



Fairtrade Standards for UK Operators

In six parts

Part 4 (of 6) – Requirements for product composition

*These are the requirements relevant to companies wishing to have products licensed to use the FAIRTRADE Mark and include: product composition for food, cosmetics, cotton and gold
To be read in conjunction with the other parts of the Standards.*

FLO Standards and guidance are identified by the prefix:
(FLO - followed by the reference).
All other Standards are requirements of the Foundation.

All companies registered with the Fairtrade Foundation must meet the relevant requirements and will be audited against them.

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4.01 Product composition – all products

THIS SECTION APPLIES TO OPERATORS WHO PROCESS, PACK AND LABEL THE PRODUCT IN ITS FINAL RETAIL PACK READY TO SELL TO THE END CONSUMER OR IN A PACK SUITABLE FOR OUT OF HOME/CATERING SALES

Foundation policy: The Foundation is applying FLO GTS for food and developing new policies with FLO in other categories to increase market access by producer organisations.

Guidance: For more details on which ingredients are relevant and which require an exception please see Part 6 of the “Fairtrade Standard for UK Operators”.

4.01 General requirements for all products

4.01.01 All the components in a product for which FLO Part C Trade Standard exist, and which are available as Fairtrade certified, must be sourced from Fairtrade-certified or registered operators. This means that all the ingredients which can be Fairtrade certified must be Fairtrade certified.

Guidance: Licensees must use the highest possible levels of Fairtrade ingredients and of their derivatives and are expected to exceed the minimum requirements.

Non-relevant ingredients

4.01.02 Non-relevant ingredients do not require approval. However, they must be detailed in the application form to enable the percentages of Fairtrade certified ingredients to be calculated.

The following can be considered as non-relevant ingredients:

- a) Ingredients or components which are not derived from a commodity for which a FLO Part C Trade Standard exists

Guidance: Includes agricultural products such as flour, eggs, milk, cheese, yogurt, wool, lanolin etc.

- b) Ingredients which are not included in the ‘**Product Description**’ section of the FLO Part C Trade Standards

Guidance: For example, dried figs are dried fruit but are not listed in the Part C Trade Standards for Dried Fruit and are therefore non-relevant ingredients.

New Standards

4.01.03 If FLO approves a Part C Trade Standard for an ingredient or component for which no standard existed when a product was first launched, the Operator must start sourcing these ingredients or components from a Fairtrade certified source as soon as possible, and have done so within two years from the date the standard is published. This also applies to derivatives of Fairtrade certified products.

4.01.04 A finished product produced prior to the launch of a Fairtrade Standard for one of its ingredients can continue to be sold after the launch of that Standard.

4.02 Finished food products packed for retail and catering sales

FLO Intent and Scope (GTS): The intent of labelling food composite products as Fairtrade certified is to provide the maximum benefit to the producers. This means that the product must contain as many Fairtrade certified ingredients as possible.

Definitions

Single Ingredient product: consumer ready product composed of a single type of a Fairtrade ingredient. Such a product may comprise a blend of several ingredients or cultivars of the same product type (e.g. coffee) from one or more Fairtrade suppliers (e.g. a blend of Fairtrade coffees).

Food composite product: consumer ready product composed of more than one ingredient

Food composite ingredients: ingredients made of several components, e.g. chocolate chips, not intended for consumer purchase

Derivatives: an ingredient derived from a single component e.g. rice flour

Guidance: Consumer ready products also refer to products ready for sale to catering/food service

Single ingredient products

4.02.01 A single ingredient product shall be 100% Fairtrade

Guidance: This includes blends as defined above. Requirements for traceability are detailed in Part 5 and exceptions in Part 6.

Composite products

4.02.02 (FLO GTS 2.2.1) Food composite ingredients and food composite products must contain as many certified ingredients as available.

Guidance: "Must contain as many Fairtrade certified ingredients as available" includes Food composite ingredients and derivatives.

4.02.03 (FLO GTS 2.2.2) Food Composite Products must contain at least 20% Fairtrade content. The percentages used to calculate the concentration of Fairtrade ingredients on a food composite product shall be expressed in the following units of measurement:

Products with $\leq 50\%$ added water or dairy

- Normal weight/volume of the Fairtrade ingredient/s relative to the total weight/volume of all the initial ingredients before processing. The unit of measurement used to calculate the % should be the same unit of measurement as used on the pack. This type of product category includes fresh juices but not juices from concentrate.

For example, an ice cream with the following composition: 45% cream, 25% Fairtrade sugar, 25% strawberry puree (used as a ready-made ingredient), 5% flavourings and preservatives (not covered by FT Standards) would be assessed against this stipulation. There is less than 50% dairy added: the water in the strawberry puree has been added earlier in the supply chain as it was bought as a ready-made ingredient. The Fairtrade percentages should be calculated on the finished weight/volume as normally declared on pack. There is more than 20% Fairtrade ingredients in the product and the "all that can be" rule is met therefore the product complies.

Products with $> 50\%$ added water or dairy

- Same as above, but excluding all added water and/or dairy

For example, a cola drink with the following composition at finished volume: 5% Fairtrade sugar, 94% water, 1% flavouring (not covered by FT Standards) would be assessed against this stipulation. The 94% water has been added by the food composite product manufacturer. The water content added to the finished composite product is more than 50%, therefore it needs to be excluded from the Fairtrade percentage calculation. The remaining ingredients are assessed as follows: Fairtrade sugar at 83%, flavouring at 17%. There is more than 20% Fairtrade content in the product and the "all that can be" rule is met therefore the product complies.

that can be" rule is met therefore the product complies.

These requirements apply to all food composite products and not to food composite ingredients. These Standards will be applied to all product applications from 1st July 2011. Products previously approved under the previous Standards must transition to these Standards by the end of June 2013.

Clarifications:

- **Added Water or Dairy:** *the amount of water/dairy put in the food composite product by the food composite product manufacturer. Composite product manufacturers buying ingredients with water/dairy added by their supplier e.g. purees, syrups extracts etc. should not consider this as 'added water or dairy'.*
- **Dairy:** *including any unprocessed or processed versions of milk e.g. cream, cheese, yogurt etc.*

Exceptions

See Part 6 of the Fairtrade Standards for UK Operators

4.03 Cotton products

Foundation policy: This section incorporates the Fairtrade Certified Cotton Products Policy (12/11/08). The policy specifies the content and product requirements that enable cotton products to be labelled with the Certified Cotton FAIRTRADE Mark and/or use the term Fairtrade on labels.

The Fairtrade Labelling system aims to ensure maximum benefits back to producer organisations and requests all ingredients/components (for which there are Fairtrade standards) of a product carrying the FAIRTRADE Mark should be sourced from Fairtrade certified producer organisations on Fairtrade terms. The Foundation does however recognise that, for a variety of reasons, this is not always possible (e.g. for technological or supply chain reasons) and so does allow the labelling of composite products where not all components are Fairtrade sourced in order to:

- Increase market access for Fairtrade producer groups
- Expand the range of Fairtrade labelled products
- Assure the credibility and reputation of the Fairtrade labelling system

Scope

4.03.01 These standards define the conditions under which cotton products can be labelled as Fairtrade and with the FAIRTRADE Mark and applies to the following categories of product:

Category	Product composition	Description and examples	Qualifying statements
A	Single textile fibre products (100% cotton products)	Products made with 100% Fairtrade-certified cotton i.e. towels	All cotton in this product is Fairtrade certified cotton
B	Blended textile fibre products	Products made with Fairtrade certified cotton blended with other fibres i.e. socks	Fairtrade certified cotton is 50% or more of the finished weight of the fabric e.g. 60% Fairtrade certified cotton, 40% nylon
C	Multi-component textile products	Products made with Fairtrade certified cotton parts combined with other textile parts i.e. cotton covered cushions with another non-cotton textile filling, cotton curtains lined with non-cotton textile etc	A significant part of the product is cotton. The essential nature, character and appearance of the product is cotton. All cotton in this product is Fairtrade certified cotton.
D	Multi-component textile & non-textile products	Products made with Fairtrade certified cotton parts combined with non-textile parts i.e. cotton canvas trainers	A significant part of the product is cotton. All cotton in this product is Fairtrade certified cotton.

General requirements

4.03.02 The Operator must ensure that the product is compliant with the Textile Products (Indications of Fibre Content) Regulations 1986 and/or all other relevant legislation.

Exclusions

4.03.03 The Foundation's labelling requirements for cotton products exclude the following non-relevant components:

- Edgings and trimmings which are not an integral part of the product. Filling is considered to be a component rather than a trim.
- Buttons and buckles which are covered with textile materials
- Accessories, decorations, non-elastic ribbons, elastic threads/bands added at specific/limited points of the product
- Pocket linings and constructed waistbands

Guidance: Stitching is currently an exclusion

Specific requirements

Category A: Single textile fibre products (i.e.100% cotton)

- 4.03.04** All of the cotton used within a finished product must be sourced from a Fairtrade certified producer organisation.

Guidance: This category covers products made entirely with cotton, for example 100% cotton towels and T-shirts.

Category B: Blended textile fibre products

- 4.03.05** All of the cotton used in the finished product must be sourced from Fairtrade certified producer organisations and the cotton must constitute at least 50% of the finished product.
- 4.03.06** When blended fabrics containing cotton are blended with other fibres, the cotton must be 50% or more in the finished fabric. The Foundation acknowledges that, for functional reasons, the composition of the finished fabric can be achieved in different ways, either by blending the fibres and/or mixing yarns of different composition.

Guidance: This category covers products made of cotton blended with other fibres or other yarns, for example poly-cotton pillowcases and T-shirts or cotton/lycra jeans.

The Foundation acknowledges that, for functional reasons, the composition of the finished product can be achieved in different ways, either by blending the fibres and/or mixing the yarns of different composition. These standards are set based on the finished composition of the fabric.

Examples of various ways of blending;

	<i>Weft 65/35 poly/Fairtrade certified cotton</i>	Approved as 67.5% Fairtrade
<i>Warp 100 Fairtrade certified cotton</i>		
	<i>Weft 50/50 poly/Fairtrade certified cotton</i>	Approved as 50% Fairtrade
<i>Warp 50/50 poly/Fairtrade certified cotton</i>		
	<i>Weft 65/35 poly/Fairtrade certified cotton</i>	Not approved as only 35% Fairtrade
<i>Warp 65/35 poly/Fairtrade certified cotton</i>		

Category C: Multi-component textile products

- 4.03.07** The cotton part of the product must be 100% cotton. Blended cotton must not be used in a multi-component product.

Guidance: This category covers products made of cotton fabrics with fabrics of other compositions and includes filled products, for example pillows and duvets (with a 100% cotton cover and polyester filling) and non-filled products, for example cotton T-shirts with silk panels/appliqués or a jacket with silk lining.

Each product application must be submitted together with a visual and a specification of the product.

The guiding principle is that a significant part of the product must be made from cotton and the essential nature, appearance and performance of the product must be characterised by being made of cotton.

This will be assessed by the Fairtrade Foundation, with reference to the Certification Committee if required, using the following criterion as a guide: Would the consumer recognise cotton as being a defining or significant element of the product?

Examples:

- a. *Filled products such as duvets and pillows made with a 100% cotton cover and hollow fibre filling would be acceptable, as the consumer would reasonably understand the cotton component of the product.*
- b. *Oven gloves would be acceptable, where the outer cover is 100% cotton with polyester wadding and lining.* **Category D: Multi-component textile and non-textile products**

4.03.08 The cotton part of the product must be 100% cotton. Blended cotton must not be used in a multi-component product. See paragraph **4.03.06** – Single textile fibre products (100% cotton products) above.

Guidance: This category encompasses products made up of cotton parts combined with non-textile parts such as leather, wood, feathers or metal. Examples of such products include cotton canvas trainers and garden parasols.

Each product application must be submitted together with a visual and a specification of the product.

The guiding principle is that a significant part of the product must be made from cotton and the essential nature, appearance and performance of the product must be characterised by being made of cotton.

This will be assessed by the Fairtrade Foundation, with reference to the Certification Committee if required, using the following criterion as a guide: Are as many components as possible made from cotton?

Examples:

- a. *Filled products such as duvets and pillows made with a 100% cotton cover and feather filling would be acceptable, as the consumer would reasonably understand the cotton component of the product.*
- b. *A garden parasol made with a 100% cotton shade would also be deemed acceptable.*
- c. *Trainers made of leather or synthetic uppers with cotton laces and inner would not be accepted as a consumer would reasonably expect the defining part of the product to be associated with the FAIRTRADE Mark.*

Labelling

Guidance:

- *As outlined in relevant Fairtrade Mark Manual the Fairtrade component should be clearly identified and described on labelling and packaging.*
- *Where different components are used as in category C and D these should be identified separately and labelled in accordance with relevant legislation and the relevant Fairtrade Mark Manual.*

Decision-making process

Guidance:

- *The Foundation reserves the right to judge whether the nature/type of a product may present additional risks to the credibility of the FAIRTRADE Mark. In these cases, risk will need to be discussed, managed and addressed with the applicant if necessary before a product can be approved. The purpose of this discussion will be to ensure that the FAIRTRADE Mark is used to deliver substantive and proportionate benefits to the producers involved.*
- *If the Foundation deems that a product is not suitable to carry the FAIRTRADE Mark, the rationale will be provided to the applicant explaining how the decision was reached within eight weeks of the initial application.*
- *In recognition of the subjective nature of the composite product rules in relation to multi-component products, the Fairtrade Foundation will maintain a record of all successful multi-component product-labelling applications together with the rationale underpinning the decision. This record will be made available to licensees to demonstrate consistent decision-making, and provide a guide for future decisions taken on related products.*
- *For category C lined products if it can be demonstrated that the functionality of a product will*

be affected the Foundation will accept a blended textile fibre lining (see Category B) where the cotton must comprise at least 50% (by weight) of the finished product

- *In exceptional circumstances, the Fairtrade Foundation may grant a temporary exception for the use of non-Fairtrade-certified cotton in FAIRTRADE labelled cotton products. The licensee must apply for an exception using the Foundation's procedures as outlined in **section 6.01**.*

4.04 Cosmetics and personal care products

Foundation policy: This section incorporates the Foundation's Formulation Policy for Cosmetics and Personal Care Products (8/12/2008). The policy specifies the formulation and product requirements that enable cosmetics and personal care products to be labelled with the FAIRTRADE Mark and/or use the term Fairtrade on the label.

Scope

- 4.04.01** The term **cosmetics and personal care products** used in this policy includes all cosmetics, toiletries, and fragrance products.
- 4.04.02** These standards define the conditions under which cosmetic and personal care products can be labelled as Fairtrade and with the FAIRTRADE Mark and applies to the following two broad categories of product:

Category	Type of product	Description	Examples
A	Generally, but not always, 'leave-on' products.	Typically characterised by higher levels of oils and waxes. Treatment products such as face masks and scrubs and conditioning products for hands and body are included in Category I as these can contain higher levels of Fairtrade ingredients.	Lotions, creams, butters, balms (body, hand, hair) Massage, body oils Body/hand scrubs Face/body/hair masks Hair removal products Colour cosmetics, lipsticks, lip gloss, face/eye make up
B	Generally, but not always, 'wash off' products.	Typically characterised by higher levels of cleansing ingredients such as soap and surfactants.	Shampoos Hair conditioners 2 in 1 shampoo/ conditioners 2 in 1 shampoo/ body washes Bath/shower gels Shaving creams Soaps Liquid soaps Toothpaste

Requirements

- 4.04.03** The Operator must ensure that the product is compliant with applicable legislation regarding the manufacture and sale of cosmetics and personal care products.
- 4.04.04** The minimum threshold percentages, shown in the table below, shall apply and are calculated on a whole formulation basis, not including packaging.

Category	Minimum threshold percentage of Fairtrade ingredients as a percentage of the whole formulation including water. *
A	Not less than 5%
B	Not less than 2%

*In so far as such levels are safe under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use.

- 4.04.05** The formulation requirements for derivatives are as follows:
- When the 'input' weight of the Fairtrade certified ingredient is less than the 'output' weight of the derivative (e.g. liquid extracts, surfactants, etc) the equivalent weight of the Fairtrade certified ingredient used in the derivative will be taken into account in the formula and not the % weight of the derivative.
 - The manufacturer of a cosmetic and personal care product containing one or more derivatives made with/from Fairtrade certified ingredients, referred to in **Annex 4.1.02**, is required to report a validated conversion factor in order to calculate the equivalent weight of
Fairtrade certified

ingredient used in the derivative.

- c. When the 'input' weight of the Fairtrade certified ingredient is more than the 'output' weight of the derivative then the weight (% w/w) of the derivative used in the product is taken into account in the formula, not the equivalent weight of original Fairtrade certified ingredient.

4.04.06 Floral waters are excluded from Fairtrade labelling rules so as to avoid reaching minimum threshold using ingredients that give limited value back to producers.

Exceptions

4.04.07 By exception from paragraph **4.01.01**, the Foundation may grant an exception for the use of a non-Fairtrade ingredient where it can be demonstrated that it is not available from a Fairtrade certified source.

Annex 6.1.02 contains a consolidated list of INCI names related to existing Fairtrade standards for cosmetic ingredients, to determine whether or not an exception is required. This is in two categories:

- Category 1 – Ingredients that are listed in the FLO Part C Trade Standards and the Foundation considers can be obtained from a Fairtrade source. If a non-Fairtrade version is to be used an exception must be applied for, using the procedures as outlined in **Section 6.01**.
- Category 2 – Ingredients that have the potential to be obtained from a Fairtrade source. An exception is not required but the Foundation will request information regarding the suppliers and quantities to be used so that their use can be monitored to determine the feasibility of generating a supply chain.

The list will be periodically updated and, where an ingredient is moved to Category 1, the Operator will be notified of the change.

Cross-border sales

4.04.08 The Standards for Cosmetic & Personal Care Products are a Foundation policy and therefore initially such products are only for sale within the UK market and the Republic of Ireland.

4.05 Other products

THIS SECTION APPLIES TO OPERATORS WHO PROCESS, MANUFACTURE, PACK AND LABEL PRODUCTS SUCH AS FLOWERS AND SPORTS BALLS

Flowers

4.05.01 In the case of flowers imported as bouquets from the producer organisations, all the flower stems and foliage must be Fairtrade certified.

Sports balls

4.05.02 There are no additional requirements for sports balls.

4.06 Gold, Silver & Platinum

THIS SECTION APPLIES TO OPERATORS WHO TRADE, MANUFACTURE, PACK AND LABEL GOLD PRODUCTS

FLO intent: While the scope of the Fairtrade and Fairmined Standard for Gold from Artisanal and Small-scale Mining, including associated precious metals, covers exclusively Fairtrade and Fairmined gold as a metal, the product that bears the Label(s) is the final consumer-ready product which contains that metal.

Product composition rules shall assure that the certified gold is a significant component of the labelled final consumer-ready product.

Scope

4.06.01 The final consumer-ready products that may be labelled as “made with FAIRTRADE and FAIRMINED gold” are:

- Jewellery
- Commemorative coins and ingots
- Medals and trophies
- Religious artefacts

Requirements

4.06.02 The use of Fairtrade certified gold (Au), silver (Ag) or platinum (Pt) is subject to minimum caratage/fineness requirements:

Metal	Requirement in labelled consumer products
Gold (Au)	Minimum caratage - 9 carats
Silver (Ag)	Minimum fineness - 800
Platinum (Pt)	Minimum fineness - 850

4.06.03 The final consumer-ready products that may be labelled as “made with FAIRTRADE and FAIRMINED gold” must contain the following minimum certified content:

Product Category	Composition Minimum Requirements
Jewellery Commemorative coins Ingots Medals Trophies Religious artefacts	The certified gold must constitute 100% of the gold used in the product.
Gold plated (gilded) medals Gold plated (gilded) trophies <i>consisting of other metals in their interior or in other ornamental parts</i>	The finished product must contain at least 5 grams of fine gold.

<p>Jewellery <i>containing pre-fabricated items</i></p>	<p>Pre-fabricated items of gold jewellery that cannot be sourced from the Fairtrade chain of custody must not exceed 15% of the total fine gold content. The certified gold must constitute at least 85% of the gold used in the jewellery product.</p>
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4.06.04 The use of Fairtrade certified silver (Ag) or platinum (Pt) in gold alloys is voluntary and at the discretion of the manufacturer.

Labelling

4.06.05 Applying the Fairtrade and Fairmined Marks to gold products and the labelling of the consumer packaging shall comply with the Foundation's Packaging Manual for Gold from Artisanal and Small Scale Mining]. As a minimum:

- Gold products that require the Assay Mark shall also carry the FAIRTRADE/Fairmined Marks.
- Gold plated products shall not carry the FAIRTRADE/Fairmined Mark
- The label on the final consumer product has to indicate clearly that only the gold is certified as 'FAIRTRADE and FAIRMINED'.