

WHY BUY COYUCHI?

We could go on all night answering your question, but we'll try to keep it short and sweet. You can effortlessly craft a distinctive, beautiful bed and bath experience that naturally supports, comforts and rejuvenates you and your family while retaining reverence for people and the planet.

As the first company to bring organic cotton to the United States, you can count on Coyuchi to help you keep your family safe from harmful chemicals. All of their cotton is 100% organic and they use only natural fibers, all of which are produced using a nontoxic production process certified to either the OEKO-TEX standard or the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS). This means they use none of the toxic dyes, bleaches or finishes used to make conventional textiles.

Which sheet fabric is best for me?

This is a tough question to answer as different fabrics have different qualities, and we each have individual preferences. [Click here](#) for a brief guide to give you some idea of the unique attributes of each fabric.

Are Coyuchi products safe for chemically sensitive people?

Coyuchi's cotton products are all 100% organic and made using low-impact dyes and a nontoxic production process. This makes them a favorite brand among chemically sensitive groups, who especially love their Ivory colored fabrics. They are the natural color of cotton, and never whitened or dyed.

Why are there tiny brown flecks in your Ivory cotton fabric?

Those little black flecks are actually in all cotton products and a natural part of the fabric. When fabric is whitened and/or dyed, the small flecks take on the same color as the fabric. Because our Ivory cotton fabrics are not whitened or dyed, the small flecks are more apparent.

How do I care for my Coyuchi products?

Sheets, Duvet Covers, Blankets, Coverlets, Quilts, Shower Curtains, Apparel, Baby Bedding:

All of our cotton and linen products are machine washable. We recommend machine washing on the gentle or delicate cycle with cold water and non-phosphate soap. Line dry, or tumble dry low and remove promptly. Use a warm iron on cotton, or a hot iron on linen, as needed. We do not recommend using whiteners, as bleaching agents may diminish the brilliance and depth of the colors; when needed, use only non-chlorine bleach.

Towels:

Machine wash cold with non-phosphate soap. For the softest towels, tumble dry low and remove promptly. Avoid fabric softeners, as they reduce absorbency.

Accent Rugs

For the smaller rugs: We recommend machine washing on the gentle or delicate cycle with cold water a non-phosphate soap; do not bleach. Tumble dry low and remove promptly. Do not pull

loose ends; clip them with scissors. Cut pulled loops; do not pull.

For the larger rugs: We recommend spot cleaning only. These large rugs are too heavy to be laundered in a home washer and dryer. When necessary, take them to an eco-green cleaning service.

Kapok Pillow Inserts

Our pillow inserts are a 100% organic cotton shell with a natural kapok fill. Before first use, we recommend fluffing in the dryer on warm for 15 minutes for maximum comfort. Then, once a month fluff the pillow in the dryer with tennis balls to ensure optimum loft, hygiene and shape retention. We recommend machine-washing separate from other items. Tumble dry warm with tennis balls; dry thoroughly.

Wool

We recommend machine-washing our wool blankets on the gentle or delicate cycle with cold water and mild liquid detergent; do not bleach. Air-dry flat; do not wring or twist. Heat can damage wool fibers. Store wool blankets in a tightly sealed bin or heavy plastic bag to protect against pests; add cedar chips for extra protection.

How is Coyuchi bedding constructed?

We believe in being generous in our fabrications and color options. Here are some of the specifications that make Coyuchi's bedding special:

- Flat sheets are 106" long.
- Fitted sheets have 15" pockets and elastic all around the bottom.
- Duvets have a hidden placket with a button closure.
- Stitching is 12 per inch.
- Natural, or Ivory, is the color of the cotton itself, so colors may vary.
- White is achieved by bleaching with hydrogen peroxide or a GOTS-certified optical whitening process, both benign bleaching processes that are free of harmful chemicals.

Can I return something if it does not meet my expectations?

Of course! If you don't love it—if you don't find it to be the purest, coziest and most beautiful item in your home—simply send it back.

- Return any item within 30 days of purchase for a complete refund.
- Exchange any item for an item of equal or lesser value within one year of purchase.

What are Coyuchi's social and environmental standards?

1. Coyuchi's social and environmental standards are right in line with our own and that's why we chose them as one of our partners! In their own words, "We strive to produce beautiful, sophisticated, high-quality textiles by harnessing the innate qualities of natural materials and maintaining reverence for people and the planet. This is more than just a statement of corporate responsibility—it's why Coyuchi exists. It's the reason

why we were the first to bring organic-cotton bedding to the United States 20 years ago, and why we continue to source our organic cotton from only GOTS (Global Organic Textile Standard) and OEKO-TEX certified suppliers, who operate with the highest standards. We believe that nature is the essence of home and the source of comfort, support and rejuvenation. That's why we strive every day to help you bring nature home".

Who certifies Coyuchi's products?

Each of the farmers, spinners and weavers who Coyuchi works with are audited by third-party, internationally recognized certification organizations such as Control Union, Ecocert, IMO and OneCert. These organizations verify that the producer or manufacturer meets the necessary USDA, GOTS (Global Organic Textile Standard) or OEKO-TEX standard.

Where are Coyuchi's raw materials sourced and their products made? What environmental production standards are used?

To bring their designs to life, Coyuchi searches the world over for high-quality natural materials. They work only with weavers, dyers and cut-and-sew facilities that share their values and reverence for people and the planet.

Following is an overview of the raw materials they use, their sources and an explanation of their production standards:

Cotton

Fiber source: India and Turkey

Fiber standards: All of the cotton fiber Coyuchi uses conforms to the USDA Organic certification. They choose to use only organically grown cotton in order to reduce the use of hazardous pesticides and fertilizers while providing you with the softest and highest-quality cotton available. Cotton items made in: India, Turkey, Germany and Portugal.

Production standards: Coyuchi supports organic cotton farming by purchasing certified-organic fiber. They strive to achieve the highest standards for textile processing while offering a range of different materials and production techniques. Nearly all of the manufacturers of their cotton items are certified to the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS.) However, due the limited number of GOTS-certified suppliers, unique items like the Cozy Blanket are certified to the OEKO-TEX standard. Both certifications are designed to limit the use of hazardous chemicals and dyes in the production process.

Linen

Fiber source: Belgium and France.

Fiber standards: Linen is made from flax, an extremely hardy plant that grows with minimal fertilizers and pesticides—or none at all—making it nearly organic by nature. For that reason, there is very little certified-organic flax. Coyuchi's flax is sourced from France and Belgium,

countries with a long tradition of growing flax according to the strong environmental standards set forth by the European Union

Linen items made in: India Production

Standards: Coyuchi produces their linen products in the same facilities as their organic cotton ones, using the same low-impact dyeing and finishing processes.

Wool

Fiber source: Canada and Argentina

Fiber standards: Due to the high price of organic wool, Coyuchi offers both USDA Organic wool items and natural wool items. Natural wool comes from sheep that graze in open pastures and are treated humanely.

Wool items made in: the U.S.A and Canada

Production standards: Skilled craftsmen make Coyuchi's organic wool blankets on looms that are over 100 years old at a small mill in Maine. Their natural wool blankets are made in Canada at a family-owned and -operated facility that has been making blankets for decades. Both facilities meet all necessary labor and environmental standards.

In which countries does Coyuchi fabricate their products and why?

India: India has one of the greatest textile traditions in the world. Indians have been growing, weaving and sewing cotton textiles for hundreds of years, and now have some of the highest-quality production facilities in the world. They are also the world's largest producer of organic cotton.

Turkey: Renowned for its towels and rugs, Turkey has a long history of growing, weaving and dying high-quality cotton. It is one of the world's leading producers of both conventional and organic cotton.

Portugal: Although no cotton and very little flax are grown in Portugal, it is a leading European textiles manufacturer. With a reputation for quality craftsmanship and soft, supple fabrics, the Portuguese are an important partner in producing some of Coyuchi's most beautiful sheets, blankets and robes.

Germany: As with its automobile industry, Germany's textile manufacturers are known for engineering, precision and attention to detail. While it costs a bit more to produce items there, the beauty and quality of German-made items are second to none.

Canada: As a large wool supplier with a history of weaving the warmest and coziest of products, Canada is a source of the highest-grade natural wool and wool products in timeless styles.

U.S.A.: Coyuchi tells us that they are often asked why more of their offerings are not produced in the U.S.A. The answer is quite simple: the cotton grown here is mostly short-staple cotton, used mainly for apparel. Additionally, the sharp decline of the U.S. textiles industry has made it virtually impossible to provide a reasonably priced item that has not been already shipped around the Americas for spinning, weaving and dying. However, they do look for opportunities to make items here, like their organic wool blankets, made on 100-year-old looms in Maine, or their reclaimed wood bed, sourced and manufactured right here in California.

What is the difference between USDA Organic and GOTS?

USDA Organic is an agricultural certification that limits chemical use during farming. Only natural fertilizers, pesticides and other agriculture inputs are permitted. GOTS (Global Organic Textile Standard) is a textile production certification that limits the use of toxic bleaches, dyes and other chemical inputs during the production process of textiles. It is internationally recognized as the toughest organic-textile standard because it goes far beyond verifying the organic-farming process to include every step of manufacturing.

What are some of the environmental standards of USDA Organic and GOTS?

Below are a few of the key components:

- Ensures organic status from harvesting to labeling
- Requires certification for each phase of production
- Requires that a product contain a minimum of 95% certified-organic raw materials (excluding non-textile materials) in order to be “certified organic”
- Prohibits inputs designated as “toxic” on the international materials safety data sheet, including heavy metals, fluorocarbons, ammonia, bleaches and formaldehyde
- Certifies that all dyes are nontoxic
- Requires that all dyes and other processing materials be recycled or disposed of properly

How does Coyuchi decide what materials to use to package their products?

Packaging is something they take very seriously here. Our goal is to protect their products while minimizing waste. Coyuchi items are made all over the world, with each location presenting its own unique challenges, from sub-zero winters to hundred-degree monsoon seasons. Additionally, much of their product travels by container, still the most cost- and energy-efficient way to ship. These containers can reach temperatures over 200 degrees as they make their way from Turkey and India across the Pacific to California. While protecting your items from extreme conditions and temperatures, they also strive to minimize the impact their packaging has on the planet. Below is a list of the elements used in their packaging and their reason for choosing them:

Plastic Bags

Most textiles you buy are shipped in thick PVC packaging. As they search for ways to completely eliminate plastic from their packaging while still protecting their products and making them

visible on the store shelf, Coyuchi, and many of our other vendors, sourced a degradable plastic that breaks down into basic elements after just three years. To learn more about these bags, visit <http://www.degradable.net/>

Paper Inserts & Hangtags

Coyuchi's paper inserts and hangtags are made from 100% recycled paper. For all items made beginning in 2013, they have modified the inserts to use 75% less paper than before.

Cotton Bags

Beginning in 2013, Coyuchi's duvet covers and shams will be packaged in organic cotton bags. As demand for organic cotton has leveled off, there is little incentive for farmers to convert more of their conventional cotton to organic cotton and less need for weavers to maintain facilities dedicated to organic cotton. By using organic cotton whenever possible, Coyuchi feels they can increase the demand for organic cotton while producing packaging that can be reused for years to come instead of being discarded.

Wrapping Paper

All of Coyuchi's items come lightly wrapped in 100% recycled tissue paper.

Note Cards

All note cards are made from 100% recycled paper and printed using soy-based inks.

Boxes

All of Coyuchi's shipping boxes are made from 100% recycled cardboard, using the highest post-consumer content available in the industry.

Please reuse or recycle all of our packaging.

What is Coyuchi's production process for cotton?

After the cotton is grown, harvested, washed, spun into thread and woven into large sheets of fabric, it undergoes the following steps:

1. **Clean:** The fabric is processed with a natural amylase enzyme, similar to the natural enzymes found in saliva, to remove the wheat starch that was applied to the textile during the weaving process to minimize fluctuations in sizing.
2. **Singe:** The starch-free fabric is then passed over and under a very small flame at high speed. This burns off fibers protruding from the fabric surface, leaving it smooth and minimizing pilling.
3. **Wash:** The fabric is washed with biodegradable soap.
4. **Soften:** Before being dyed, sodium hydroxide is applied to the fabric as it is stretched. This powerful cleaning agent makes the yarn rounder and more lustrous, stronger and more receptive to dyes.

5. **Whiten:** White and dyed fabrics are then whitened with hydrogen peroxide (natural-colored fabrics skip the whitening/dyeing process.)

6. **Dye:** Dyeing is done with fiber-reactive, low-impact dyes that require less water, heat, energy and dye material than other cotton dyes. The bonding effect with this type of dye is greater and, therefore, more environmentally friendly.

7. **Smooth:** The fabric is smoothed between highly polished steel rollers. This is a process done mainly to satin weave fabrics to create sheen on the fabric surface.

8. **Preshrink:** Finally, the fabric is Sanforized, a mechanical process that uses steam and rubber rollers moving in opposite directions to preshrink the fabric.

Why doesn't Coyuchi use organic cotton from the U.S.?

Coyuchi doesn't use U.S.-grown organic cotton because it is extremely expensive, and they lack cut-and-sew facilities here. This means they would have to ship the cotton overseas for production and then back once completed, thereby increasing their carbon footprint. Additionally, the highly mechanized production process in the U.S. would add few jobs, as compared to the thousands of jobs that are created in India, where cotton is grown by hand.

Why doesn't Coyuchi cut and sew in the U.S.?

At one time they did cut and sew in the U.S. However, all of the large cut-and-sew facilities have closed down, and the remaining boutique facilities would be prohibitively expensive.

What kind of dyes does Coyuchi use?

There are two kinds of cotton dyes: pigment dyes and reactive dyes. Pigment dyeing is the process by which color is held onto the surface of the fabric by a binding agent. Reactive dyeing is the formulation of a chemical bond between the cotton fibers and the color.

We use low-impact, fiber-reactive dyeing in all our Coyuchi products. Our dyes are very safe, GOTS certified and "low impact," which means that we use less water, less heat and produce less wastewater runoff than regular chemical dyeing processes. Recent advances have created fiber-reactive dyes with colors that are brighter and richer than previously available, and they provide excellent colorfast properties on cotton. Fiber-reactive dyes have become the dye choice for many organic clothing manufacturers who want to offer a diverse palette of vibrant colors. They contain no heavy metals or other known toxic substances, and they meet all European Union criteria for eco-friendly pigments.

Unfortunately, the actual dyes in almost all low-impact fiber-reactive dyes are still petro-chemical based. Depending upon the nature and degree of their chemical sensitivities, people with mild chemical sensitivities can often wear organic clothing made with fiber-reactive dyes. Un-dyed, natural color or color-grown fabrics are the best choice for people who react to fiber-reactive dyes or who want only 100% natural, virgin fabrics on their skin.