

Item of the Month: October 2008

The World's First Yoga Mat Made Entirely of Sustainable, Recyclable and Biodegradable Materials

Cork may be the ideal material from which to create a yoga mat. When combined with an environmentally friendly foam backing, it provides outstanding shock absorption, forming a more comfortable barrier between you and a hard studio floor. It is so durable that you may only have to buy one in your lifetime and is very easy to care for. It's non-allergenic, so unlike latex it won't create any adverse reactions for users. It breathes well, repels moisture, is naturally hypo-allergenic, anti-bacterial, and anti-microbial, making it ideal for a wide range of yoga styles. But most importantly, cork is a material that can be harvested with virtually no environmental impact, from a source that is completely renewable, which makes it ideal for the planet.



Cork Yoga Mats

Cork comes from a specific species of oak tree, commonly found in Mediterranean countries, Portugal being the largest cork producer. Every decade or so, expert harvesters carefully strip the outer bark and slowly peel it away from the main trunk. All the work is done by hand, much the same way it's been done for generations. The bark completely regenerates within 10 years or so, and a typical cork tree can be harvested about 12 to 13 times during its 150-year harvest lifespan.

Cork is combined with Eco-Foam making what we believe to be the world's first yoga mat made with entirely sustainable recyclable and biodegradable materials. The Green Depot developed the Korq mat using 100 percent natural rubber from rubber trees. However, research showed that the rubber fabrication and curing process can be environmentally harmful. In addition, natural rubber weighs more than environmentally friendly synthetic materials and gives off a pungent odor. Also, rubber and latex can invoke an allergic reaction in some people.

Korq is committed to fair labor practices, with 50% of our workforce handicapped or otherwise disabled.

The Green Depot's Korq Mat is for sale at the York Ave. studio. Please stop in or call for price.
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