

**CHOOSE
CORK.
CHOOSE
CULTURE,
NATURE,
FUTURE.**

**GUIDE
TO CORK**



A CULTURE OF GENERATIONS

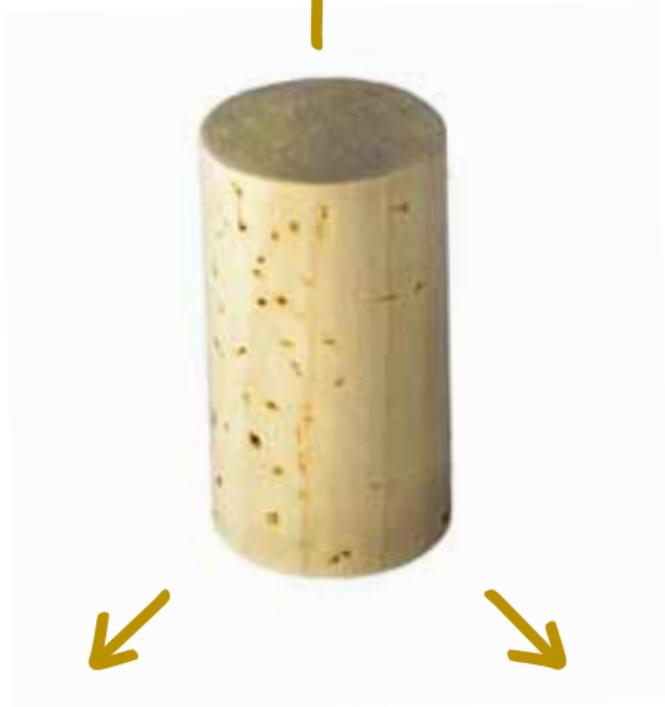
A history made of cork.

The history between man and cork dates back to ancient times. The first evidence of its use in Egyptian and Persian fishing artifacts dates back to 3000 B.C.

The diversity of cork has charmed generations of people, from its use in 4th Century B.C. Roman sandals to 21st Century designer shoes. It was even the first material in history to be analysed through the microscope by English physicist Robert Hooke (17th Century).

However, cork is renowned for its most noble role, as the world leader in wine stowage. Throughout the years, in cork growing regions, cork has been central to a culture that has been passed down from generation to generation. An idea that is as relevant today as it was when it began centuries ago – sustainable development. Its objective is the fundamental balance between the environment, economic growth and social development.

CULTURE



FUTURE

NATURE

A 100% NATURAL MATERIAL

Nature's gift.

Natural cork is yielded from the Cork Oak tree (*Quercus suber L.*) and has been a protected species since the 12th Century and the Cork Oak tree forests, called 'Montados', have their own unique biodiversity. The Cork Oak is an efficient barrier against social and environmental desertification and, at the same time, is important for CO₂ fixation. When a tree reaches the age of 25, the first cork is skillfully removed by hand, in a harvesting ritual that is repeated every nine years and where the trees are never cut down or damaged. This care and these environmental values continue throughout the whole production process, from bark extraction to recycling of the final cork products. Its application in eco-design products highlights the importance of cork in reducing the impact of man on nature. Besides being 100% natural, its raw material is 100% usable and cork is 100% reusable. It is, undoubtedly, a 100% environmentally friendly material.



100% Ecological

Cork is a material that is 100% natural,
renewable & recyclable.

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- 1 Natural cork stopper
 - 2 Groove Chair by Toni Grilo, CORQUE DESIGN
 - 3 Washbasin - SIMPLEFORMSDESIGN
 - 4 R&D
 - 5 Cork and Wine
 - 6 Portugal Pavilion in Shanghai, China 2010
 - 7 Cork Flooring
 - 8 “Montado” and biodiversity
 - 9 Punching cork stoppers

2

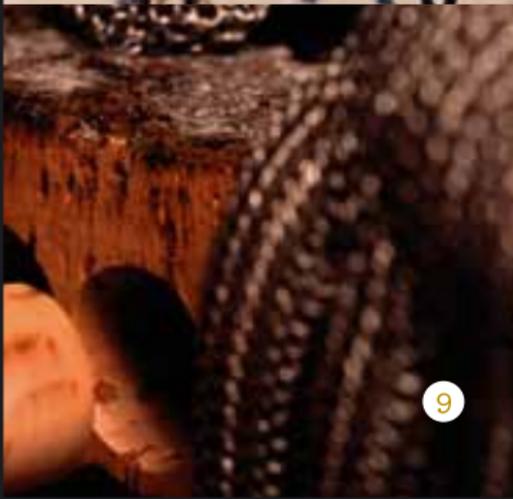


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8





A BETTER FUTURE

The endless possibilities
of cork.

From a bottle stopper to floor covering, cork's unique properties provide multiple opportunities. As well as being the wine sealer of the future, R&D and the industry's determination to create new applications continue to provide new and innovative applications for cork. This is exactly how many sustainable and environmentally friendly solutions have already been created in a variety of sectors, from construction and transport, coating, pavements, isolations and high-resistant devices to the aerospace industry and fashion design. Its versatility has granted cork numerous awards worldwide in the areas of architecture and design and is present in renowned institutions such as the MoMA and the Guggenheim.

//WINE
//CONSTRUCTION
//DECORATION
//DESIGN

CULTURE

Knowledge from generation to generation

With a history that dates back 3000 years, the best applications of cork have been passed on and improved from generation to generation.

NATURE

100% eco-friendly

Cork is a 100% natural, reusable and recyclable material. Cork Oak trees allow a high fixation of CO₂ with the Cork Oak tree forests alone in Portugal retaining over 4 million tonnes of CO₂ per year.

FUTURE

Innovation, technology and quality

These are some examples of the excellence and potential of cork: high-technology for the aerospace industry, composed polymers for the transport sector, and reference architecture and design works.

