



FOREST
PROTECTION
POLICY

Forest Protection Policy

As The Very Group continues to work towards its sustainability goals, we recognise the need to make a responsible commitment to support ancient and endangered forests around the world as we turn to forest based substitutes. This year, 3 billion trees will be logged for packaging alone, and 150 million trees will be cut down to make fabric for this season's fashion apparel.

We want to ensure responsible sourcing of our products across our home and furniture ranges. In line with the commitments made through this policy we will prioritise the sourcing Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified timber. In our fashion ranges, as of 2020, we will aim for a minimum of 50% of man made cellulose that are environmentally and socially beneficial. The Very Group will ensure at least 50% of all paper & packaging is sourced from recycled content by 2022.

We will work with our suppliers to ensure respect for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and acknowledge the rights of indigenous people and rural communities to their land and natural resources.

Canopy

The Very Group proudly announced this policy after working in partnership with world renowned organisation Canopy.

Canopy work with the forest industry's biggest customers and suppliers across the globe to develop business solutions that put the protection of these landscapes at their core.

The work that Canopy undertake is global; both in the areas and ecosystems that they work to protect but also with the range of customers that they partner with to shape purchasing practices and create sustainable solutions for some of the planet's most precious resources.

The Very Group partnership with Canopy has only just begun with the announcement of this policy and we will continue to work together in order to act more sustainably across all of our operations.

"The commitment we have made in creating this Forest Protection Policy in collaboration with Canopy demonstrates the importance we place upon sustainability, protection of our environment and commitment to SDG 13 to combat climate change" -Carly Bilsbrough, Head of CSR



Carbon Footprint

The policy will contribute to our commitment to reduce our carbon footprint and the impact we have on the planet. The preservation of forests will help to maintain climate stability whilst we continue to find new ways of reducing the amount of carbon we put into the air.

The Very Group will use this policy as a catalyst to further our ambition in sourcing man made alternative fibres and encouraging their development to minimise the impact we have on the environment. The Very Group will continue to work with our suppliers as well as our customers to inform and educate on the role we all need to play in combatting climate change by sourcing responsibly and being respectful to the communities in which we operate. The policy also demonstrates the need for business to play its role in achieving the 2050 goals of the Paris Agreement and protect some of the planets most vital resources

A copy of our Forest Protection Policy can be found on our website.

The policy forms a key part of our sustainability strategy and directly impacts on our ability to implement the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#), particularly Goals 12 and 13.



15 billion trees are cut down across the globe annually

Ensuring the protection of Ancient Rainforests is vital to maintaining a stable climate

Ancient and Endangered Forests only cover an estimated 12.6% of the earth's surface. What is left is irreplaceable



Biodiversity

Ancient and endangered forests are irreplaceable. Healthy forests absorb CO₂ from the atmosphere allowing life on the planet to thrive. According to a study by WWF, "the loss of large contiguous tracts of forest has meant wide-ranging forest-dependent species have either retreated to the last remaining intact forest systems or are extinct." Forests rely on the species that live there to stay vibrant, from bees, bats and plankton to primates and other large mammals.

By committing to this Forest Protection Policy, The Very Group is recognising the need to support these biodiverse environments across the planet, minimising not only our own carbon footprint but ensuring that we continue to play our part as a responsible citizen to maintain a stable climate for generations to come.