

DRYKORN POLICY: ANIMAL MATERIALS

FOREWORD

At DRYKORN we utilize materials of animal origin in our products (referred to as “animal materials” in this policy). We firmly believe that if sourced ethically and carefully, animal materials can be crafted into clothing of the highest quality that can stand the test of time. To ensure this, and to do justice to the animals indirectly affected by our decisions, this policy on animal materials is instated. It serves as the guideline for responsible sourcing practices at our brand. Moreover, it informs key stakeholders such as suppliers and customers about our standing and our ambitions regarding animal welfare.

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_1 DRYKORN ANIMAL WELFARE PRINCIPLES

- 1 Animal materials shall be used **intentionally** rather than excessively.
- 2 We are always open to **non-animal alternatives** to animal materials.
- 3 We only use animal materials from **domesticated** species or from farms, provided that such materials are approved in accordance with Chapter 10.
- 4 Materials whose production requires an animal to be slaughtered (e.g., leather) are only sourced if they are **by-products of the food industry** and not the primary purpose of animal husbandry or slaughter.¹
- 5 The **"Five Provisions"** (see Chapter 2) form the foundation of our approach to animal welfare. DRYKORN expects suppliers of animal materials to consider these principles throughout their supply chain and to pass on these requirements to their upstream suppliers.
- 6 Suppliers that provide animal-based materials to DRYKORN must comply with the applicable **local animal welfare laws**. We consider legal compliance as the minimum standard.
- 7 DRYKORN expects suppliers to align with the principles of this policy and to pass on corresponding requirements to their upstream suppliers.
- 8 Animal materials are sourced in accordance with the **material-specific requirements** listed in Chapter 10. Certified materials are chosen where available and suitable for the respective product.
- 9 There are **no exceptions** to the banned materials listed in chapter 3.
- 10 ²

_2 „FIVE PROVISIONS“ FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

All animals deserve to be treated with respect. The "Five Provisions"³ therefore serve DRYKORN as a guiding framework for assessing animal-based materials and for further developing its own sourcing requirements. DRYKORN expects suppliers of animal-based materials to work towards implementing the Five Provisions for improved animal welfare throughout their supply chain and to pass on corresponding requirements to their upstream suppliers. The Five Provisions represent a more holistic, further developed approach than the well-known "Five Freedoms".

The Five Provisions describe the following measures animal-rearing businesses should employ for their animals:

¹ While still adhering to this claim, DRYKORN practices two exceptions: Although mother of pearl is preferably sourced from the food industry, in select cases the material is purchased from mussel farmers who keep and breed mussels for the purpose of producing pearls. The animals are therefore not reared to be used for food. In few, select styles, silk is used, which is produced for the sole purpose of textile production. Silk stems from the pupated larva of the Silk Moth (*Bombyx mori*). To obtain the precious fiber, the animals are killed.

² Principle 10 "We will never use live animals in photo shoots or other marketing campaigns" has been deleted without replacement. The ban has proven to be incompatible with the creative range of our brand and campaign DNA. Animals are still not part of the standard repertoire of our campaigns and are only used in individual cases. They are always accompanied by professional trainers, with whom we are in contact before a corresponding assignment in order to keep stress for the animal to a minimum. In the long term, we are striving for a concept that makes the use of live animals superfluous, for example through the use of artificial intelligence.

³ Mellor, D. J. (2016). Moving beyond the "Five Freedoms" by Updating the "Five Provisions" and Introducing Aligned "Animal Welfare Aims". *Animals*, 6(10), 59. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani6100059>

1. **Good nutrition:** Provide ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor.
2. **Good environment:** Provide shade/shelter or suitable housing, good air quality and comfortable resting areas.
3. **Good health:** Prevent or rapidly diagnose and treat disease and injury, and foster good muscle tone, posture, and cardiorespiratory function.
4. **Appropriate behavior:** Provide sufficient space, proper facilities, congenial company, and appropriately varied conditions.
5. **Positive mental experiences:** Provide safe, congenial, and species-appropriate opportunities to have pleasurable experiences.

_3 STRICTLY BANNED MATERIALS AND PRACTICES

Under no circumstances will DRYKORN accept materials or practices that fall in one of the following categories:

1. Materials originating from animals listed on the CITES or **IUCN** lists.
2. Materials originating from **threatened, endangered, or exotic** species or species banned under chapter 10.
3. Materials originating from **wild animals** (including wild animals kept in farms⁴.
4. **Fur**⁵
5. **Mohair** (Hair of the Angora goat)
6. **Angora** (Hair of the Angora rabbit)
7. **Corals**
8. **Karakul or Alpaca cria** skins
9. Animal materials produced in the **Amazon biome** or in the **Cerrado ecosystem** of South America or animal materials of which the production is connected to deforestation practices.

_4 MULESING & TARGETS

Some of the sheep's wool used by DRYKORN is sourced from Australia, where the practice known as "**mulesing**" is still carried out. Mulesing is an invasive procedure in which patches of skin are removed from the hindquarters of young lambs to prevent flystrike. From an animal welfare perspective, the procedure is controversial and causes **pain and distress to the animals**.

DRYKORN fundamentally opposes mulesing – regardless of whether painkillers are used.

DRYKORN records the **country of origin of the raw wool** used and takes this into account in its internal mulesing risk assessment.

⁴ Only exception: mother of Pearl from mussels kept in farms.

⁵ Transparency note: As there are different definitions of the term fur, we hereby disclose that DRYKORN does use lambskin in select styles. As lambskin consists of the lamb's hair attached to its leather, it could be defined as fur depending on the underlying understanding. To DRYKORN, lambskin does not qualify as fur, since the sheep, unlike animals used for fur production, are bred for the primary purpose of being used in the food industry.

Wool from countries where, to the best of our knowledge, mulesing is not practised is classified internally as wool from countries with no known mulesing risk.

In order to be able to reliably rule out mulesing, our aim is to gradually transition sheep's wool from Australia to **independent, traceable standards**. The proportion of **independently certified and traceable wool** is to be significantly increased by 2030. In this regard, DRYKORN takes into account the **availability** of suitable standards, **developments** within the industry and feasibility within its own supply chain.

Progress and challenges are regularly reviewed and, where possible, publicly reported. Until the transition is complete, DRYKORN will accept supplementary, documented self-declarations from the supply chain. DRYKORN acknowledges that **self-declarations** have qualitative shortcomings and **do not constitute an equivalent substitute** for independent certification.

Public statements such as 'mulesing-free' or 'non-mulesed' are only made if the specific material component is backed up by suitable evidence. Such evidence includes, in particular, independent, traceable standards in accordance with Chapter 10.

DRYKORN monitors **developments in relevant industry standards**, in particular the revision of the Textile Exchange Material Matters standard, and consistently aligns its own requirements with relevant industry developments, regulatory requirements and available control mechanisms.

DRYKORN supports the eventual complete abolition of mulesing. To this end, DRYKORN is in dialogue with suppliers and relevant representatives of the Australian and international wool industry.

_5 DOWN AND FEATHERS

DRYKORN uses down and feathers only to a **very limited extent** and following careful assessment, and checks before each season whether the use of virgin down can be avoided.

Recycled down is not used due to current requirements regarding quality, durability and product suitability. Where new down is used, it must be certified to at least the **Responsible Down Standard (RDS)**, the **Traceable Down Standard (TDS)** or a **comparable standard**. Live plucking, forced moulting and force-feeding are prohibited.

DRYKORN acknowledges that existing standards do not fully cover all animal welfare risks and that, in particular, the involvement of parent stock farms presents a significant challenge. Due to the very limited use of down, DRYKORN currently prioritises the **careful assessment of every individual product decision**, as well as continuing to use down and feathers to a very limited extent.

6 THE DRYKORN SUPPLY CHAIN & RESPONSIBILITIES

DRYKORN operates under two business models: Ready Made Garment Production (RMG) and Cut-Make (CM) business. DRYKORN's direct supply chain therefore extends to Tier 2, i.e. to suppliers of outer fabrics and trims. DRYKORN does not work directly with livestock owners, breeders or farmers.

Responsibility for animal welfare issues lies across departments with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Procurement and Product Management. The CSR team coordinates the further development of the policy, reviews relevant requirements and responds to external enquiries. Purchasing and Product Management take the material-specific requirements of this policy into account when selecting suppliers, deciding on materials and checking for certifications. In the case of fundamental or high-risk decisions, further levels of management are involved on a case-by-case basis.

7 DUE DILIGENCE

In addition to product design, DRYKORN's greatest **impact on animal welfare** lies in the selection of and communication with Tier 1 suppliers who source animal-derived products from Tier 2+ suppliers. The following due diligence mechanisms are used to identify animal welfare risks and to ensure that Tier 1 suppliers comply with animal welfare and transparency standards. The due diligence process is **continuously optimised and updated**.

- 6.1 Country Risk Analysis: A systematic ESG risk analysis has been carried out for all countries in which Tier 1 suppliers are located, taking into account local animal welfare regulations. When it comes to animal-derived materials, DRYKORN increasingly considers not only the countries of the direct suppliers but also the countries of origin of the raw materials – if information is available. This is particularly relevant as animal welfare risks often arise at the level of animal husbandry and not necessarily in the country of the Tier 1 supplier.
- 6.2 Supplier Code of Conduct: All Tier-1-suppliers must commit to upholding DRYKORN's animal welfare requirements by signing the Supplier Code of Conduct.
- 6.3 Traceability: For animal materials used in DRYKORN products, the species and country of origin are recorded and documented. Where possible, the country of origin refers to the country where the animals were reared or the raw materials were sourced. For certain materials, more detailed traceability is available, in some cases right back to the farm. DRYKORN is working to continuously improve the quality and depth of this data. Third-party certificates, transaction certificates and documented self-declarations from the supply chain currently serve as key tools for ensuring and further developing traceability.
- 6.4 Definition of certified materials: DRYKORN defines certified materials as those materials that are validated by a recognised third-party standard with defined requirements and external monitoring. Self-declarations or supplier statements may be taken into account as supplementary information, but do not constitute certification.
- 6.5 Direct Dialog: In the case of vertically integrated Tier 1 suppliers or particularly transparent partners, the CSR department seeks direct dialogue, also on animal welfare issues. This helps both sides to adapt to the challenges and requirements of the industry.

DRYKORN recognises that some of the mentioned Due Diligence mechanisms have **weaknesses**, particularly those based on self-declarations. We are therefore constantly seeking and testing ways to ensure the necessary transparency in the supply chain and to enable stricter monitoring of animal welfare. Future legislative developments such as the EU Ecodesign Regulation (**ESPR**) or the EU Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (**EUDR**), in combination with appropriate technical developments, are seen as promising in this regard.

_8 COMMUNICATION AND PRODUCT LABELLING

DRYKORN is reviewing and refining its own product labelling and external communications in line with the requirements of the Empowering Consumers Directive (**EmpCo**), the EU's regulation on combatting greenwashing practices. Our aim is to use animal welfare claims only where they are **verifiable, robust and documented**.

Self-declarations from the supply chain may be taken into account in the internal assessment and as a transitional measure. However, they are not automatically considered an equivalent substitute for independent certification. In the case of public statements, checks are carried out in each instance to determine whether the available evidence is sufficient to support the specific claim.

DRYKORN always adapts its own communications to relevant regulatory requirements, industry developments and available control mechanisms. Terms such as 'certified' are only used if the requirements set out in Section 6.4 "Definition of certified materials" are met.

_9 VIOLATION OF THIS POLICY

In the event of confirmed **violations of this policy**, DRYKORN will assess each case on a risk-based basis and take appropriate action. Depending on the severity of the breach, this may include requesting additional evidence, developing and carrying out a **corrective action plan**, changing material sources or upstream suppliers, suspending the use of the materials in question, and, in serious cases, terminating the business relationship.

In the event of **serious breaches**, e.g. the unauthorised use of prohibited materials or breaches of local laws, DRYKORN reserves the right to **terminate its working relationship** with the supplier concerned with immediate effect. Where necessary and legally permissible, such cases may be referred to the relevant authorities or appropriate external bodies.

Reports of violations can reach DRYKORN via third parties, employees or the DRYKORN whistleblower channel.

10 ANIMAL MATERIALS AT DRYKORN

Material	Admission criteria / Requirements	Explicitly Banned Materials
Wool / Animal Hair	Only wool and animal hair from the following species are permitted: - Domestic Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>) - Domestic Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>), excluding Mohair - Alpaca (<i>Vicugna pacos</i>) The species and country of origin where the animal was reared must be documented. Preference is given to raw materials with the following certifications: - Sheep's wool: RWS, NATIVA, ZQ or comparable independent standards with traceability and external monitoring. - Alpaca: Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS) - Recycled wool: Global Recycled Standard (GRS) Cashmere must originate exclusively from the domestic goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>). DRYKORN prefers traceable and certified cashmere grades, provided these are available and suitable for the product in question. Origin, animal welfare risks and available certifications or evidence are assessed and documented as part of the material selection process. Sheep's wool from Australia: The aim is to use wool that is certified according to independent and traceable standards (see above). Currently, documented self-declarations or declarations from the supply chain are taken into account on a transitional basis, but are not considered an equivalent substitute for independent certifications.	Wool / animal hair derived from the following species / breeds: - Vicuña (<i>Vicugna vicugna</i>) - Guanaco (<i>Lama guanicoe</i>) - Angora Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus domesticus</i>) - Mohair from the Angora goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>)
Lambskin and Leather Products	Leather and lambskin are permitted only as by-products of the food industry and only from the following domesticated species: - Domestic Cattle (<i>Bos taurus</i>) - Domestic Buffalo (<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>) - Domestic Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>) - Domestic Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>) Processing takes place in tanneries that have been rated at least Silver or Gold according to the Leather Working Group (LWG) audit standard.	The following are excluded: lambskin and leather that: - was produced in the Amazon biome or the Cerrado ecosystem of South America. - was produced in connection with deforestation practices. - was obtained through live skinning. - comes from newborn or aborted young animals.

Material	Admission criteria / Requirements	Explicitly Banned Materials
	For high-risk origins: Requests for additional information and the exclusion of permitted materials are possible.	
Pearls and Mother-of-Pearl	Only pearls and mother-of-pearl from mussels sourced from aquaculture are permitted. Preference is given to materials that are by-products of the food industry. The origin and aquaculture farm are documented where available.	Pearls and mother-of-pearl from wild-caught shellfish are banned.
Horn	Horn must originate from domestic buffalo (<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>) and must be a by-product of the food industry	The horn of wild animals is banned.
Down and Feathers	Only down and feathers from the following domesticated species are permitted: - Domestic Duck (<i>Anas platyrhynchos domesticus</i>) - Domestic Goose (<i>Anser anser domesticus</i>) At DRYKORN, down and feathers are used only to a very limited extent and following careful inspection. Virgin down must be certified according to RDS, TDS or a comparable standard.	The following are banned: Feathers and down obtained through: - forced moulting - live plucking force-feeding (including, but not limited to, the production of foie gras)
Silk	Only silk of the following type is permitted: - Silkworm (<i>Bombyx mori</i>) At DRYKORN, silk is used only to a very limited extent and exclusively in individual items.	All other species of animals that produce silk are banned.

11 POLICY REVIEW AND UPDATES

The DRYKORN POLICY: ANIMAL MATERIALS is formally reviewed at least once a year to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness. The review takes into account the experiences of the past year, changing legal requirements, relevant industry developments and feedback from internal and external stakeholders. DRYKORN is committed to continuous improvement and the further development of animal welfare requirements throughout its own supply chain.

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