



SHEA BUTTER

Shea Butter, the fatty extract from the seed of the shea nut, is quickly becoming a popular ingredient in many cosmetic products including lotions, soaps, creams, suntan products, etc. Oils by Nature, Inc., Inc. carries both Unrefined and Refined Shea Butter for your convenience.

UNREFINED SHEA BUTTER

All shea butter, unrefined or refined, is extracted from the nut of Africa's tropical shea trees which grow through 19 countries of Africa spanning an area covering Senegal to Ethiopia. Oils by Nature, Inc. shea butter is produced from shea trees in the Ghana region. The specific area of Tamale has different soil which grows a tree that yields a naturally lighter colored shea butter known as our Unrefined Shea Butter Ivory. Yellow shea butter has been dyed with a natural root extract to give it its color.

Our unrefined shea butter has a characteristic smoky, earthy scent and has been naturally filtered to remove any botanical debris. This provides you with clean unrefined shea butter which is smooth and firm in its texture. The shea butter is hand packaged at our facility into heavy duty plastic bags in 1 lb. and 5 lb. sizes for your convenience. The 55 lb. box is packaged directly in the Ghana facility and delivered to you without alteration.

REFINED SHEA BUTTER

For mainstream cosmetic use, Refined Shea Butter is a more popular choice due to the white color and no odor allowing a broader spectrum of uses to a wider audience. The refining technique is as follows:

- Raw or unrefined shea butter is melted to no higher than 37°C and “washed” with water
- Melted butter and water are transferred to a high vacuum reactor where, in the presence of air, steam and smoke, the acidity of the butter is lowered and any unwanted odor is removed. (As this process is performed in vacuum, the temperature does not need to be increased.)
- Melted butter is then mixed with diatomaceous earth in order to obtain decolorization before being filtered through several layers of paper and cloth.
- The last step is a very fine filtration through micronized polymeric filters which catch very tiny particles and impurities
- The refined shea butter is then packaged