

BARTS[®]

AMSTERDAM

MATERIALS POLICY

Barts Materials Policy

Driven by craftsmanship, our team of passionate, creative designers and graphic artists focuses on the continual reinvention of products. Innovating for the future includes taking responsibility for the environmental impact of products.

Barts wants to reduce the burden on the environment to a minimum by using more environmental friendly fibres and materials for our products. This makes it important for us to collaborate with suppliers who share the same values.

We outlined the minimum environmental standards for the manufacturing of our products in our Supplier Code of Conduct. Our Code of Conduct refers to this Materials Policy as the basis for monitoring the use of raw materials for our products. This Policy contains restrictions and requirements with respect to the use of raw materials for our products and applies to all our suppliers and their subcontractors. They are expected to familiarise themselves with the policy and operate accordingly.

We aim to source materials of animal origin in a humane, ethical and sustainable manner with respect to animal welfare and species conservation. Barts is committed to strictly complying with all applicable laws, conventions and regulations.

We encourage to use animal products (e.g. leather) and those derived from animals (e.g. wool) from suppliers that are traceable back to the farm only. All animals associated with our products are treated as per the following “**Five Freedoms**” **guidelines**, as stated by the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC), as the guiding principles for our animal welfare policies:

- Freedom from hunger and thirst. Animals are provided with access to fresh water and a diet for full health and vigour.
- Freedom from discomfort. Animals are kept in an appropriate environment with shelter and comfortable rest areas.
- Freedom from pain, injury and disease. Appropriate prevention and/ or rapid treatment methods are employed to ensure animals are kept comfortable and free from ailments.
- Freedom to express normal behaviour. Animals are provided with adequate space and facilities, as well as company of the animal’s own kind.
- Freedom from fear and distress. The general living conditions and treatment of animals avoids mental suffering.

To help us ensuring compliance to our rules and reaching our goals, we decided to become a member of Modint in 2019. Modint provides the knowledge and tools we need to make significant improvements.

1. Angora and fur:

- Sustainability and respect for nature are fundamental values for Barts. We will collaborate with respected animal welfare organizations and similar companies to promote the development of realistic alternatives for animal material.
- Barts has discontinued the use of angora fibres (angora rabbit hair) in our products since 2010. Additionally, animal fur (wild or farmed) shall not be used. This includes, but is not limited to, fur from mink, fox, rabbit, karakul lamb, raccoon, cat and a dog. We became a member of the Fur Free Retailer in 2019.

2. Wool:

- Barts believes the sheep and goats that produce wool for our products should be treated responsibly and raised on farms that preserve land health. The following products from animal origin are not limited in use, assuming that the above mentioned “Five Freedoms” guidelines are maintained.
 - o Alpaca
 - o Camel
 - o Cashmere
 - o Merino Wool
 - o Wool
 - o Wool virgin
 - o Yak
- Barts will stop using Mohair starting from 2019 due to concerns about the mohair industry.
- Only mulesing-free wool shall be used. No use nor practice of mulesing of sheep is allowed.
- We intend to use wool in our products that is certified by the Responsible Wool Standard (RWS), Organic Content Standard (OCS), Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS), IVN Naturtextil or USDA Organic or another standard. In addition, we encourage our suppliers continuously to investigate sustainable alternatives and keep up when new standards are introduced in the market.

3. Leather:

- All leather must be a by-product of the meat industry. Barts only accepts leather from cows, sheep, buffalos, goats and pigs raised for meat production.
- Additionally, Barts is actively encouraging its suppliers to come up with commercially viable substitutes to animal-based materials that meet the needs of our clients and customers.

4. Cotton:

- In line with our Barts Supplier Code of Conduct, Barts does not accept forced labour and underage workers being used anywhere in the supply chain, including cotton cultivation.
- Barts suppliers are prohibited to use cotton from Uzbekistan (known as Uzbek Cotton) or Turkmenistan for Barts products, as long as the government of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan forces adults and children to work in its cotton fields.
- Barts motivates the use of sustainable cotton. Certified organic cotton, Cotton made in Africa, Fairtrade cotton and certified recycled cotton are accepted as sustainable cotton.

5. Recycled materials:

- Barts encourages to use only certified recycled materials when using recycled materials in Barts products. We accept certifications according to three international standards: the Recycled Claim Standard (RCS), the Global Recycling Standard (GRS), and the Recycled Content Standard.
- Suppliers are allowed to explore and introduce other recycled materials to Barts.

6. Man-made fibres:

- Man-made fibres have quickly become a considerable part of the market share. Today, they are more than one third of the total world production of textile fibres. Man-made fibres are divided into two types:
 - 1) Viscose and related cellulose-based fibres (half-synthetic)
 - 2) Synthetic fibres like polyester, nylon and acrylic
- 1) Viscose related cellulose-based fibres used in our products should be ethically sourced and not come from endangered forests. Barts will require traceability on all man-made cellulosic fibre and fabrics and encourages to use FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) or PEFC (Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification) certified cellulosic materials.
- 2) Because the producing process of synthetic fibres has a big impact on the environment, Barts encourages the use of certified recycled synthetic fibres. The certifications accepted are mentioned at point 6 of this Materials Policy. If this is not achievable, we prefer to use mono-materials, materials that only consist of one material or fibre instead of a blend. This makes the product easy to recycle to support the circular economy.

7. Paper and Straw

- The paper and (raffia) straw we use for our products must not come from endangered forests and has to be deforestation-free. We prefer FSC or PEFC certified paper and Fairtrade certified straw.

Attachment: Preferred textile standards explained

- **Responsible Wool Standard (RWS)**
On farms, the certification ensures that sheep are treated with respect to their Five Freedoms and also ensures best practices in the management and protection of the land. Through the processing stages, certification ensures that wool from certified farms is properly identified and tracked.¹
- **Organic Content Standard (OCS)**
It's a chain of custody standard that provides companies with a tool to verify that one or more specific input materials are in a final product. It requires that each organization along the supply chain takes sufficient steps to ensure that the integrity and identity of the input material is preserved.²
- **Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)**
The standard defines globally recognized requirements that ensure the organic status of textiles, from harvesting of the raw materials through environmentally and socially responsible manufacturing all the way to labelling in order to provide credible assurance to the end consumer. The standard covers the processing, manufacturing, packaging, labelling, trading and distribution of all textiles made from at least 70% certified organic natural fibres.³
- **IVN Naturtextil**
This quality standard, known primarily within Europe, currently defines the highest level of textile sustainability by applying the maximum currently achievable parameters to production and product. Only a select range of products can meet this standard and the minimum requirement for this certification is the GOTS.⁴
- **USDA Organic**
Allows a farm or processing facility to sell, label, and represent their products as organic. USDA Organic products have strict production and labelling requirements: produced without excluded methods, produced using allowed substances, overseen by a USDA National Organic Program-authorized certifying agent, following all USDA organic regulations.⁵
- **Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)**
The RCS verifies the presence and amount of recycled material in a final product. This happens through input and chain-of-custody verification from a third party. It allows for the transparent, consistent and comprehensive independent evaluation and verification of recycled material content claims on products. The RCS uses the chain of custody requirements of the Content Claim Standard.⁶

¹ <http://responsiblewool.org>

² <https://textileexchange.org>

³ <https://www.global-standard.org>

⁴ <https://naturtextil.de>

⁵ <https://www.usda.gov>

⁶ <https://textileexchange.org>

- **Global Recycling Standard (GRS)**
The GRS is a full product standard that sets requirements for third-party certification of Recycled Content, chain of custody, social and environmental practices, and chemical restrictions. The goal of the GRS is to increase use of Recycled materials in products and reduce/eliminate the harm caused by its production.⁷
- **Recycled Content Standard**
Evaluates products made from pre-consumer or post-consumer material diverted from the waste stream. Certification measures the percentage of recycled content for the purpose of making an accurate claim in the marketplace.⁸
- **Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)**
FSC labelled products have come from forests that meet the ten FSC principles for responsible forest management. Whichever FSC label is used, you can be sure that the product has not been manufactured at the expense of the forest, the animals, plants, and people who rely on it.⁹
- **Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)**
The PEFC works throughout the entire forest supply chain to promote good practice in the forest and to ensure that timber and non-timber forest products are produced with respect for the highest ecological, social and ethical standards.¹⁰

⁷ <https://textileexchange.org>

⁸ <https://www.scsglobalservices.com>

⁹ <https://ic.fsc.org>

¹⁰ <https://www.pefc.org>