 b&w photo



Arizona USA  
Leona Antone  
 TCI spring 2001  
 b&w photo



Arizona USA  
Linda Hendricks  
 TCI spring 2001  
 b&w photo

**jade**

also known as nephrite

many jade thimbles are made with toppers – they are not included



Pilbara Australia



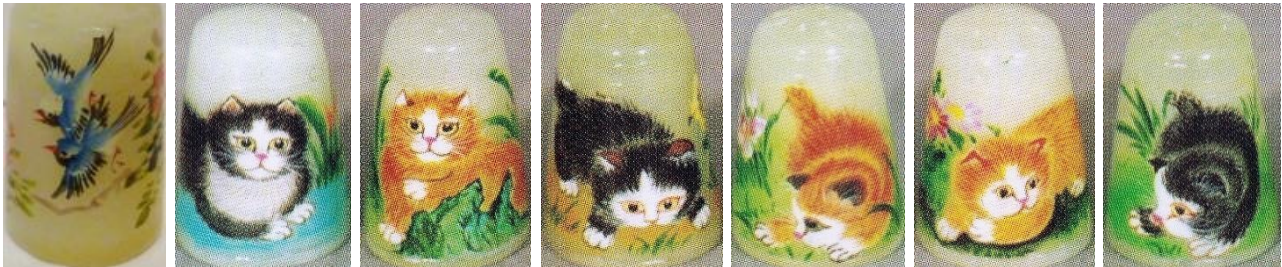
Bergenland Austria  
Fel 7 1988  
b&w photo



Austria  
mini size



Canada  
with a maple leaf etched



China  
handpainted  
TTG 2003 set of six animals – TTG 2002 cats



China  
carved  
TO 1983



India  
lower R: chang san crystal jade  
limited to **50**

TTG March 1990 - CC 1978 - PJW 85-6 - VN 74 2000



Portugal  
VN 92 2007



Turkey  
handpainted  
TTG April 1989



Taiwan



**jadite**



**Jersey cabbage stalk**



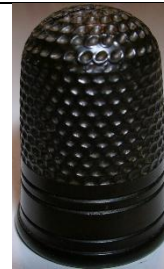
UK

**jet**

jet was used as mourning jewellery, replacing vulcanite and gutta percha



Missouri USA  
Brad Elfrink Elvenkrafte Studios  
 thistle  
 with Siberian horn apex



Whitby UK



Whitby UK  
 carved  
 carved cottage - cathedral - toadstools  
 smooth

smooth

### kangaroo skin



Sydney Australia  
Yvonne Winspear  
brass kangaroo on boomerang pin  
1983  
TTG May 1984

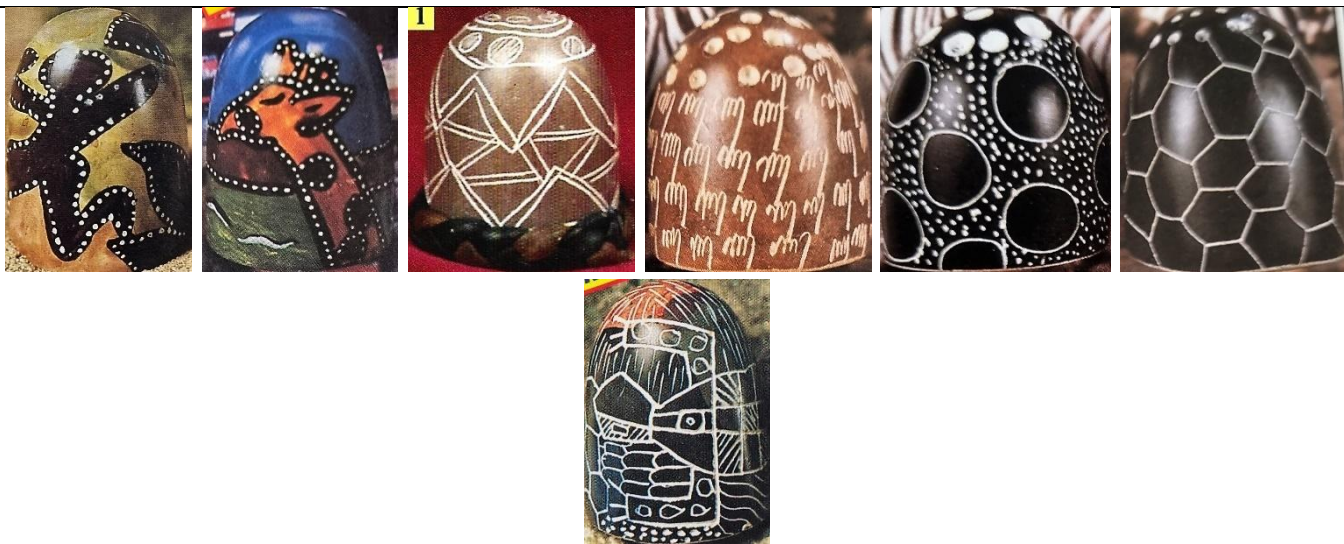
### Kingman turquoise



Arizona USA

### Kisii stone

mined by the Kenyan tribe of the same name



Kenya

L>R: handpainted figure - handpainted giraffe - leather rim - representing cheetah, giraffe, python  
TTG 1991 - 1994

**lapis lazuli**





 <p>Argentina <u>Juan Arrieta Quiroga</u> R: with rhodochrosite</p>	 <p>Pakistan VN 92 1999</p>	 <p>Portugal CC 1978</p>
 <p>commissioned by The Rock Shop Perth from Asia 1990</p>		

**lavender alabaster**

 <p>Italy handpainted violet</p>
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**leather**

see also: Canadian leather thimbles topic

 <p><u>Birch</u></p>	 <p><u>Clover</u> L: tailor's</p>
 <p>Japan <u>Olympus</u></p>	 <p>Egypt <u>Randa Ahmet Unique Design</u> L: over plastic</p>



R Reidler



New Lanark Scotland  
Ronnie Parker  
'Easter 1984



Brisbane Australia  
Sandra Menger



Sydney Australia  
Yvonne Wisnpear  
handpainted chamois  
over wood  
beads on apex  
'1788-1988'  
limited to **100**  
TTG July 1988



India  
VH 648  
b&w photo



Ireland  
sewing rind



Kenya



Korea



Mexico



South Africa



Thailand  
L: tailor's - R: tall for use with long fingernails



UK  
gold-tooled streted over metal



UK  
gold-tooled streted over wood



unknown country of origin



sailor's palms  
with various metal pushers

**linen**



USA  
Cael Chappell  
 waxed thread  
 R: b& w photo

**Lucite**

Gimbels used the term acrylic



USA  
Davy Jones Locker  
 imbedded starfish and seahorse and seashells  
 limited to **250**  
 Gim 1990 - Sewing Corner 1976



USA  
 shredded US currency



**malachite**



Argentina



Egypt  
Randa Ahmet Unique Design



Phalaborwa South Africa  
John van der Westhuizen

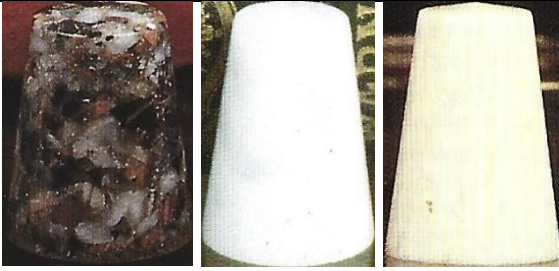


Gim 1990



## marble

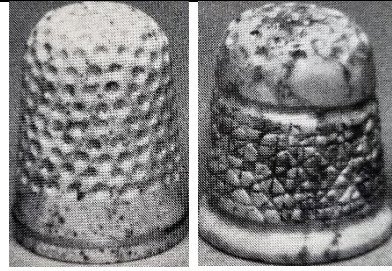
see also: black marble – Carrara - green marble – pink marble



UK

Christine and John Smith

L>R: marble of chips from around the world –  
Carrara Italy – creamy  
two at R limited to **250**  
TTG May 1989 – January 1989 – December 1988



Philadelphia USA

John von Hoelle

VH 1088-89  
b&w photos



Barossa Australia



Taiwan

Sewing Corner 1978



VN 64 2001 – Gim 1983



## meerschaum

This lightweight mineral, sepiolite, is a lightweight claylike material. It floats on water and this gives its name sea foam (direct translation from German word meerschaum)



Turkiye

Mustafa

handcarved

TTG November 1989 – VN 96 2008



Istanbul Turkiye  
 Sinan Atilla  
 handcarved  
 two L: TTG August, October 2009



San Marcos CA USA  
 Royal Meerschaum



South Africa  
 baked Tanzanian meerschaum  
 Fel 20 1992



Tanzania  
 VN 46 1998



foxglove

**nundoorite**



commissioned by The Rock Shop Perth from Asia 1990

**onyx**

see also: black onyx – blue onyx – dark rose onyx

 <p>Argentina <u>Juan Arrieta Quiroga</u> with rhodochrosite</p>	 <p>Argentina <u>Onyx-Mar</u> septagonal</p>	 <p>Mendoza Argentina Sewing Corner 1976</p>	 <p>India carved lotus limited to <b>50</b> TTG March 1990</p>
 <p>Karachi Pakistan</p>	 <p>Scotland <u>Gem Rock Museum</u> TO 1993</p>		

**paper**



**papier mâché**

flour, salt and water are added to rice paper pulp

often mistakenly described as wooden in second-hand market – a dead giveaway is Kashmir papier mâché thimbles are black inside





Apollo Bay Australia  
 Shirley Bennett – Haley  
 handpainted and lacquered  
 last five have opal on apex  
 1979-1985







Kashmir India  
 handpainted and lacquered in small batches by small family businesses  
 all black-lacquered inside  
 TTG 1988-2001 - TO 1983-2007 - Gim 1980-1082 - PJW 85-6 - VH714



Japan  
TO 1983



Japan



Russia  
signed in cyrillic



Thailand



USA

**paua shell**

see also: abalone



Mooloolaba Australia  
Shell Museum  
over plastic thimble



New Zealand  
set mainly in Perspex or resin  
L: silver kiwi – bottom R: over wood



Philippines

**peacock feathers**



**peat**



UK  
handpainted The Lindow man  
bonded in resin  
TTG July 1997

**picture jasper**



commissioned by The Rock Shop Perth from Asia 1990

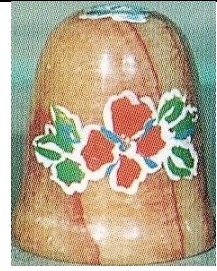
## pink marble



Italy  
MR  
handpainted



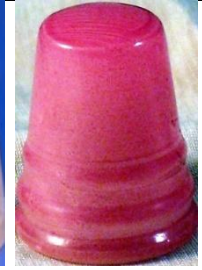
UK  
Christine and John Smith  
limited to **200**  
marble sourced from Portugal



Turkey  
handpainted



handpainted



## plum slate



Llanberis North Wales UK  
Christine and John Smith (Guild members)  
limited to **250**  
TTG January 1988

## potato skins



USA  
Lucerne Wulf  
2005

### pumpkin skin



Argentina  
carved by Toba peoples  
TCI spring 2013

### pyrophyllite



Swakopmund Namibia  
L: 'Swakopmund'

### raffia

see also: grass, straw



Coventry UK  
Jacqui Walker  
TGG April 1984  
b&w photo

### red agate



India  
limited to **50**  
TTG March 1990

### resin stone



over plastic

### rhodochrosite



Argentina  
L: Sewing Corner 1976

### rhodonite



commissioned by The Rock Shop  
Perth from Asia 1990

### rice paper



Japan  
limited to **350**  
TTG September 1987

### rice stalks



Philippines  
R: Fel 13 1990

### rose quartz



Pakistan  
VN 99 2009

### rosso Alicante









UK  
Pinpoint Design  
(name used by Christine and John Smith)  
stone sourced from Spain  
limited to **300**  
TTG September 1988

### rosso Bilbao




UK  
Christine and John Smith  
stone sourced from Spain by these Guild members  
limited to **250**  
TTG April 1989

**rubber**

			
<p>California USA <u>Good Stuf</u> needle grabber</p>	<p>USA <u>The Bionic Finger</u></p>	<p>'Fasta'</p>	<p>clerk's</p>
			
<p>clerk's</p>		<p>clerk's</p>	

**salmon stone**


<p>Philippines brass band Gim April 1984</p>

**sand**

		
<p>Ryedale UK <u>Tony Barnes</u> sand from Gulf War TTG April 1991</p>	<p>sand from Gulf War TTG April 1992</p>	

**seal skin**



Alaska USA  
handmade by indigenous peoples

**serpentine**



**shell**

Mexican shell over alpaca thimbles are outside the scope of this study  
see also: named shell ie coral







Philippines  
 shell applied over metal thimbles or moulded plaster-of-Paris  
 shell in form of chips or slices  
 TTG 1988-2001 - TO 1983-1993 - VH995-997



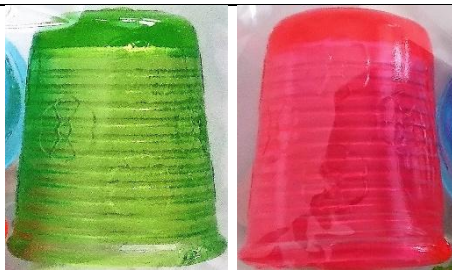
Thailand  
 TTG August 2001

**shingle**



UK  
 shingle collected from Criccieth beach North Wales

**silicone**



China  
 SewSweet  
 daisy shapes pressed into thimble



Sonic  
 nail-shaped



China  
 daisy shapes



**silk**

see also: cotton - fabric



Japan  
Syuku Otsu



Japan  
Quilt-Yui



Melbourne Australia  
Ann Shuttleworth  
weaving



Brisbane Australia  
Tricia Smout



Sydney Australia  
Yvonne Winspear  
wattle



Victoria Australia



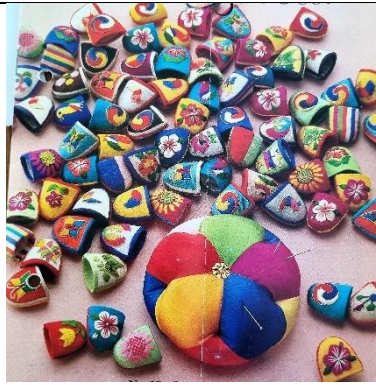
Japan

these ring silk thimbles are known as yubinuki  
handmade, they are lined with fabric usually with a cardboard lining



Korea  
Younmin Lee

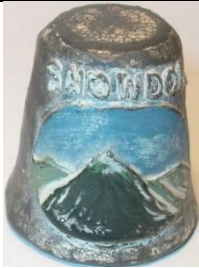




Chuncheon Korea  
 handmade, with silk stitches on padded silk or felt (some are quite crudely stitched)  
 known as kolmi  
 small opening at tip for fingernail  
 KS 9 1987 - Sewing Corner 1978 - TTG July 2004 - TO 1984 - VH 1000-1002 - Fel 10 1989

**slate**

see also: plum slate



Wales  
Kingmaker  
 handpainted 'Snowdon'  
 bonded with resin  
 TTG February 1986



Wales  
Pinpoint Precision  
 limited to **350**  
 TTG March 1993

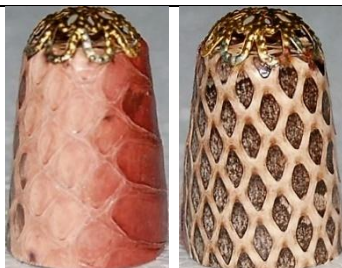


Wales  
Christine and Dave Smith  
 TTG August 1987



Westmoreland UK  
Christine and Dave Smith  
 limited to **500**  
 TTG November 1987

**snakeskin**



USA  
Boulder Bay (BB)  
 Asian ratsnake  
 filigree cap



USA  
 Texas rattlesnake  
 over wood  
 TTG June 1991 - Fel 18 1991

## soapstone



Scotland  
Gem Rock Museum



USA  
Parson Hayes  
Sewing Corner 1978



South Africa  
etched zebra



India  
TTG October 1989 - Gim 1997 - TTG March 1994



## sponge



USA  
Lucerne Wulf  
over metal

**stone**

see also: named stones ie jade



Egypt

Randa Ahmet - Unique Design



Argentina

Juan Arrieta Quiroga



Argentina

Martin Arrieta Quiroga

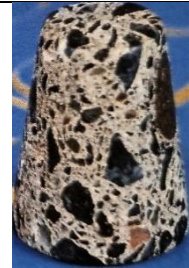


South Africa  
Susanne Rens



UK

Christine and John Smith  
stone sourced from EuroDisney  
limited to **475**  
TTG September 1992



UK

Christine and John Smith  
stone sourced from The Thistle  
Mill Biggar Scotland  
TTG September 1991



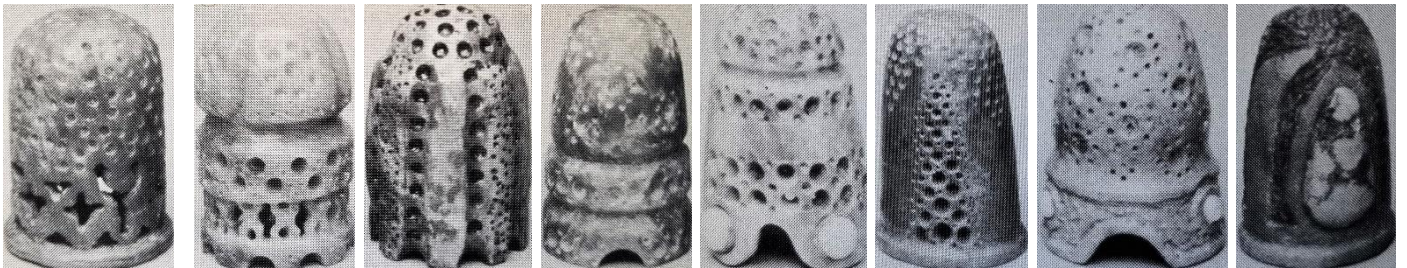
Argentina



Canada  
indigenous peoples  
VH 325-6



China  
Fel 17 1991



India



unknown country of origin  
 R: commissioned by The Rock Shop Perth from Asia 1990

**straw**

see also: grass, raffia



Hungary



Paraguay



VN 57 1999 VN 93 2007



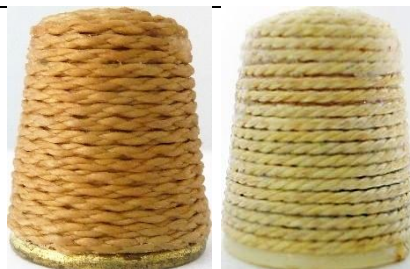
**strawberry alabaster**



Colorado USA  
 TTG July 1991

**string**

see also: Jacqui and David Parker of Olivia thimbles topic



Sydney Australia  
Yvonne Winspear

L: wound over brass – R: over plastic

**synthetics**



Brisbane Australia  
Ray Brittain



Scotland  
Penelope Burgess  
tartan under resin



Deborah Hull



Cirencester UK  
History Craft  
inset brass apex  
described as polymer ivory from ivory dust or sweepings or rosin  
a few have metal 'compass' in apex



UK  
Melissa Hookway



Dudley UK  
Woodsetton

peep: Visit of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip to China  
TTG November 1986



Argentina  
epoxy resin  
made by Toba indigenous people



China  
TTG June 2004  
polyresin



UK  
'Thimble Collectors Guild' - 'A  
stitch in time'  
TTG July 1987 August 1987



resin



resin



synthetic ruby



### telephone wire



Johannesburg South Africa  
Thabang Moloji

### tiger iron



commissioned by The Rock Shop Perth from Asia 1990

### tiger's eye



China  
TTG April 1989 - Fel 5 1988



India  
PJW 85-6



Pakistan  
VN 99 2009



## tortoiseshell

plastic fingerguards were created in tortoiseshell colour in 1910s



Birmingham UK

John Piercy

in November 1816 Piercy took out a patent, 4077, to combine tortoiseshell with gold, sterling silver, steel

British coat-of-arms on the slant with 'Piercy's Patent' on a ribbon underneath is impressed into the shell. There is a gold rim and the width of tortoiseshell varies



another design has a large crown in gold with 'Piercy's Patent' on a ribbon underneath dainty flowers and leaves surround a blank cartouche on the verso



another design has pinchbeck cartouche surrounded by fine flowers and leaves, with 'Piercy's Patent' underneath



another design has 'Piercy's Patent' over two lines with rectangular cartouche surrounded by flowers and leaves on the verso



steel-top with cartouche surrounded by fine flowers and leaves with 'Piercy's Patent' on a ribbon in pinchbeck

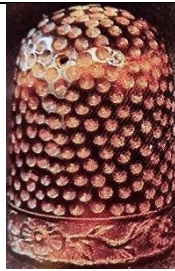


very rare example with Queen Charlotte surrounded by laurel wreath  
'Piercy's Patent' over two lines on verso

b&w photo



'Piercy's Patent' pierced pinchbeck thimbles over tortoiseshell  
Christies 1995 114-115



China



Germany 1985



Germany or Austria



UK  
carved  
18<sup>th</sup> century  
Christies 1995 110



UK  
various gold pique designs – stars, flowers, leaves and crosses  
9ct gold apex



UK  
wide band of silver

### travertine



### turquoise



Egypt  
Randa Ahmet Unique Design



pierced, with Chinese lettering  
Gim 1991



### velvet



Moscow Russia  
plush with beads and brocade over wood  
TTG October - December 2003

### verdite



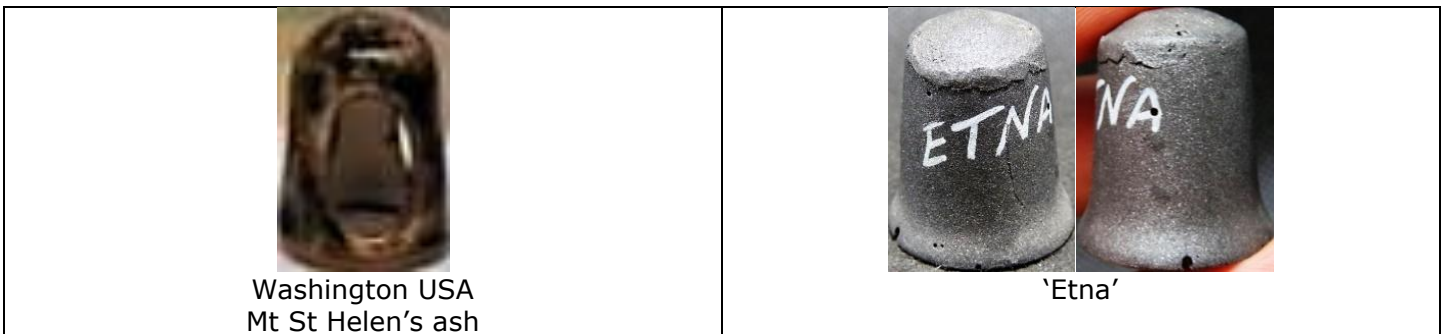
Phalaborwa South Africa  
John van der Westhuizen

South Africa  
Tswana Products

carved  
VN 95 2008

VN 46 1998

### volcanic ash



Washington USA  
Mt St Helen's ash

'Etna'

### volcanic rock



Scotland  
Christine and John Smith  
sourced from rock of Edinburgh Castle Mount  
TTG September 1992

**vulcanite**

hardened rubber, which was used as mourning jewellery. It was replaced by gutta percha and jet



USA  
band of 14ct gold  
size lettered on apex

**wax**



Bridge of Weir Scotland  
Carina Down  
candle with lace inset



Mind Your Own Beeswax



candle in shape of quilter's  
thimble

**white alabaster**



Italy

**wicker**

see also: bamboo



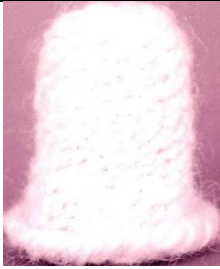
UK  
basket weave  
TTG January 2001

**wire**

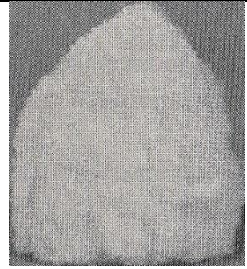


USA  
Yael Falk (YoolaDesign)  
stone apex

**wool**



Perth Australia  
Barbara Martin  
knitted



Sydney Australia  
Yvonne Winspear  
brass pin of map of Australia  
b&w photo

**zebra stone**



Kununurra Australia  
John Read

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This listing of Thimbles made from unusual materials does not purport to be complete or accurate in all aspects.  
Rather it invites comments and contributions to add to our knowledge. My thanks to the contributors.

EMAIL [thimbleselect@bigpond.com](mailto:thimbleselect@bigpond.com) TO SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

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