

Description

BLACK SOAP is a traditional, pure vegetable soap, which stays true to the tradition of the original soap made by the Romans. Its main ingredient is olive oil.

Performance

The traditional Moroccan Tadelakt is not conceivable without the authentic black soap – a key element in achieving this velvety, hydrophobic plaster finish suitable in wet areas.

Other Uses

While BLACK SOAP is preferred in traditional Tadelakt, it is also a versatile cleaning agent:

- **Household:** Cleans and shines all surfaces: tile and wood floors; ceramic, plastic, marble, and cement surfaces as well as leather; carpets; Mexican or terra cotta tiles, etc.
- **Kitchen:** Dissolves greasy spots (stoves, cook tops, pots and pans, deep fryers, dishes, tablecloths, napkins, windows).
- **Garden:** Effective cleaner for aphid induced sooty mold and other fungi on leaves and plants.
- **Animals:** As an organic natural cleansing agent, this soap can be used a gentle shampoo for dogs and horses, and an organic, non-toxic alternative for farm breeders.
- **Painters:** Paintbrushes maintain their luster and suppleness with regular cleaning with BLACK SOAP.

Chemistry

Chemically, the soap is the alkali salt of a fatty acid. When polished into a lime plaster, BLACK SOAP not only creates a soft surface but as it penetrates, it also blends with the calcium carbonate (limestone) to produce a lasting water-repellent finish.

Tadelakt

- Let surface moisture dissipate before compressing the finish.
- Mix one-part BLACK SOAP with twenty parts water. Lukewarm water will help the soap dissolve faster.
- Mist the soap solution at arm's length over a manageable area (soap can only penetrate when it is liquid).
- Carefully rub the surface with a padded sack (sponge wrapped into a plastic liner).
- After a drying period, mix of one-part BLACK SOAP to fifteen-parts lukewarm water.
- Mist the soap solution again at arm's length and over a manageable area.
- Rub the surface with a stainless-steel trowel, a plastic trowel, or a polishing river stone while using gentle pressure.
- Repeat the mist and rub process three times.
- Polishing may start as the surface moisture dissipates and the color starts to lighten.
- Maintain the repellency properties optimal by re-applying every 6 months