

Choosing vegan approved

Assuring vegan compliance - the Nilörn vegan workflow

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NILÖRN

Choosing vegan accessories

Veganism is a philosophy and way of living that seeks to exclude all forms of exploitation of, and cruelty to, animals for food, clothing or any other purpose (The Vegan Society).

When starting a vegan development, you need to understand that classing a product as vegan not only rules out using fur, leather, wool and natural silk (which comes from silkworms), but also many substances in glues, dyes, and chemicals derived from animals. There is no legally binding definition for the requirements of vegan products. We have built the Nilörn Vegan Policy on learnings from the industry and how other brands approach their requirements.

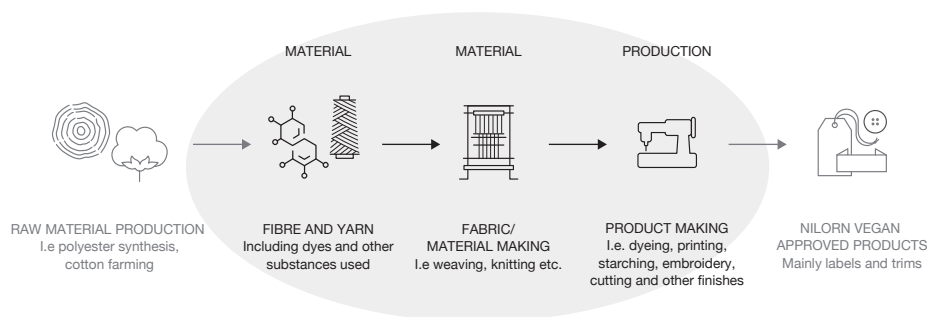


Nilörn vegan approved

Nilörn vegan approved is our internal standard for labels and trims that comply with vegan requirements. We define a material or an item as vegan if it meets both of the following two conditions:

- It does not contain any animal ingredients or by-products
 - No animal ingredients or by-products are used during manufacturing
- A Nilörn vegan approved product has gone through a stringent assessment by our suppliers, product development and compliance team working together to check and ensure compliance with vegan requirements.

Requirement scope for Nilörn vegan approved products



In scope:

- Material is vegan - yarn, fabric, substances used to make the material
- Production and manufacturing steps are vegan - oils, finishes, dyes, glues, adhesives, ink, pigments etc

Out of scope:

- Raw material production
- Machine components and substance used for maintenance and cleaning
- Nilörn transport packaging

Nilörn product range:

- Requirements mainly apply to labels and trims. Metal and packaging, like hangtags, can be relevant depending on the project

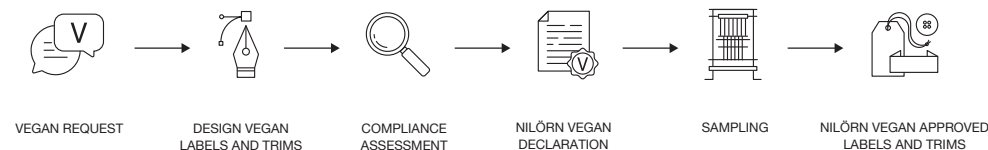


Vegan design - tips!

In vegan product development, every material and substance used for the product is thoroughly reviewed and assessed. It's therefore helpful to consider some things before the design process:

- Choose low-risk materials or materials that are already certified vegan by a vegan label
- Design products with few components/ materials
- Avoid complex finishes and extra manufacturing steps where possible

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Vegan testing

For high-risk products or when there is any doubt, we verify the vegan claims through testing. Different testing programs and methods are available depending on the item in question.

The selection of test methods is subject to material and compositions; for example, glue/adhesive material may require an animal traces test, textiles

require an animal fibre test, and synthetic materials require material screening.

Verification testing can not substitute the requirement of full bill of materials (BOM) and ingredient list of the product. This information is necessary for the verification testing.

Joe Mok, Global Product Compliance Specialist:

"We have the tools and know-how to guide our clients through vegan product development for labels and trims."

Does vegan equal sustainable?

Vegan products do not necessarily have a production process without an impact on the environment. Likewise, vegan goods are fair for animals, but not automatically fair for people. In an ideal world, veganism promotes the development and use of animal-free alternatives for the benefit of animals, humans and the environment. We aim to cover both areas — vegan requirements and responsible production.

Some frequently asked questions

Q: When is a material vegan?

A: A material is vegan when it does not contain any fibres or by-products and ingredients derived from animals.

Q: Are there examples for “low-risk materials” that can be considered vegan?

A: Papers, organic fibres like cotton, cellulose or leather alternatives can be considered vegan after a supplier declaration is provided.

Q: Since synthetics like polyester are mostly based on fossil fuels, are they vegan?

A: Not all synthetic materials are vegan. We need transparency of chemicals used in the synthetic material, like inks, pigment, wax, glue & adhesive, to validate if it is vegan.

Q: What about recycled fibres and fabrics - can you trace recycled material back and assure vegan compliance?

A: For recycled fibres and fabric it is basically the same procedure as for other materials: Our product development team will collect a list of all the materials and substances used from the manufacturer. In case of any doubt or risk, we will ask our supplier for a vegan test or declaration as proof of conformity.

Q: What obstacles are there for a product fulfilling the vegan requirements?

A: A product will not fulfill the vegan requirement when we identify that a.) the material is made using animal-derived substances, b.) any animal-derived substances are used during manufacturing c.) our supplier cannot provide visibility of all materials and ingredients used to make the product.



Q: Is Nilörn responsible for verifying the use of vegan logos by brands?

A: Nilörn's responsibility is limited to the delivery of Nilörn products that meet vegan requirements. The client is responsible for applying to use any vegan logos.

Q: How does Nilörn deal with animal welfare concerns?

A: Our Animal Welfare Policy aims to secure materials from responsible sources and with respect for animal welfare. All suppliers or companies subscribing to this policy must follow national and international legislation regarding animal welfare. Animal-based materials are only obtained as a by-product and not for the sole purpose of the slaughter of an animal, and never from vulnerable or endangered species.

Vegan labels

There are several organisations and labels available to promote a vegan lifestyle and help identify vegan goods. The labels below are some examples. We can use materials that have been certified by a vegan label.



PETA-Approved Vegan logo

- Issued by PETA (a US-based animal rights organisation)
- Certifies individual products, collections or an entire brand
- Certifies vegan products in fashion and textiles as home furnishings

peta.org



Sunflower logo

- Issued by the Vegan Society (UK based organisation with heritage since 1944)
- The label is only awarded to products, not to companies
- Certifies products of all kinds i.e. cosmetics, clothing, food, drink or household items

vegansociety.com



V-Label

- The V-Label is an internationally protected trademark
- It is issued by organisations that are part of the European Vegetarian Union (EVU)
- Certifies mainly food and cosmetics and now more increasingly different non-food products

v-label.com