

Lewis Fredericks

HANDCRAFTED HORN EYEWEAR

Lewis Fredericks Eyewear offers time honoured silhouettes fashioned from horn, the previously wasted by-product of domesticated Buffalo, Ram and Ox.

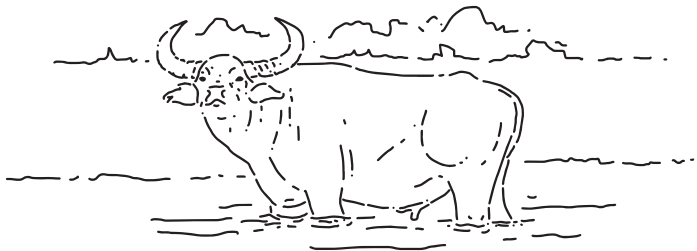
With mass production and little technique now a calling card of the eyewear industry, Lewis Fredericks instead pays tribute to the rich history of eyewear's past, through recycling the traditionally used material of horn and expert hand craftsmanship.

Horn is a natural fibre; its integrity, pattern and structure cannot be replicated, making each individual pair of Lewis Fredericks a completely unique, one of a kind piece.

The fibre of horn carries with it properties that outweigh any synthetic counterpart. Lightweight and durable, each pair will gracefully flex and gradually mould to the contours of the wearer's face.

A fine balance of design, technique and craftsmanship, Lewis Fredericks combines the best from the past to create classic, contemporary eyewear.

lewisfredericks.co.nz



The Domestics.

Lewis Fredericks is proud to exclusively use horn that is a byproduct of animal domestication. It is both a renewable and a sustainable practice. Horns of animals living in the wild usually show signs of damage caused by the daily rough-and-tumble of free ranging life and are often cracked or marred. Also the irregular feed wild animals receive, due to natural periods of drought and rainfall, has a detrimental effect on the quality of the horn.

The irregularities within the horn density that result render it not suitable for optical use. Therefore the use of domesticated horn is essential to us, it ensures that the horn meets a standard of uncompromised quality and allows us create frames of distinction in an ethical manner.

The following sketches and captions outline the process of our custom service and the craftsmanship that it entails.

01.

We immediately discard around a fifth of the horn we receive due to imperfections and sizing issues. These unwanted horns are sent back to their respective farms, ground up and used as fertiliser.



We keep the horns that are still in full form, unmarred and have a good oval structure. It is from this broad base that we extract our horn plates, and the process is a lengthy and complex one.



The horn is first immersed in boiling water, and, after the outer portion has softened a little, the core is removed.

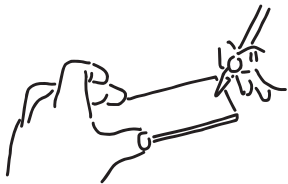
Hydraulic heating is then used to flatten the remaining horn.



The surface is then further flattened out with a grinding wheel until completely flush, and then resized into smaller sections.

These horn sections are then resized into smaller plates which are suitable size for optical manufacturing.





02.

The horn plates are then sorted with regard to their coloring, texture and striations. We manufacture horn plates from domesticated Buffalo, Yak, Ram and Ox. This yields a wide variety of shades, from transparent yellows, to earthy tortoise blends, to the subtle white and cream combinations, each one is wholly unique.

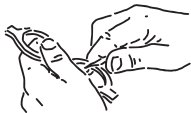
We select plates for the face and temples of each frame ensuring that the horn for each seamlessly matches and compliments the other. The specific design is then traced onto the desired horn plate and the frame is cut out by hand.

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QUALITY SUNGLASSES





03.

Once the plate has been shaped into the initial model, it is inspected for any blemishes. If it meets our standard, the frame's angled edges are then carved off using an edger and gently buffed down until both the outer and inner lines are completely rounded and smooth.

The sculpting of the bridge and the nose of the frame is the next step. Given the nose is an extremely important part of the frame in terms of comfort and practicality, the edging and buffing process is concentrated.

A rounded delicate grinder is used in order to shape the nose accurately, a fraction too much or too little can affect the frames seating or alignment on the face. It is a meticulous process and takes time. Once the desired curve is achieved, the nose and bridge are then both buffed down.

04.

As with the frame, the chosen temples are sketched, cut out and buffed, all by hand. The temple joint is then carved out and the hinges are added. Hinges are of absolute importance to our lifetime performance. Our 6-pin, 7-barrel hinge is riveted completely through the frame for maximum strength, giving a smooth action without sacrificing durability. We also offer a pin-ex hinge which combines a compression spring to a cantilever design to eliminate the vertical movement intrinsic in other spring hinge concepts on the market.

The temples are then fitted on to the frame and the joint is then sculpted to reflect their respective angles, this ensures a harmonic marriage between temple and face.



05.

The polishing of a horn frame is when its full aesthetic potential is revealed and is possibly the most exciting stage. Lewis Fredericks frames are tumbled in bamboo chips for days to create the best possible finish.

This process is the best way to ensure a deep lustrous gleam, devoid of scratches or small imperfections. After tumbling, the frame will then be hand polished and all edges individually inspected.



06.

Lewis Fredericks have a suite of lenses which can be chosen individually according to the form and function of each frame. All our sunglass frames are fitted with Italian-made polarised lenses. Lightweight and durable, these lenses are treated with custom tints and performance coatings to give the right look while providing optimal protection and comfort to your eyes. Our optical frames are fitted with clear anti reflective CR-39 lenses which can easily be replaced with your suitable prescription.



07.

Your finished frame is then accompanied with an outer box and protective case, a leather slip, polishing cream, microfiber cloth, care instructions and a warranty.

Your Lewis Fredericks will grow with you in both form and feel. Care for them well and you will enjoy our vision for many years.



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