

# how we perform a puja

1

First we clean up. We can't invite any guest into a messy house!



2

We spread a clean cloth on a small table, so Ganesha and Lakshmi will know where to sit when we invite them.



3

We place a small pot of water, called a *Kalash*, on the cloth. The pot represents Mother Earth.



4

Into this *Kalash* we place some rice grains, a small coin, a flower and 5 leaves. The rice and the coin represent the food and the wealth Mother Earth gives us. The flower and the leaves represent the beautiful objects Mother Earth gives us.



5

Now we place a plate, or *Thali*, in front of the *Kalash*. The *Thali* represents our home. On this *Thali*, we place:

1. a *diya*
2. a small container of rice (*akshat*)
3. a small container of water, with a small spoon
4. a small container of *haldi* and *kumkum*
5. 2 sticks of incense (*agarbathi*)
6. a bell
7. a long, flat spoon with camphor

