



01_Flocking / Surface technology

Sportswear with coloured flock lettering as well as jewellery boxes with a soft inner lining are flocked products we know from daily use. But this surface coating is much more versatile.

Flocked surfaces have a pleasant feel and, depending on the requirements can be produced to be easy to clean, water resistant, extremely durable and also tolerant to foodstuffs.

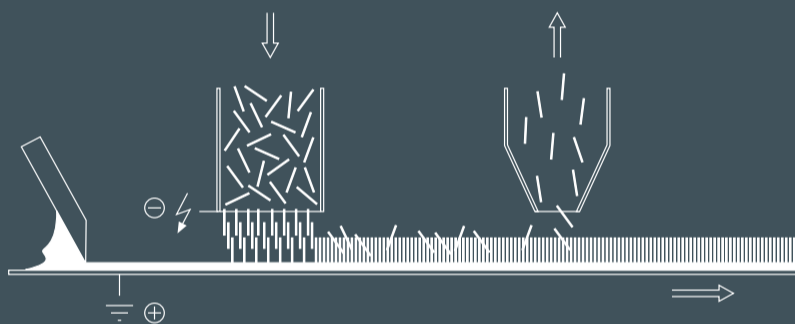
The process is suitable for nearly all surfaces. For coating, it doesn't matter if the surface is flat or shaped. The electrostatic application of the fibres guarantees a homogeneous surface finish. The adhesive film fixing the fibres may be applied by screen-printing, where, not only lettering, graphic designs; etc., but also multi-coloured patterns are possible. Depending on the length and rigidity of the fibres anything between fluffy and velvety-soft or coarse surfaces may be generated. Flock can be produced from not only natural but also man-made fibres.

02_Flocking / principle

The process of electrostatic flocking runs in three phases: adhesive is applied to the surface of the item to be flocked, after which negatively charged flock fibres are applied evenly on to the item which lies on a positive potential.

The electrostatic charge causes the flock fibres to always align themselves vertically to the work piece surface.

After the adhesive has been cured, any surplus flock fibres can be removed.



03_Flocking / project

In order to promote flocking technology with manufacturers and therefore also with consumers, the Association of the Flock Industry Europe (reg.) together with the design bureau >speziell produktgestaltung< started a project the goal of which is to detect new application possibilities and new product fields for the flocking process.

Within the framework of this project 18 product ideas for the consumer goods area emerged. The wide colour spectrum, surface quality, gliding and insulation characteristics of flocked surfaces found very versatile applications in the fields of furniture, toys, accessories, fittings, light fittings and garments.

The following selection of six examples, (04-09), illustrate the versatility of flock.



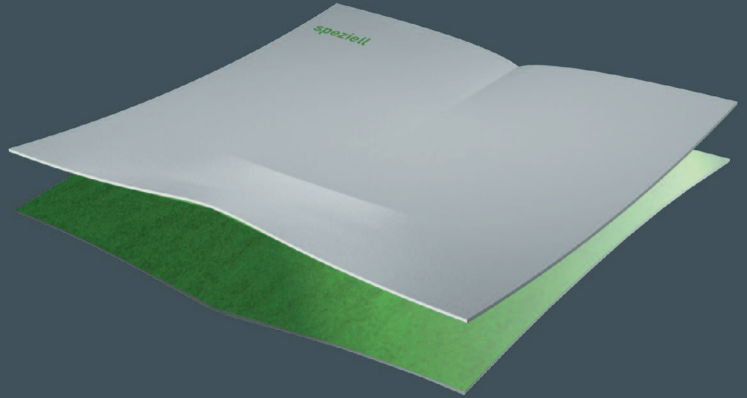
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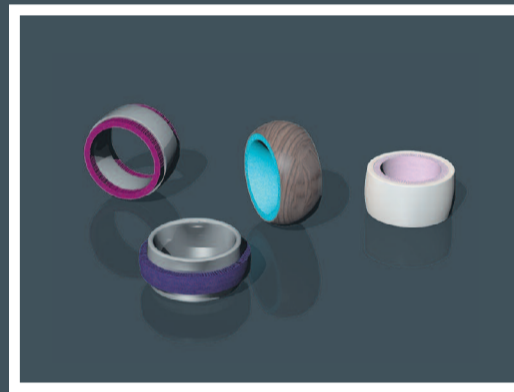
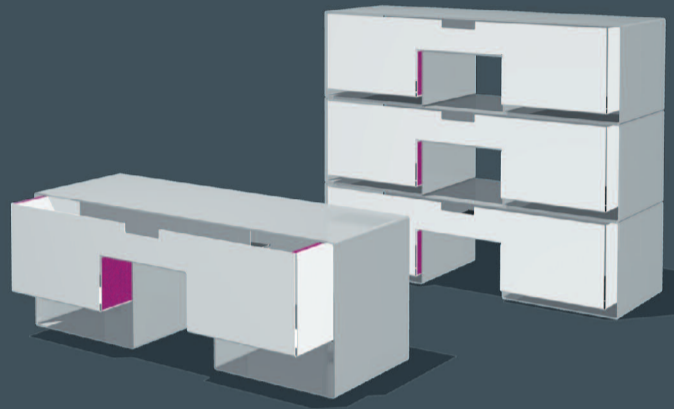
FLOCK / PROJECT



04_The design of the fruit bowl uses the intensive colouring of flocking. It forms a delightful contrast to the stainless steel and at the same time protects the furniture surface.

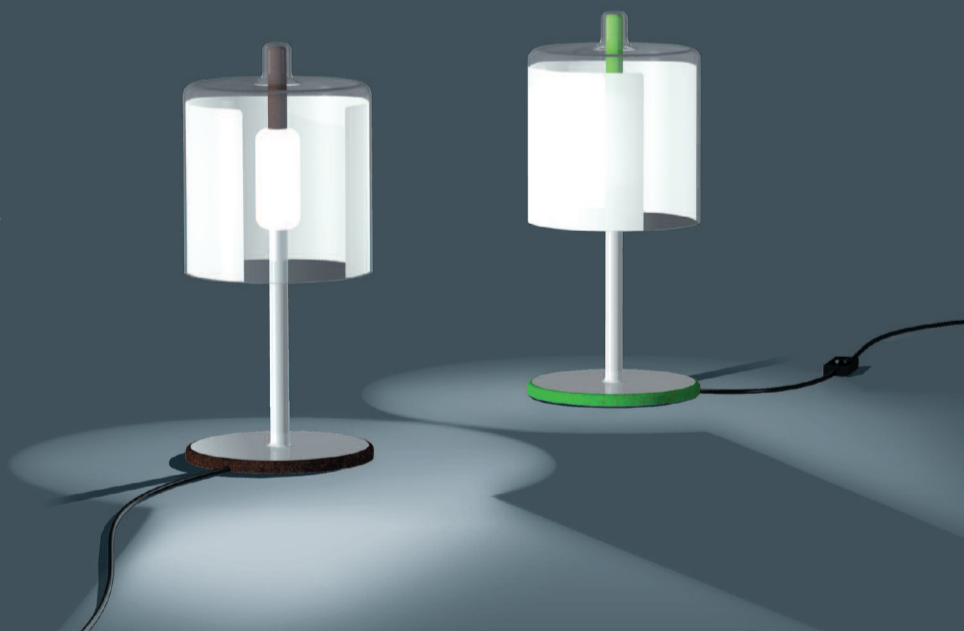
05_This sideboard with drawers carries runners, tipping and strips all make use of flocked surfaces. This makes for silent sliding of the drawers without any mechanics.

06_The flocked runner of the rocking horse protects sensitive floors and at the same time reduces noise. The seat is also flocked offering both safety and comfort.



07_Flock is comfortable against skin. With jewellery rings, different ring sizes may be held together by interlocking flock fibres.

08_The partially dulled lampshade runs on a central axle. By turning, the light emittance may be increased or decreased. The flock coating on the glass shade serves as a turning/gliding bearing.



09_With this door handle an especially good feel is generated by the contrast between the cold metal and the soft flock. Additionally, the flocked back of the door handle attachment point prevents scratching of the door when the handle is moved.

