

SHAKER HISTORY - video link to [Hancock Shaker Village in Pittsfield, MA](#)

The Shakers first came to America in 1774 led by a woman, Ann Lee. **They did everything themselves** such as making their own furniture, buildings their own buildings, and growing their own crops.

They had **very strict rules** to live by in their work and play. Shakers were **very honest** and **lived a very simple lifestyle** with nothing decorated. The colors they used were blue, green, red and yellow and their buildings were often circular.

Since the furniture and other items they made were made so well, they found that **they could sell** a variety of items (baskets, brooms, clothing, furniture etc.) to people outside of their communities to make money. Their furniture was known to have **simple lines** with the chairs having a lot of slats on the back.

The Shakers invented seeds in a packet, the circular saw, clothespin, flat broom, stove, butter churn, pens, and washing machine.

They composed many **songs and dances**, which were a big part of their worship service. Their music was mostly the **melody with no accompaniment**.



carriers



furniture with slats



baskets

Vocabulary Word	Definition
meter	Grouping of beats in music, often in sets of twos (duple meter) or threes (triple meter)
tempo	Rate of speed of the music
texture	Manner in which the harmonic (vertical) and melodic (horizontal) elements are combined to create layers of sound