

## ABOUT US

EKOBO is a home living brand specialising in the design and manufacture of contemporary home accessories made from ecologically-sensitive materials.

Since its creation in 2003, EKOBO continues its mission to be a pioneer in eco-design. Long-devoted to improving the way we engage with people and our planet, we believe that going green is not a trend, but rather a commitment to constantly evolve our products by pursuing the most innovative design and manufacturing solutions available today.



## WHY BAMBOO ?

EKOBO chose bamboo because it is one of our earth's most renewable resources. It is a fast-growing, naturally-regenerative woody grass which flourishes organically without pesticides, fertilisers or herbicides. It can be continuously harvested every 3 years without damaging the plant or the surrounding environment.

The bamboo used in EKOBO products is collected from the sawdust that is shed from cutting and shaping bamboo chopsticks and bamboo flooring.



## OUR MATERIAL

To extend the life of our products (a sustainable practice), we've combined FSC-certified bamboo fibre with a 100% food-grade melamine binder. Our products are dishwasher safe and comply to all food safety standards (FDA, LFGB & REACH). Free of BPA, PVC, Phthalates, Lead, Cadmium and Mercury. Unlike many other bamboo fibre products on the market, each of our products is customdesigned so they are not only beautiful and unique, but thoughtful, space-saving and mutli-functional.

- + Dishwasher Safe
- + Daily Use, Indoor & Outdoor
- + Suitable for hot and cold foods and liquids
- No microwave or oven use



## CORK

Cork production is sustainable due to the fact that the cork tree is not cut down to obtain cork; only the bark is stripped to harvest the cork. The tree continues to live and grow. The cork we've used in our designs is a conglomerate. It is made by combining the waste material (cork and dust granules) of industrial cork production and a LFGB approved food-safe resin.



## BIOBU FAQs

### **What is BIOBU made of?**

This composite material is described as a biopolymer, which means it is comprised of bamboo fiber, a highly renewable material, and 100% non-toxic food-grade A5 melamine binder, which helps to extend the life of the products (a sustainable practice!). BIOBU products comply to all food safety standards (FDA and LFGB) and are free of BPA, PVC, Phthalates, Lead, Cadmium and Mercury.

### **Why bamboo?**

EKOBO chose bamboo because it is one of our earth's most renewable resources. It is a fast-growing, naturally-regenerative woody grass which flourishes organically without pesticides, fertilisers or herbicides. It can be continuously harvested every 3 years without damaging the plant or the surrounding environment. We collect sawdust that is shed from cutting and shaping bamboo chopsticks and bamboo flooring.

We grind the non-transformed organic bamboo “waste” material to a fine powder. We then mix it with a food-safe resin to create durable, long-lasting objects.

### **Is the melamine binder used in BIOBU products safe for use?**

Absolutely! Our A5 food-grade melamine binder is 100% non-toxic and food safe. BIOBU products comply with the European Plastic regulation (EU) N10/2011 and Regulation (EC) No. 1935/2004 which acknowledges that our dishware is suitable for all types of food and liquid below boiling temperature. The only condition where migration of the resin binder may occur is if it is heated to temperatures above boiling (100°C/212° F) for an excessive period of time (90 minutes +). Heating under extreme temperatures essentially melts the material, changing its molecular structure - for this reason, we do not recommend microwave and conventional oven use.

## BIOBU FAQs cont'd

### **What dyes are used for BIOBU products?**

#### **Are they safe?**

All dyes used on our products are 100% food-grade and entirely non-toxic. Dry color pigments (mineral or non organic) are mixed with the powder composite used to make the products. Because the color is in the mass of the product, and not coated on top of it, there is no color transfer or leaching. As there is no external varnish, the product maintains its original appearance and color over time.

#### **Do BIOBU products break?**

While our products are durable and long-lasting, this eco-friendly material is not unbreakable.

It will not shatter like ceramic or glass but if dropped at a bad angle on a hard floor, a chip or crack may occur.



#### **Are BIOBU products biodegradable?**

If buried in the ground (broken into pieces and completely covered by earth), the bamboo fibre content will decompose in 2-3 years. The non-organic elements will decompose at a slower rate, but much faster than 100% petroleum-based plastics.

#### **Are BIOBU products dishwasher safe?**

Yes! We recommend washing at 70°C / 160°F.

**Why are BIOBU products made in China?**

We manufacture our products where we source our primary material. Because China grows 80% of bamboo in Asia, we targeted factories that specialize in manufacturing bamboo flooring and chopsticks. While cutting and shaping the raw bamboo, a high percentage of sawdust is shed, then either thrown away or burned as energy. We found that this non-transformed organic bamboo “waste” material could be ground to a fine powder and mixed with resin to create durable eco-design objects. Our manufacturing partner is located near the chopstick factories around Shanghai and is specialized in transforming bamboo fibre on site.

**Are BIOBU products produced under good working conditions?**

Yes! BIOBU products are manufactured in China in collaboration with carefully chosen partners. In addition to brand new facility that is in compliance with current safety and health codes, all of our employees are paid a fair living wage. No child labor is allowed.