

Fair Trade

Our first step on the path toward ensuring living wages in our supply chain.



Why

Apparel workers are among the lowest paid people in the world. For Patagonia, Fair Trade is our first step on the path toward ensuring living wages in our supply chain. We don't own any of the factories that make our products, so we have limited control over how much workers receive. But through Fair Trade, we can provide workers with tangible benefits that improve their lives.

We pay a premium for every Patagonia item that carries the Fair Trade Certified™ sewn label. That extra money goes directly to the workers at the factory, and they decide how to spend it. This is not a top-down program. In each factory, a democratically elected Fair Trade worker committee decides how the funds will be used. Workers have chosen to use the premiums to fund community projects, like health-care programs or a child-care center, to purchase products they could otherwise not afford, like a laptop computer or a stove; or to take a cash bonus. But that's not all. The program also promotes worker health and safety as well as social and environmental compliance, and encourages dialogue between workers and management.

We care for workers

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Where We Are

Through our partnership with Fair Trade USA, Patagonia has been making Fair Trade clothes since 2014. Today, we are proud to offer more Fair Trade Certified™ sewn styles than any other apparel brand. To date, Patagonia's Fair Trade program has impacted more than 66,000 workers in 10 countries around the globe.

What's Next

We continue to work to find a permanent solution to ensure all workers who make our clothing earn a living wage.

Even though 75% of millennials want Fair Trade products, only a handful of outdoor companies are committed to Fair Trade. In partnership with Fair Trade USA and our suppliers, there are now more than 20 Fair Trade Certified factories that specialize in outdoor clothing. We encourage other brands that do business in those factories to [join us in the Fair Trade movement](#).



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