



CORK FABRIC



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Our cork textiles are made from the best quality cork shavings, removed from the bark of the cork oak tree, not damaging it and totally respecting its ecosystem. Then cork (natural or agglomerated) is transformed into very thin sheets that are laminated to a backing support and coated with a protective finishing.

Cork is eco-friendly, 100% natural, renewable, recyclable and biodegradable. It's soft, lightweight, versatile, water proof, insulating and very durable, dust and dirt repellent. Portugal is the world's number one cork producer and from our large cork forests comes this incredible material. Our cork fabric uses Portuguese cork and is hand crafted in Portugal with high quality standards, it's a 100% Portuguese product, from raw material to high skilled know how.

We offer a soft and natural touch and texture that is very difficult to find. To obtain a final look like ours, manufacturers have to use the best quality cork shavings and resist to working with chemical products or PVC backings and choosing a water-based adhesive, instead of more aggressive ones as it often happens.

Recently we've launched 100 vegetal and natural cork fabrics, made with OEKO_TEX certified cotton backings. This was the happy outcome of a long process of experiments.

Our choice for natural patterns, instead of printed patterns, reveals how we invest in design not compromising the 100% respect for nature. We love to "play" with cork and to show all its natural richness. We are not only committed to sustainability, but also to innovation.

HOW TO USE?

Most of our cork fabrics can be hand sewed or using a standard sewing machine with a regular thread. Cork fabric is fairly strong and does not pull or rip apart very easily. In order to cut cork fabric, you can use a common pair of scissors, but the best way to have a more perfect look will be to use a box cutter (it will better to test it first with the textile backing) or a rotary cutter. Cork fabric can be glued, we advise you to use water-based glue and not more chemically aggressive products. Some backings will produce cork fabrics more similar to leather than to a regular fabric (like the reversible options), in those cases leather craft techniques may be used.

CLEANING: It's recommended to clean the surface with a damp cloth, preferably with white / blue soap. For a deeper but not frequent cleaning, use the wool program of a washing machine.

Note that most cork fabrics are waterproof, however, cotton backed cork fabrics are water repellent but are not as waterproof as synthetic backed cork fabrics are.

TEST CONTROL: Some of our cork fabrics were tested, including the adhesives and finishing products, on an accredited lab about the content of substances according requirements of textile industry to be used on products to children < 3 years and it pass on all the tests.

COMMERCIAL INFORMATION

At our online shop you'll find **fat quarters** and cork fabric by **the meter/yard**. The fat quarters available are: 20x50cm (approx. 7 7/8"x20"); 50cmx50cm (approx. 20"x20") and 70X50cm (approx. 27 7/8"x20").

You must check if we have the patterns/colors with the backing you need in our online shop. In case we don't have them, it will be made to order. In this case, minimum order quantity will be one linear meter and turnaround time will be 4 to 6 weeks. Prices get lower for 3 linear meters and again for 5 linear meters.

Due to a partnership with a local factory we are able to offer **wholesale/factory prices** for orders larger than 10 linear meters/yards per reference. For wholesale orders, Folclore Crafts provides commercial and technical support and our partner is responsible for manufacturing, billing and shipping.

CONTACTS

FolcloreCrafts.pt

e-mail: folclore.crafts@gmail.com

Tel: 00351 917126150

Av. Miguel Bombarda, 8 F
2780-343 Oeiras

Portugal

	BACKING/THICKNESS/WIDTH	COMPOSITION	CHARACTERISTICS	FINAL USES
STANDARD BACKINGS	Textile 1.1mm - 0.04" width: 140cm - 55"	Cotton/polyester blend, coagulated fabric, coated PU 63% PU + 24% Polyester + 13% cotton	Very soft and pliable, easy to fold, but it will look better if lined. Frays a little bit more than the others. The most versatile backing. Back side comes in camel for light colors/patterns and dark blue for dark colors/patterns	It can be sewed in a regular sewing machine. Suited for sewing works as clothing, bags, home décor projects, accessories and upholstery. Also for leather goods.
	Non woven 0.8mm - 0.03" width: 140cm - 55"	Nonwoven polyester/viscose coated PU 77% PU + 15% Polyester + 8% Viscose	Similar to the textile backing but thinner, less soft to touch and less pliable. It's more lightweight than the textile. Doesn't need being lined**. Back side comes in light camel for light colors/patterns and dark for dark colors/patterns	It can be sewed in a regular sewing machine. Used similarly as the textile when a thinner material is needed. However, it is not as pliable as the textile backing. Also for leather goods.
	Non woven 1.1mm - 0.04" width: 140cm - 55"		Stronger and less pliable, stiffer, probably you'll have some cracking marks if you fold it, more similar to leather than to a fabric. Sometimes it comes with some stains due to the adhesive used, no problem if you are going to line it. Only for light colored patterns/colors	It can be sewed (although it will be more difficult than the other backings) but it's better not to fold it. Used in footwear, bags, cases and sleeves.
	Reversible -Single Layered two options: #1 - 0.9mm - 0.04" #2 - 1.2mm - 0.05" Width: 140cm - 55"	Nonwoven polyester/viscose coated PU 77% PU + 15% Polyester + 8% Viscose	Strong and stiff, but still pliable.	Works like leather, it will have the same uses as 2 to 3 oz leather - bags, wallets, straps and strips, boxes, cases, covers, etc.
	Reversible-Double Layered two options: #1 - 1.6mm - 0.06" #2 - 2.2mm - 0.09" Width: 140cm - 55"	Nonwoven polyester/viscose coated PU 77% PU + 15% Polyester + 8% Viscose	Very strong and stiff.	Works like leather, it will have the same uses as 4 to 5 oz leather - camera straps, handles, watchbands, sheaths, belts, rugs.
	Metallic Backing (Better with Refs. 300, 600 or 800) 0.8mm - 0.03" Width: 140cm - 55"	Similar to the NW0.8mm, with metallic coating. (We can have it in gold, silver and many other metallic colors.)	Similar to the NW0.8mm but less pliable and stretchable due to the metallic coating. Back side comes in light camel **.	It can be sewed in a regular sewing machine. Suited for bags, home décor projects, accessories and upholstery. Also for leather goods.
VEGETAL BACKINGS	Metallic Backing Double layered Reversible 1.6mm - 0.06" Width: 140cm - 55"	Similar to the reversible double layered, w/ metallic coating	Very strong and stiff.	Works like leather, it will have the same uses as 4 to 5 oz leather - camera straps, handles, watchbands, sheaths, belts.
	Lightweight camel cotton Width: 160cm-63" approx. 0.4mm - 0.017"	100 cotton twill 190g/m ² , 5.6oz/yd	Works like a lightweight cotton fabric, but becomes stiffer with cork. It's thin, easy to fold and pliable. Very soft to touch. Backside in camel color**, black or other colors.	It can be sewed in a regular sewing machine. Suited for sewing works as clothing, bags, fashion accessories and home décor projects.
	Heavyweight camel cotton approx. 0.6mm - 0.024" Width: 160cm-63"	100 cotton twill 300g/m ² , 8.85oz/yd	Works like a Medium-heavy cotton fabric, but becomes stiffer with cork. Very soft to touch. Backside in camel color**, black or other colors.	It can be sewed in a regular sewing machine. Suited for sewing works as clothing, bags, fashion accessories and home décor projects and upholstery.
	Washed Denim Width: 160cm-63"	100 cotton 330g/ m ² , 9.75oz/yd available in grey, camel, dark brown, black and blue	Works like a heavy-heavy weight denim fabric, becomes stiffer with the cork surface. It will look good without being lined**. As it is a washed denim it becomes a very soft and pliable cork fabric, the most pliable among the cotton backings.	It can be sewed in a regular sewing machine. Suited for sewing works as clothing, bags, home décor projects, accessories and upholstery. Also for leather goods.
	Medium weight Blue denim Width: 160cm-63"	100 cotton 270g/m ² , 8oz/yd	Works like a medium-heavy weight denim fabric, becomes stiffer with the cork surface. It will look good without being lined**. Perfect for patterns like 300, ref. 600, ref. 800 or ref. 2100, where the backing is noticeable underneath.	It can be sewed in a regular sewing machine. Suited for works as clothing, bags, home décor projects, accessories and upholstery. Also for leather goods.
	Heavyweight Black denim (also available in blue) approx. 0.8mm - 0.03" Width: 160cm-63"	100 cotton 370g/m ² , 11oz/yd	Works like a heavy-weight denim fabric, becomes stiffer with the cork surface. It will look good without being lined**. Perfect to use with dark colors and patterns.	It can be sewed in a regular sewing machine. Suited for leather goods, upholstery, belts, duffel bags, backpacks, cushions, footwear, home decor projects.
	Reversible Heavyweight Black denim (also available in blue) approx. 0.9mm - 0.04"	100 cotton 370g/m ² , 11oz/yd	Strong and stiff, but still pliable. Perfect to use with dark colors and patterns.	Works like leather, it will have the same uses as 2 to 3 oz leather - bags, wallets, straps and strips, boxes, cases, covers, etc.

* Standard backings are 140cm/approx. 55" wide, the vegetal options are 160cm/approx. 63" wide. We sell cork fabric by linear meters (a linear meter is approx. 39 3/8"x55 1/8" or 1.09x1.53 yd).

* The weight of the fabrics does not include the cork surface.

* For the Textile, the NonWoven 0.8mm and cotton backings, the color of the backing can be camel or dark, depending on the color/pattern of the cork layer.

* Almost all patterns/colors can be produced using any of the backings, prices differ between standard, metallic and vegetal backings. In all the patterns made to order you can choose the backing most suited for your work.

* In models where the fabric needs to be folded and sewed, some tension can be created and small cracks may be noticeable when you use colored cork fabric. We strongly advise you to reinforce the corners of the bags made with colored cork fabric and to test all your products before you place a large order.

* The camel cotton and denim backings can be sold by the meter as a regular fabric, with no cork, and used as lining or in some details, like pockets.

** Due to working conditions in a cork factory, where cork dust is everywhere, it is difficult to guarantee that the back of the cork fabrics will not have dust stains, sometimes with glue. For small orders and thinner backings it becomes more likely to happen. Please take this in consideration when you design your products.