



Pajama Pantry is a lock-down start up, founded by Alice Meynell.

All four of her (then teenage) children were at home wearing old holey pjs, and she was tired of making 483 meals a day.

She put them onto meal detail, and set about using up her stash of fabric that was in danger of needing a whole room to itself. She got out of cooking, they got new pj pants and harmony was restored.

Through the power of Instagram, the business started, almost by accident. Friends and family wanted pairs for themselves. Pretty soon, Alice needed help to keep up with demand and sent out a request for people to help make pyjama pants. She was swamped with applications from people who were having a very hard time in lockdown (40 replies in an hour - in a very rural location)

By the first Christmas, she and was cutting all the fabric herself on the kitchen table and was driving around the area delivering it and collecting made-up pjs from 8 people. While demand was being met, there was no profit being made.

Once the stash was used up, Alice contacted a fabric supplier in Jaipur, India. It is natural cotton, handprinted using mostly vegetable dyes. She buys only deadstock/ends of lines so there is rarely enough to make more than 10 of any one item. She and Abhinav, the supplier have become firm friends over Whatsapp, and talk most days, often more about cricket and his new baby than about fabric!

Once most of the people had gone back to work after lockdown, Alice found a Fairtrade Women's Collective in Bangalore to make up the pjs, and now shorts and nightshirts too. They send over all the scraps and the remaining team in Scotland uses them to make everything they can think of, including hot water bottle covers and eye masks, reversible and now, our new fabulous moccasin slippers.

