

10 GOOD REASONS FOR ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS TO TRUST IN CORK

100% NATURAL

Cork is a 100% natural raw material that is 100% reusable and 100% recyclable. It is extracted from the cork oak tree without ever jeopardising the normal development of this species.

100% ECOLOGICAL, 0% WASTE

The cork oak forest is one of the world's richest ecosystems and 100% of the cork extracted from the cork oaks is harnessed. Cork has endless uses – from wine stoppers to flooring to motor vehicle engine joints and even footwear.

ELASTICITY

Cork is a particularly elastic and resistant material thanks to its ingenious cellular structure. Each cubic centimetre is composed of 40 million highly flexible cells, making it compressible and very elastic. This means it always returns to its original shape after being subject to any pressure, absorbing shocks and reducing pressure on feet, legs, joints and back.

WEAR RESISTANCE

Cork, in addition to being an extraordinarily wear-resistant material thanks to its honeycomb structure, is less affected by impact or friction than other hard surfaces.

WATER RESISTANCE

Cork is a naturally waterproof material due to the suberin it contains. It can be used in kitchens, bathrooms (including shower areas), and outdoor areas, without any risk of rotting.



Thermal insulation



Elasticity

THERMAL INSULATION

Its cellular structure absorbs and retains heat for long periods of time. Covering floors and walls with cork can reduce the costs of heating significantly.

ACOUSTIC INSULATION

The 40 million cells present in each cubic centimetre of cork work as an effective sound absorber. This makes cork the perfect insulation for children's bedrooms, offices, bars and restaurants.

ANTISTATIC AND ANTI-ALLERGIC

Cork floors are extremely hygienic and contribute to a cleaner and healthier space. As a material that does not absorb dust and mites, cork is a highly recommended material for all those suffering from allergies and asthma.

EASY MAINTENANCE

The top layer of a cork covering, whether a wall or flooring, is processed to make its maintenance easier. No treatment or specific protection needs to be applied.

MATERIAL OF THE FUTURE

With new applications, colours, textures and dimensions being explored every day, cork is no longer a material of the past. In fact, it is one of today's most exciting and fashion-forward materials.



Acoustic Insulation



Material of the Future



TRUST THE CHOICE OF THE WORLD'S BEST ARCHITECTS

Herzog & de Meuron and Ai Weiwei · Serpentine Gallery, London, United Kingdom.

Frank Lloyd Wright · Fallingwater, bathroom walls, Pennsylvania, USA.

Eduardo Souto Moura and Siza Vieira · Portuguese Pavilion at the Hannover 2000 Expo, partial outer covering in cork, currently in Coimbra, Portugal.

Siza Vieira · Wine ageing warehouse of Quinta do Portal, outer covering in cork, Douro, Portugal.

Flavio Barbini and João Silva · Eco-shack, totally built of cork, Cascais, Portugal.

Carlos Couto · Portuguese Pavilion at the Shanghai 2010 Expo, outer covering in expanded cork agglomerate and indoor flooring.

Jordi Bonet i Armengol · Flooring of the Sagrada Família Cathedral, Barcelona, Spain.

M&B Architects&Interiors · Coverings and Flooring of the Green House Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa.

Jordi Fornells · Extramuros Villa, indoor and outdoor flooring and coverings, Arraiolos, Portugal.

José Carlos Cruz · EcorkHotel, outer covering, located on a rural estate, Évora, Portugal.



Ecorkhotel

TRUST IN A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES

Cork is more frequently used in construction as an auxiliary material. It's also used in the form of parquet flooring, on walls or ceilings, in expansion joints, filling air cavities, in refrigerated rooms, covering heating and air conditioning piping, and underneath machinery to absorb vibrations and noise. Our imagination is the limit.

CORK IN FASHION, SPORTS AND TRANSPORTATION

From the catwalks of South Africa Fashion Week to the creations of the fashion designer Stella McCartney, and the most sophisticated model of Nike sports shoes, cork is increasingly sought after in the fashion world. Cork is also present in the carriages of the Metro light railway designed by Siemens, inside top of the range Mercedes Benz cars and on the exterior of the planes that cross our skies. Since cork is a highly competitive material it is only natural that it is used in a wide range of sports: from badminton shuttlecocks to baseball, hockey and cricket balls, table tennis rackets to golf clubs, dartboards to refereeing whistles, surfboards, windsurf boards and body boards to the canoes of the world's best canoeists. Where performance, resistance and durability have to be increased, it is only natural that cork will be used.



www.realcork.org www.realcorkfloors.com



TRUST IN THE VERSATILITY

Architects, designers and decorators' search for ecological and natural materials led them to rediscover cork, enabling the appearance of a variety of products with different textures, shades and colours.

This has opened the way for the creation of new and surprising environments. Cork, by combining traditional production methods with the latest technology, is increasingly sought after as a construction and decoration material. It is a raw material with unique and inimitable properties that combines unbeatable environmental benefits with surprising versatility.

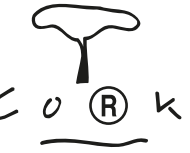
Cork is everywhere, from furniture to decoration, kitchen utensils to textiles, the footwear industry to the aerospace industry. In a 100% sustainable and environmentally friendly form.

CONSUMERS BELIEVE IN CORK

90% recommend it, 52% state they are wholly satisfied and 47% very satisfied. "Sustainability and Natural Product", "Easy to clean" and "Modern look", are the most stand out properties.

Source: CONdata Marktforschung GmbH, Germany

Example of coverings



CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS
AND DECORATION.
CULTURE, NATURE, FUTURE.