

Costuming: Choli Sources

Now that you've started dancing, where can you find the half-top called a choli for rehearsals or for performances? Here are several sources. They are listed in alphabetical order, and I am happy to talk to you about which cholis I've ordered or seen in person.



Hand-made Sources

- **Alma Tribal Cholies** – <https://www.facebook.com/alma.tribal.cholies> – made in Buenos Aires – fabrics include patterned and solid stretch lycra
- **Chovihani** – Nikii Henry – <https://www.etsy.com/shop/chovihani> – made in Glendale, CA, fabrics include stretch brocade, lace
- **Devadasi Designs** – Gudrun Herold – <https://www.facebook.com/DevadasiDesign/> – designs by a dancer, can do custom sizes, made by hand in Europe, fabrics include stretch velvet, cotton jersey, patterns, solids
- **Flying Skirts** – <http://www.flyingskirts.com/> – made in San Francisco, fabrics include rayon jacquard, stretch velvet, lace, stretch cotton lycra, ghawazee sleeve tunics, some cholies embellished with trim
- **Gypsy Dream Clothing** – <https://www.facebook.com/GypsyDreamClothing/> – <http://gypsydream.net/gd-tops/> – Padma cholies (made from indian saris)
- **Irie Tribal** – Cyndi Cyreigna Elliott – <https://www.etsy.com/shop/irietribal> – various styles, designs by a dancer, made by hand in Kansas, can do custom sizes, fabrics include stretch velvet, cotton spandex, lace, patterns, solids
- **Layercake Lovely** – Kayla Tobin – sells through Twisted Gypsy <https://www.facebook.com/TwistedGypsyTribal/>, designs by a dancer, made by hand in California
- **Magical Fashions** – <https://www.facebook.com/magicalfashions/> – supportive vendor of bellydance events, designs by sole proprietor of business, made in India by various groups contracted by Krishna (often the folks who do that hand block-printing of some of the fabrics), laced bodices made from sari fabric, cholies made from cotton block-print fabric
- **Tribal Art Wear** – <http://tribalartwear.com/> – fabrics include ethnic fabrics, sari brocades, cotton lycra, stretch velvet
- **Tribe Nawaar** – <https://www.tribenawaar.com/product-category/tops/> – selected or hand made in Colorado, fabrics and designs include cotton lycra (including dyeable white blanks), lace, stretch velvet, corseted bodices, fluted sleeve wrap tops, rajasthani ethnic fabric cholies
- **Velvet Claw Designs** – Maxine Parfitt Brennan – <https://www.facebook.com/VelvetClawDesigns/> – made in the UK, fabrics include stretch velvet and lace