

No you're
not seeing
things.





We've created a fabric of intoxicating natural beauty. A heady mix of nature's cleverest renewables. In a dizzy array of 31 addictive colourways.

It's made from 60% wool. The rest comes from hemp. So that's what we've called it – quite simply Hemp.

“Look deep into nature and you will understand everything”



Hemp is grown from plants of the Cannabis genus, usually associated with recreational drugs and medicines, although you'd have to smoke a whole field of the type we use for it to have any effect. It's a bast fibre plant – like nettles, flax and jute – which contains naturally occurring textile fibre just inside the outer bark to give the stem both strength and flexibility. Its myriad uses range from fuel, to food, to fibre and fabric.

Mind blowing hemp facts



Our hemp is grown as agricultural crops under licence from the UK Government Home Office on farms in Leicestershire.



It's the Cannabis sativa strain, which contains only minute amounts of the psychoactive substance THC.



It's one of the fastest growing biomasses known, reaching over three metres in just 120 days.

Rooted in history

Hemp has been grown for thousands of years for a multitude of uses from fuels and plastics, to construction materials and cosmetics, food and nutrition, paper and textiles.

The oldest example of human industry is said to be a piece of hemp canvas dating back to 8000 BC, while hemp paper made over 2000 years ago has been found in China.

Hemp seeds are micro miracles, containing a fully balanced spectrum of essential fatty acids for human health, rich in anti-oxidants and producing seed oil capable of powering diesel engines and acting as natural moisturisers and anti-inflammatories.

Hemp fibres are soft, long and so strong they were used during the British Empire in sails, ropes and sailors' uniforms.

Hemp uses

Fuel

Plastics

Construction

Paints

Cosmetics

Medicines

Health & nutrition

Paper

And of course...

Fabric



Reap what we sow

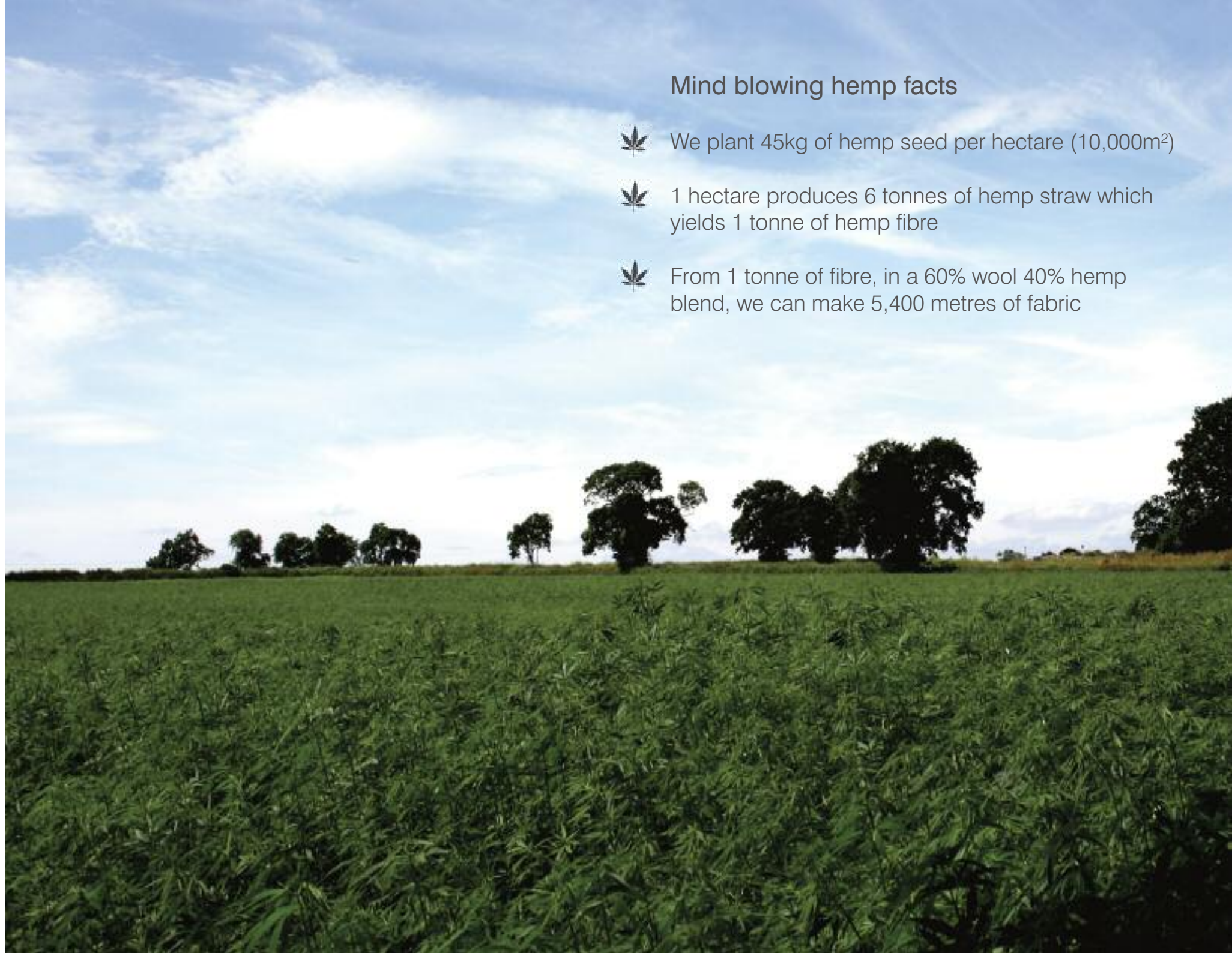
Hemp is sown from seed in springtime and grows rapidly, without agro-chemicals, reaching about three metres tall in just four months. After harvesting, the long stems are left in bundles on the field, while its leaves decompose and act as natural fertiliser for the following year's crop.

Dew retting starts the action of breaking down the pectins which hold the fibres together inside the stalks, which are then baled ready for final separation from the woody shive. Mechanical decortication breaks the brittle, woody stems which gradually fall away from the lighter, flexible fibre through a series of step cleaners and air cyclones.

The woody shive is used for bio-degradable animal bedding, while the textile fibre is blended with our pure new wool.

Mind blowing hemp facts

- ✦ We plant 45kg of hemp seed per hectare (10,000m²)
- ✦ 1 hectare produces 6 tonnes of hemp straw which yields 1 tonne of hemp fibre
- ✦ From 1 tonne of fibre, in a 60% wool 40% hemp blend, we can make 5,400 metres of fabric



Smoke without fire

We discovered it first with Sting and it's the same with Hemp. In combination with wool, the bast fibre blend makes an inherently fire retardant fabric which meets the main UK contract flammability standard BS 7176 Medium Hazard Crib 5.

- No FR chemicals
- No post-treatments
- No backcoating

It's just a safe, reliable way of providing enhanced fire security for commercial interiors. That really is why **Bast is Best**.

Dyeing to be different

Hemp fibre is perfectly compatible for intimate blending with pure new wool. It's spun into a 60-40 wool-hemp yarn at our local spinning plant, then woven into classic plain weave fabric at our UK manufacturing facility and finally piece-dyed to add colour and personality. In most of the shades, it's just the wool portion which is coloured, which brings out the raw beauty of the undyed hemp. The other colourways are double-dyed to tint both the wool and the hemp. The entire palette is naturally inspired to produce a balanced, universally accepted colour story.



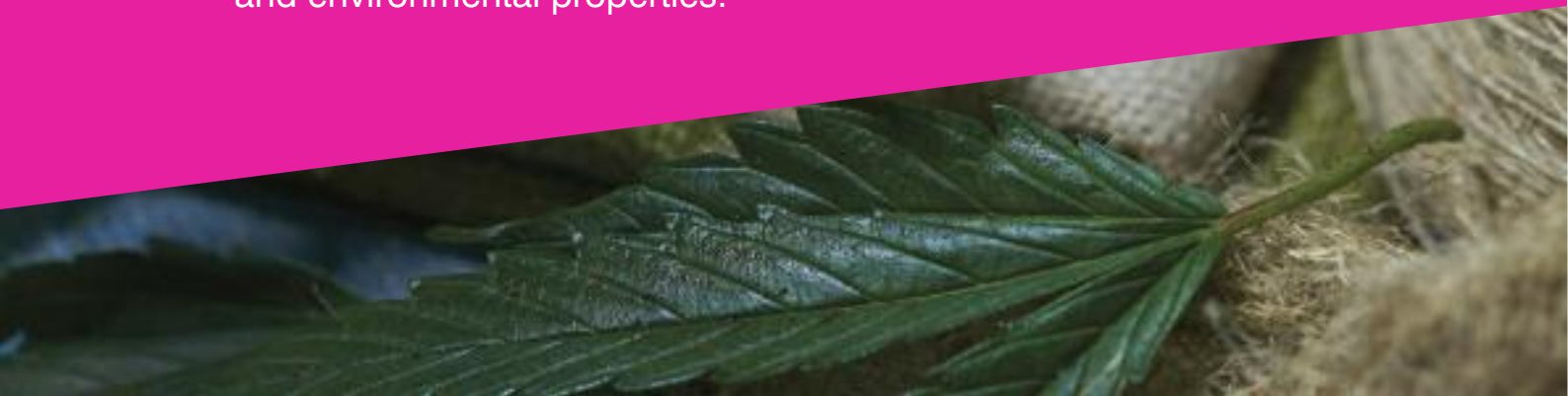
Hemp...

“Look deep into nature and
you will understand everything”

so said Albert Einstein.

He also said that we still don't understand one thousandth of what nature has revealed to us. But what we do know is that wool and hemp are two of nature's most clever fibre types which combine to create a beautiful fabric with exceptional qualities.

Wool is originally meant to protect sheep against the elements, while hemp fibre provides the plant stem with strength, resilience and extreme flexibility. Together the two materials work in harmony to bring unique performance, appearance and environmental properties.



...at a glance

Natural stretch
Severe contract abrasion
Inherent fire retardancy
Soft handle
Flex & recovery
Colour kudos
Appearance retention
Rapidly renewable
Bio-degradable
Biodiversity boost



We really do make fabrics from hemp.

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