# Coir.

*Coir (Cocus nucifera) fibre is obtained from the husk of the nut which is fruit of the coconut plant. The fibre is removed from the husk either by hand or by mechanical processes. In the former, the coconut husks are softened in sea water and then pounded with stones to remove the woody portions after which the fibres are hackled with a steel comb and dried. In the mechanical system, the husks are quartered and placed in large water tanks to soften the husks. They are then passed through a breaker which crushes them before passing then into the next machine, the drum, where the woody part is torn out by a series of spikes leaving the long coarse fibres. The fibres are then washed, cleaned and dried and hackled before spinning into yarn suitable for use in a variety of products including textile floor coverings.*

## Manufacturing Process

*The fibre is spun into yarn on traditional spinning wheels called "Ratts". The coir yarn thus obtained is graded into different qualities.*

*The major criteria followed are :*

*- Length of the fibre used for spinning*
*- Colour*
*- Twisting & Spinning (Hard twist, Loose twist etc)*
*- Texture*
*- Contents of Impurities*
*- Spinning regularity*

## Latex Backed Matting

*Latex backing is the process of coating the mattings with creamed rubber latex , which has 100 % natural rubber . The mattings are laid on a platform stretched on a frame. Creamed rubber latex is mixed with clay, zinc dioxide, etc .in a beater to get a latex foam. This foam is coated on to the mattings with a spreader*

*After the latex is applied on to the mattings, it is directly fed into the chamber for drying.*

*This is the most modern machine for drying the rolls which can attain a temperature of 90-100 degree centigrade. This dryer can dry an average of 120 sq.mts every 30 minutes.*

# *Coir products*

*Please find below a list of products that are manufactured using coir.*

- *Entrance doormats*
- *Wall to Wall floor Coverings*
- *Area rugs*
- *Ropes*
- *Geo Textile (Soil erosion control products)*
- *Garden articles like coir plant pots, grow sticks and basket liners*
- *Car mats*
- *Fertilizers using coir pith.*

# *Advantages of using Coir products*

- *100% biodegradable*
- *Sturdy and durable*
- *Resilient*
- *Removes dirt*
- *Moth proof*
- *Rot and fungi resistant*
- *Excellent insulation properties against sound and temperature*
- *High degree of combustibility*
- *Flame retardant*
- *Static free*
- *Easily cleanable*

# *Other Floor Coverings & Rug Products*

*Floor covering (matting) and rugs can also be produced from Jute, Sisal, Seagrass and any other fibre which can be spun and woven and are available Boucle, Panama and Herringbone weave.*