

WILGART

The last **capmaker** in Denmark

Wash Guide



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Wilgart

Congratulations with this care book

This guide will help you to maintain cap's quality and look. A product you can wear for many years to come. It is important to take good care of your cap and even more to have the right products and knowledge.

The opportunity to get tailor-made sailor cap, sixpence, baseball cap or flatcap to fit every individual customer is unique in Denmark.

Capmaker vs. Hatmaker

As a hat maker you typically work with felt that is pulled over wooden blocks where it is steamed, sand-ed and polished.

The cap maker's core is that you work with woven fabrics that are cut with scissors and then sewn to-gether on sewing machines. Cap-making is therefore related to tailoring, where hatmaking is a whole other craft.

The handmade caps is Wilgarts trademark, where the original Wilgart signature detail is stitched on the shade. The triangle shape on one corner of the brim, made from fish skin, leather or other fabrics. This detail is a clearly visible and tangible proof that the cap is made by Wilgart - Handcrafted Danish Head-wear.



Silas & Wilgart

Designer & founder of Wilgart is Silas Wilhelm Gärtner Skram. Wilgart is the last capmaker in the Den-mark.

Silas is inspired by the Danish design and capmaking tradition, with the desire to deliver a solid, beautiful and unique piece of headgear.

Silas believes that craftsmanship, good materials, and a true story behind the product are the most im-portant things for a great cap. His caps are tailor made, to be just as they were back in the old days. You can order special made caps with your own design based on exclusive materials, forms and details.

Care Products



Cap Care Kit



Wool soap

The Wool Soap comes in a 100 ml. bottle. Clean your cap professionally by hand wash or with a sponge. This soap is also suitable for linen, cotton or silk caps.

Hat brush with handle

In this care kit you get the medium stiff, light colored bristle. Brush gently to remove dirt. Do not brush loose woven fabrics like Harris Tweed.

Caphanger

Your caphanger will help your cap to keep its form. Use the enclosed screw to mount it on any kind of wall.

Optional extras



Soft bristle brush

A "Cloths Brush" which is soft and mostly used for caps made of delicate materials like silk. The soft bristles also suit Harris Tweed better because loose woven materials are susceptible to pilling.



Leather grease

Containing a mix of natural oil and wax. Use it on your grain leather cap or grain leather brim.

Materials





Harris Tweed Wool is a tweed cloth, handwoven by islanders at their homes in the Outer Hebrides of Scotland. Made from pure virgin wool dyed and spun locally.

- ✓ Unique
- ✓ Strength
- ✓ Water repellent

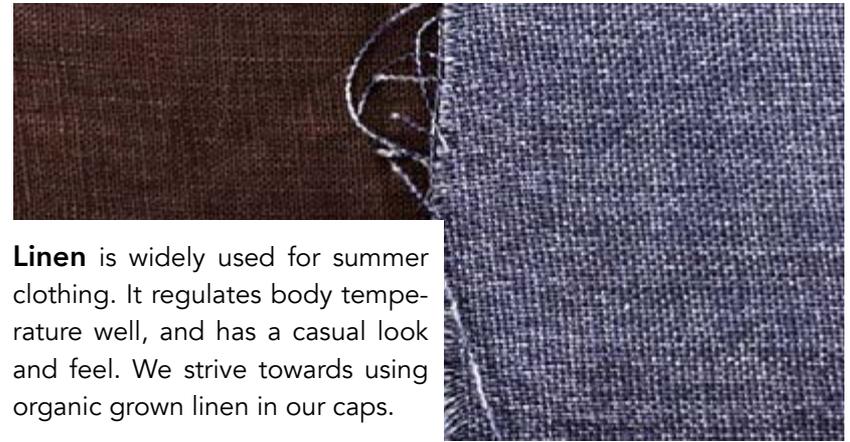
- ✗ Long drying time
- ✗ Only soft careful brushing
- ✗ Wash or rubbing can create pilling



Cotton is widely used because it is durable, accessible and comfortable to the skin. In caps we often use cotton as lining. Dark colored cotton will bleach by sunlight.

- ✓ Durability
- ✓ Comfort
- ✓ High absorbency
- ✓ Wet strength

- ✗ Wrinkles
- ✗ Attracting grime
- ✗ Long drying time
- ✗ Low insulation ability
- ✗ Dark colors will bleach in the sun



Linen is widely used for summer clothing. It regulates body temperature well, and has a casual look and feel. We strive towards using organic grown linen in our caps.

- ✓ Comfort
- ✓ Shiny
- ✓ Heat conductive
- ✓ Absorbency

- ✗ Wrinkles
- ✗ Sensitive to stains
- ✗ Attracting grime when wet



Silk is one of the top fibres used for clothing. It has outstanding features and exclusive look, however more difficult to maintain. The fibers are made by silk caterpillars.

- ✓ Shiny & smooth
- ✓ Dries fast
- ✓ Lightweight
- ✓ Regulates heat
- ✓ Long fibers

- ✗ Reacts strong to sunlight
- ✗ Stain sensitive
- ✗ Low durability
- ✗ Sweat will change its color



Wax cotton / Oilskin is a cotton cloth dipped in melted oil, wax or beeswax, to produce a waterproof, yet still breathable garment. We use it for outdoor caps, and love its progressive patina.

- ✓ Fast patina
- ✓ Strong fabric
- ✓ Water resistant
- ✓ Breathable
- ✓ Rejecting grime

- ✗ Needs regular caretaking
- ✗ Bleaches in sunlight
- ✗ Heavy
- ✗ Low absorbency



Fishskin is made from salmon and wolffish caught and tanned on Iceland. Offers a sustainable alternative to exotic leathers. Fish skin is an excess material from food production.

- ✓ Exclusive and unique
- ✓ Refined look
- ✓ Very durable
- ✓ Flexible and soft

- ✗ Reacts strongly to sunlight - bleaching and softening
- ✗ Needs regular caretaking



Grain & suede Leather has great patina properties, and a distinct look. We often use it for the brim or other details of the cap.

- ✓ Flexible
- ✓ Strength
- ✓ Easy to clean
- ✓ Water repellent
- ✓ Durable

- ✗ Easy exposed to sunlight
- ✗ Stain sensitive
- ✗ Needs regular caretaking
- ✗ Reacts strongly to weath



Wash guide



Wool & Harris Tweed wool



Harris Tweed is a handwoven sheep wool from the Outer Hebrides of Scotland.

A new stain needs immediate attention to keep it from penetrating the woolen fibers. Use a cloth cleaning rag to soak up as much of the liquid stain as possible, dabbing rather than rubbing the tweed.

For heavier spots such as caked mud, wait to dry and then vacuum gently your tweed routinely to lift away dirt and dust.

To clean the garment thoroughly with light scrubbing motion, mix a solution of gentle wool soap and water, damp a sponge, and then go over the entire surface of the fabric. Make sure your solution is not too strong or you could discolor the fabric.

You do not want the cloth soaked in water; only slightly damp. Make sure to use woolen soap, and do not rub the wool. Rubbing a wet wool against itself will cause pilling, which is wool's natural function to felt.

Method

- Take a cleaning cloth
- Soak up as much of the stain as possible
- Dabbing rather than rubbing the tweed
- Use a soft bristle brush for removing dry mud or dust

After cleaning, fill the inner space of the cap with towels or newspaper, and let it air-dry completely before returning it to your wardrobe.

Do not place the cap near to a heating device.

You may want to remove your wool cap from its daily storage from time to time, and hang it outside so the wind removes any lingering odors.



Linen



An old natural textile made from the fibers of the flax plant.

If you are washing linen headwear, always use hand wash method. After each wash, the linen becomes softer and more absorbent, but do not overdo it. You must wash linen in lukewarm or cold preferably soft water. Do not use machine washing, it can potentially destroy the caps visor or bill.

Still, if you prefer ironing, do it while the cap is still damp. Otherwise, iron with steam at medium-to-hot temperature. Always use a thin cloth between the iron and your cap while ironing, or there will be visible glances on the fabric that will not disappear.

If you accidentally overheat, crunch or over dry your linen and it becomes wrinkled, just damp it and the wrinkles will relax after a period of use. For a small wrinkle, wet the cap with a spray bottle of water, or just let it relax by itself over a day or two.

Method

- Massage the cap carefully in lukewarm or cold water
- Hand wash only and do not dry near a heating device.

Stuff the cap with something when it dries. This will help the fibers regain the caps original shape.

Be careful not to leave it in the sun while wet. Wet linen will bleach; lose its color, 6 times faster than dry linen.

You can air-dry it or iron the fabric while it is still damp, not wet. Always have a thin cloth between the iron and the cap. Ironing after wash will reduce the natural occurring wrinkles of linen cloth.

For linen, it is better to go along with the lively expression and relaxed vibe of the fabric, than trying to shape it with steam ironing.



Grain Leather



A durable material from tanned animal skin or hide. In Wilgart head-gear, we mostly use goat, sheep or cow leather.

If you want your leather to remain soft and have a longer life and fewer blemishes, we recommend ongo-ing care taking with leather grease. Leather grease is a combination of beeswax and impregnating plant juices, which makes the leather naturally water and stain repellent.

Bright untreated leather that do not get any treatment with fat is particularly susceptible to sweat stains, spills and dirt. It is either very difficult or impossible to remove those stains.

Like wood, leather tends to fade, crack and stiffen by time. Some prefer the leather to appear untreated and with stains and dried out, as it is considered as more genuine. If you sympathize with this, follow general advice on minimal care and only use a damp cloth or sponge for cleaning purposes.

Method

- Clean with a brush, damp cloth or sponge
- Never use soap.
- If color fades, consider to redye or use leather grease.
- Do not dry near a heating device.
- Leather grease will give it a darker tone.

Washing with soap will extract the natural fat from the leather, which makes it susceptible to stains, cracks and stiffness.

Be carefull when washing leather, since leathercolor might drift out and into the water. If this colored water is getting into the fabric, it might get stuck on the fabric.

Using leather grease will often give the surface a darker tone.



Suede Leather



Made from the underside of the animal skin, characterized by a rough, scratched surface.

A great way to maintain a leather cap is by brushing the suede. This will remove dust and grime from the surface. If you do not maintain the cap by brushing, the dust and grime will stick to the leather, and collect other dirt which makes the surface more greasy.

Washing a cap that has a fabric pull, but a suede brim, is difficult. Because the dye from suede usually infect on the fabric close to it, when getting wet. Be extra cautious and try not to get the suede brim wet at all.

If a stain is impossible to remove, using leather grease on a suede cap is the best method. The much darker tone of the entire leather surface, will camouflage many deep marks and stains on the cap. Leather grease will transform the surface to a more oily look, than suede's prior natural dusty and dry look.

Method

- Clean with a brush to remove dried grime
- Rub with a damp cloth to remove other stains
- Let it dry completely.
- When it is dry use a stiff brush to recover the texture.

Never use soap.

Do not dry near a heating device.

Never use soap. Washing with soap will extract the natural fat from the leather, which makes it susceptible to stains, cracks and stiffness.

Be careful when washing leather, since leather color might drift out and into the water. This colored water can dye any fabric it touches.

Using leather grease will often give the surface a darker tone.



Cotton



Cotton is a fluffy natural fiber, used for 60% of the world clothing.

When a cap is made from cotton it needs to be hand washed only. Use a mild detergent, and wash in lukewarm water.

If you worry about your cotton might shrink, know that virgin cotton naturally shrinks slightly. Additional shrinking occurs when it is washed in hot water or left drying close to a heat device.

The rapid drying causes the natural fibers to become scrunched together.

To prevent shrinking in the drying process hang the clothes on a clothesline outside to naturally dry. In the winter let the cap dry laying on a towel somewhere not too close to a heat source.

Method

- Take a cleaning cloth
- Handwash with soap
- Stuff cap with towel
- Let the cap dry laying on a towel

Do not dry near a heating device.



Wax Cotton



A cotton fabric made waterproof to keep the wearer dry. Wax cotton is also known as oilskin cotton.

The waxed cotton flatcap is either indulged with the original beeswax or a blend of natural oils and linoleum.

Only clean the oilskin cap if necessary and use a cold damp cloth to sponge wipe persistent areas of dirt. Never use detergents or hot water, since it will melt the wax out of the fabric.

To refresh the wax layer, look into an outdoor equipment store and ask for a wax treatment product. When the qualities of the wax seems to be worn out, you should treat the fabric with a high quality re-wax product. The need for re-waxing depends on the use of the cap, but in general once or twice a year is the average.

Method

- Clean only if necessary.
- Always use cold warm water with no soap. Hot water and soap will extract the wax.

Do not rub clean.

Avoid keeping in direct sunlight / any direct heat source for too long. This will melt the wax. Re-wax the cap once or twice a year.

Please note: Cleaning oilskin caps may affect/remove the qualities of the wax.

Brushing

Waxed cotton is in general a durable fabric, which means it is suitable for brushing in case of removing dust or cake mud. However brushing will also remove some of the wax from the surface on the cotton, transferring wax from cap to the bristles of the brush.



Fishskin



Fishskin is a residual material from the food industry. Wilgart use fish skin for small details in our cap design. We rely on Salmon and Wolffish caught and tanned in the rural areas around Iceland.

Fishskin is a residual material from the food industry. Wilgart use fish skin for small details in our cap design.

Salmon Skins and wolffish skins are an exclusive but also durable kind of leather. Each skin is unique which makes your cap truly individual. These details are quite resistant to wear and tear and can be cleaned with a damp cloth if needed.

Never use any detergents, also if you are cleaning the whole cap. Any soap can damage the colors of the fishskin. You can treat the fishskin cap detail like any other type of leather.

Method

- Be sure the details do not get in touch with soap.
- Cleaned with a damp cloth
- Treat the fishskin like any other type of leather (link til leather)

Never dry near a heating device.

Never use any detergents.

Treating with leather grease will often give the surface a darker tone.



Silk



The best-known silk is obtained from the cocoons of the larvae of the mulberry silkworm. Historically, silk was used primarily by the upper classes, and was considered to be a symbol of royalty.

When a cap is made from silk, there is always the option to hand it over to professional cleaning ex. Dry Clean. If you want to do it yourself, then use a special silk or wool soap, a mild detergent, and wash in lukewarm water.

However be careful and do not rub the material too hard.

A gentle way to succeed in the drying process lay the cap outside to naturally dry. In the winter let the cap dry laying on a towel somewhere not too close to a heat source.

Method

- Take a cleaning cloth
- Handwash with gentle soap
- Stuff cap with towel
- Let the cap dry laying on a towel

Do not dry near a heating device.

Keep away from direct sunlight.





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