

The Soap Co. ingredients

The idea for our eco collection came from a realisation that there wasn't a huge variety of great smelling truly eco-friendly products on the marketplace.

We chose to use ECOCERT or EU Ecolabel as the standard for our new products because they both set an exceptionally high and uncompromising standard for being environmentally friendly. ECO CERT reduces the environmental impact during production whilst EU Ecolabel reduces the environmental impact over the product's entire lifecycle.

Beyond ECOCERT and EU Ecolabel we have also avoided industry standard foaming agents like SLS and SLES because of their potential to accumulate in the body and affect hormone levels over time. We felt it wasn't ethical to use them to simply save costs for a truly eco and human friendly product. The fact they're potentially toxic to aquatic life and are often manufactured using unsustainable palm oil ultimately sealed the deal.

As a brand, we steer clear of parabens - chemicals that can affect hormone levels and may promote the growth of cancerous cells. We also chose not to use PEGs, DEA, TEA or any petrochemicals in any of our products because of the serious health risk they pose if they become contaminated by 1,4-dioxane during their production. Finally, we never use synthetic colours, silicones, EDTA or triclosan, all of which can also have adverse effects on the body.

For ECOCERT this specifically means:

- 1) All ingredients are derived from renewable resources and manufactured by environmentally friendly processes. This means no GMO, parabens, phenoxyethanol, silicone, PEG, synthetic perfumes and dyes, animal-derived ingredients (unless naturally produced by them, e.g., beeswax) and packaging is recyclable.
- 2) There is a minimum of 95% of total ingredients coming from a natural origin.
- 3) An on-site audit is performed once a year by an ECOCERT auditor.

For EU Ecolabel this means all products:

- 1) have a reduced impact on aquatic ecosystems,
- 2) fulfil strict biodegradability requirements, and
- 3) have limited packaging waste.

ECOCERT certified

INCI name	Function and benefits
Caprylic/Capric Triglyceride	Caprylic triglyceride is an ester derived from natural vegetable oils. It moisturises the skin and imparts a smooth, silky feeling.
Cetearyl alcohol	A widely used wax derived from natural oils. Used to help other ingredients to mix and maintain a good consistency in the product.

Citric acid	Citric acid is a naturally occurring fruit acid which is used to adjust the pH of the product to stabilise the formulation and match the pH of skin.
Cocamidopropyl betaine	A naturally derived, mild surfactant with good foaming properties which cleanses skin. Derived from sugar beet and coconut oil.
Decyl glucoside	A naturally derived, mild surfactant with good foaming properties which cleanses skin. Derived from fatty acids of vegetable origin and sugar.
Erythritol	A natural moisturiser made from sugars.
Glyceryl Stearate SE	An ester naturally derived from glycerin and stearic acid. It acts as an emulsifier, in other word helps other ingredients mix together.
Helianthus annuus seed Oil	Sunflower oil naturally contains vitamins A, C and E and has been shown to have a 'calming' effect on the skin. It is also used as a carrier for vitamin E
Isopropyl Palmitate	This ingredient is used for its softening and skin conditioning properties.
Morus alba root Extract	A botanical extract from the root of the white mulberry bush. It is used in traditional Chinese medicine and contains anthocyanins which are powerful antioxidants.
Polyglyceryl-4 caprate	Derived naturally from polyglycerol. Used to help bind the different ingredients together. It also is shown to have a positive effect on skin structure.
Polyglyceryl-6 Stearate	Eco-friendly ingredient which helps mix other ingredients.
Polyglyceryl-6 Behenate	Eco-friendly ingredient which helps mix other ingredients.
Potassium Lauroyl Glycinate	Naturally derived, helps improve the cleaning properties of the product. Also helps to create luxurious bubbles.
Sodium benzoate	Works with sodium dehydroacetate to form a modern environmentally friendly preservative system which prevents the accumulation of microbes.
Sodium dihydroacetate	Works with sodium benzoate to form a modern environmentally friendly preservative system which prevents the accumulation of microbes.
Sucrose cocoate	This ingredient is used for its softening and skin conditioning properties.

Tocopherol	The technical term for vitamin E.
Urtica dioica Extract	A botanical extract from the leaf of the common nettle. Used for centuries in folk medicine, this extract has proven anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidant benefits.

EU Ecolabel

INCI name	Function and benefits
Parfum	Fragrance mixture tailored to comply with EU ecolabel standards.
Sodium lauryl sulfoacetate	Lifts dirt off the skin.
Xanthan Gum	A natural polysaccharide that provides thickening and texture benefits to products.

RSPO certified

INCI name	Function and benefits
Elaeis guineensis Oil	Palm oil helps to make bar soaps harder and to feel silkier on the skin.

Certified organic Ingredients

INCI name	Function and benefits
Borago officinalis seed Oil	Borage (starflower) is a flower native to Europe. It is high in gamma linolenic acid, which is a strongly anti-inflammatory compound. This moisturising natural oil has powerful soothing properties for the skin. The Borage oil we use is grown using bee friendly farming.
Glycerin	Glycerin is one of the most widely used ingredients in cosmetic products. Glycerin is a colourless and odourless thick liquid, and is also a natural by-product of the bar soap making process. This ingredient is used for its softening and skin conditioning properties.
Prunus amygdalus dulcis Oil	Sweet almond oil is a vitamin rich natural oil with antioxidant properties. It is an excellent moisturiser which imparts a silky feeling to the skin.

Not eco certified

INCI name	Function and benefits
Aqua	Water is used as a base in many different products to solubilize other ingredients.
Benzyl Alcohol	Works with dehydroacetic acid to form an effective and safe preservative, approved for use in ECOCERT products.
Calendula officinalis Extract	Healing and soothing calendula oil, or marigold as it's also known, contains various carotenoids, flavonoids and saponins and restores skin. Traditionally used as a medicinal herb and a first aid treatment for minor skin complaints.
Cocos nucifera Oil	Coconut oil is an excellent natural moisturiser, hydrates skin and increases elasticity. High in fatty acids and antioxidants. It also helps to harden bar soaps.
Dehydroacetic acid	Works with benzyl alcohol to form an effective and safe preservative, approved for use in ECOCERT products.
Lye	This common alkali is used to transform fat into soap - this process is called saponification. Lye is the industry name for sodium hydroxide. It isn't produced from plants so can't be eco-certified.
Olea europaea Fruit Oil	Olive oil is an excellent natural moisturiser, hydrates skin. It is characterised by its high content of unsaturated oleic acid (omega 9). It also helps bar soaps harden.
Panthenol	The technical name for pro-Vitamin B5. 'Pro' means it breaks down to vitamin B5 in the body.
Rosa centifolia Petals	Dried rose petals act as a natural exfoliant.
Rubia cordifolia Root	The root of the madder plant acts as a natural colourant. The plant was also used traditionally in some medicinal preparations.
Salvia officinalis Leaf	Dried sage leaves act as a natural exfoliant.
Theobroma cacao seed butter	Cocoa seed butter is a relatively firm and brittle butter-like vegetable fat. It improves the consistency of emulsions and acts as a protective barrier to the skin, which preserves its moisture balance.