CORK SERIES

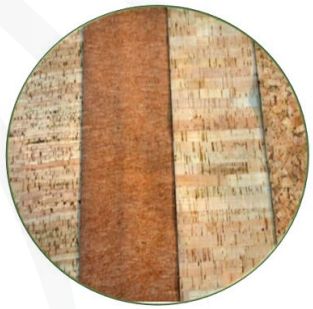
Harvesting cork is considered a very sustainable practice because the bark of the tree is stripped without cutting the tree down. Trained workers use special tools to cut the bark off these trees without damaging the live cambium underneath. After the process of harvesting, the bark is left to dry in the meadow. Raw planks of bark are then boiled, making them more elastic and easier to flatten, after which they are sorted by thickness and quality. The cork bark is then pressed flat onto a thin cloth backing, making it into a leather like fabric.

Harvesting Cork

When a cork tree is about 20-25 years of age, it's bark can be stripped off. That tree is then marked with the year, so that it will not be harvested again for ten years. This allows the tree to grow back the bark so it can be harvested again without harming the tree.

Seasoning Period

After harvest, the cork planks are stacked in piles either in the forest or in yards at a factory. They remain exposed to sun, wind, and rain. During this seasoning period, the raw material matures and the cork stabilizes. This period lasts for a few months.



Turning cork into fabrics

Cork is boiled in water to make the cells expand and make it easier to work with. Unlike with other materials, no harsh chemical are used for treating cork. Next, cork is shaved down into paper-thin sheets, then glued to a fabric backing. When cork is naturally water- and dust-resistant, a coating of sealant (non-toxic, non-environmentally-harming) is applied to the cork in the final step of production to keep it from getting dirty.

Uses for Cork Fabric

Once the fabric is created, it is used in the manufacturing process like any other fabric. It can be dyed into different colors.

INCREDIBLE BENIFITS

RENEWABLE RESOURCE

No tree is cut down to harvest cork. Hand harvested every 9 to 12 years. Each tree can produce cork for about 200 years!

MAGICAL MATERIAL

Cork is anti-static, water-resistant, & resilient. Suberin makes cork naturally resist dust, water and insects! Cork absorbs energy on impact and quickly regains its structure.

BIODEGRADABLE

Cork is recyclable & biodegradable. Any cork waste from production is reused and ground to make other cork products. #zerowaste

ANTIMICROBIAL

Cork is highly antibacterial. One studied showed almost 100% bacterial reduction of Staphylococcus aureus, after 90 minutes of incubation.