



## ecopell play of colors

What you should know about colored naturally produced leather

Whether for colorful shoes for children, or an elegant briefcase: with **ecopell** you will surely find the right color in genuine natural leather.



Naturally produced leather derived from vegetable tanning is something special on the leather market. It differs in terms of hand and optics from the common mass-produced leather because naturally produced leather has no colored surface layer of plastics, thus a direct feeling of authentic leather is achieved.



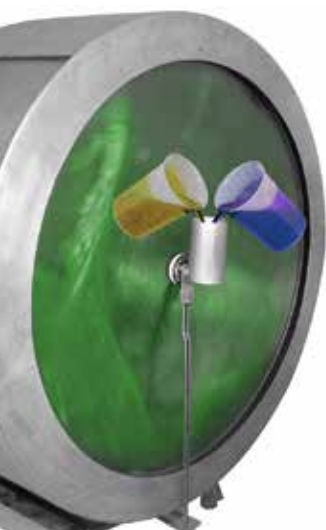
Certificate No.: 110811  
certified by IMO-Schweiz



### Colorful and compatible

**ecopell** makes use of harmless, heavy-metal free dyes in our naturally created leathers.

All dyes when used have been certified by the IVN (International Association of Natural Textile Industry), the Bioland (Association for Organic Farming), as well as ECARF (European Center for Allergy Research Foundation). This certification verifies the environmental and health compatibility of the colors. **ecopell** is the frontrunner in verifiably environmentally friendly natural leathers.



Every **ecopell**-color consists of 1 to 4 different dyes. Depending on the lighting conditions the leather will reflect differently. The colors can vary modestly from batch to batch.

### Color variations

Coloration can highlight natural characteristics of leather. This is due to the sometimes dense and loose structure of the animal hide. Scars and insect bites also cause changes in the skin structure. If dyes stick to this structure of hide fibers, it can come to differences of color depth of single tones within a hide. Also the interaction between the dyes and the color of the vegetable tannin and/or the primary color of the hide fibers. For example, cattle with black-white or brown-white coat pattern can cause different shades of color.

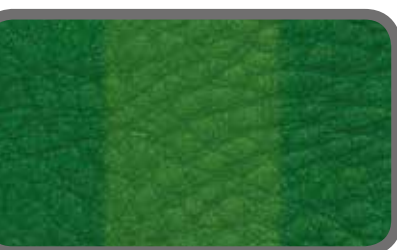


### Colors in the vortex of time

Vegetable tanned leather changes over time under the influence of light because of the tannins employed as well as the dyes themselves which are influenced by exposure to light. For **ecopell** leather this means, the leather becomes lighter. The only exception is the natural color 369 Bahamas sand which becomes darker. How fast the color of a leather will change depends on the duration and intensity the influence of light. The effect is illustrated via the light fastness quality:

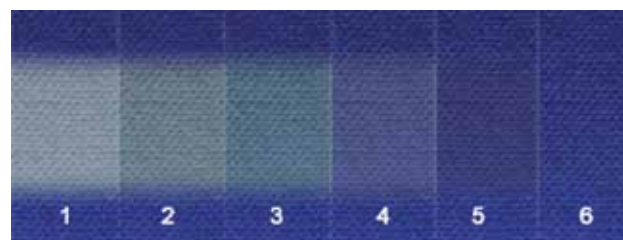
- 1 = fast change
- 6 = very slow change

mast pleads



test stripe for light fastness definition

Example: light fastness 3  
Color: Tabalugagrün



## Color on the tramp

Direct contact between naturally produced leather and textiles, or other materials can cause dyes to transfer from one material to the other (abrasion and color migration).

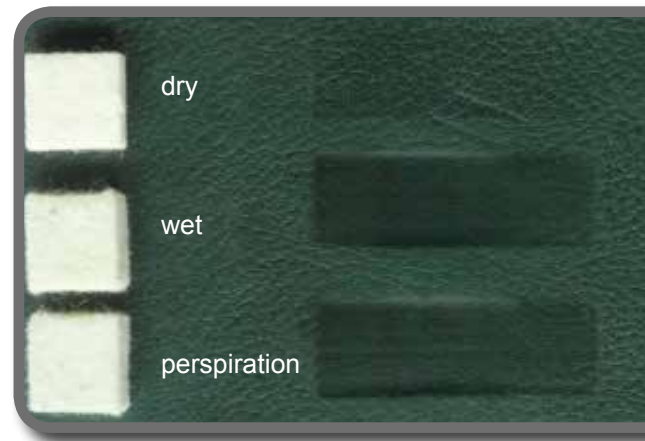
This process is also promoted by moisture or sweat.

Even if this color migration usually is very low, all of our leather is extensively tested to this effect and the test results are published on the **ecopell** homepage via the Internet.

Such characteristics can be mitigated with an environmental and health threatening plastic layer which is a common practice in mass produced leather and leather-like products. This step however causes the true natural beauty and other positive characteristics provided by mother nature such as breathability, comfortable temperature control, and its flattering touch...are lost.

Also, coated leather is permitted to be called „real leather“. Whoever wants to have pure leather and no plastic will choose naturally maintained leather with all its color features.

abrasion test on **ecopell**-Leather



## Care instructions

No matter if colored or undyed, **ecopell** leather is a simple material. Too much care can be more damaging than a benefit for the leather. Only rarely does **ecopell** need more attention than the removal of dust with the aid of a moist cloth (best practice is to use lime-free or distilled water).

Due to the open leather pores that make the leather breathable and creating the comfortable hand, moisture and dirt can enter the leather more easily. Soiling can best be prevented by careful handling but once formed they can be difficult to remove.

Traces of usage are an evidence for the natural surface. Such life signs give the leather its character. The patina of aged leather is often imitated. Very rarely do these replications have the charisma of the original and authentic leather surface that connoisseurs know to enjoy.

There is no special care product for **ecopell**. We do offer a refreshing agent for the leather.

It is recommended to first treat **ecopell** nappa leather products when the touch of the leather is changing (after about 5 years). With normal usage it is enough to use the agent once a year. The refreshing agent maintains the suppleness of the leather, refreshes the color and reduces slight traces of usage.

