



Project
Piñatex x Cat Footwear
Designers
Cat Footwear and Ananas Anam
Material
Pineapple leaves
Resource Type
Agricultural waste/bio-based
Country of Origin
Philippines
Manufacturer
Cat Footwear and Ananas Anam
Area of Use
Fashion
Category
Recycled/cultivated

A nonwoven textile made from pineapple leaf fibers

Once pineapples have been harvested for their fruit, the plant’s leaves are often burned. Globally, it is estimated that 44,000 tons (40,000 tonnes) of pineapple “waste” are generated each year.

Cat Footwear has partnered with Ananas Anam to reinvent the Intruder and Trespass boots using a leather alternative made from pineapple leaves.

The material repurposes agricultural waste from pineapple plantations in the Philippines by extracting fine cellulose fibers from the leaves and felting them into a nonwoven fabric that can be used to make clothing, shoes, car seats, and more. When this resource is used instead of burned, each linear meter of material prevents the equivalent of 26 lb (12 kg) of carbon dioxide from being released. In 2024, they saved 3,320 tons (3,013 tonnes) of pineapple leaves from becoming waste.

The product is 100% vegan and can be cut like leather without the wastage caused by irregularly shaped cowhides. While it won’t completely replace leather, Piñatex offers a sustainable alternative that reduces the leather industry’s negative impact on the environment, ecosystems, and human health. Traditional leather tanning uses harmful chemicals that can pollute soil and water sources. According to animal rights organization PETA, a study found that leather-tannery workers in Sweden and Italy face cancer risks 20% to 50% higher than expected.

