



• CRAFT/PROFESSION

Jeanne NEIMBO chiefly designs and makes traditional Mother Hubbard dresses.

She draws sketches, makes patterns and sews her designs using a sewing machine and an overseamer; she mixes the dyes for garments and dries them in the open air.

She draws her own stencils, often freehand, and embellishes her designs with wooden beads and other natural decorative elements. Her garments are entirely handcrafted.



• BACKGROUND

When she was 9 years old, Jeanne was taught to sew by her grandmother, who passed on her own creativity and love of sewing. Jeanne refined her techniques by researching online and reading manuals, and was given tips by a Koumac seamstress. Her mother and grandmother, both seamstresses, helped her and supported her ambitions.

• INSPIRATION AND ART/DESIGNS

Jeanne works mainly with cotton voile and calico. All her dyes are handmade. Her designs are inspired by the marine flora and wildlife of the Pacific Ocean and by Kanak rooftop totems, carved doorframes and huts.

“I want women to look beautiful and to give Mother Hubbard dresses a modern look without detracting from tradition. I think my designs can be worn by modern women from all ethnic backgrounds”.