

Birkenstock BIRK

Birkenstock Women's Open-Back Sandal Instruction Manual

Model: BIRK

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper use, care, and maintenance of your Birkenstock Women's Open-Back Sandal. Please read these instructions thoroughly to ensure optimal comfort and longevity of your product.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Birkenstock Open-Back Sandal features a single adjustable strap and the signature anatomically shaped cork-latex footbed. This design is intended to provide support and comfort by conforming to the natural shape of your foot over time.



Image 2.1: Top-down view of the Birkenstock Open-Back Sandal in black, showcasing the single strap and footbed.

- **Upper Material:** Birko-Flor, a durable synthetic material with a leather-like finish.
- **Footbed:** Anatomically shaped cork-latex, designed to provide arch support and a deep heel cup.
- **Sole:** Lightweight EVA for cushioning and shock absorption.

- **Strap:** Single adjustable strap with a metal buckle for a customized fit.



Image 2.2: Close-up view of the cork-latex footbed, highlighting the Birkenstock branding and foot contours.

3. SETUP AND FITTING

Proper fitting is crucial for comfort and support. Follow these steps to adjust your sandals:

1. **Unbuckle the Strap:** Loosen the metal buckle on the single strap.
2. **Position Your Foot:** Place your foot into the sandal. Ensure your heel sits comfortably in the heel cup and your toes rest within the toe bar area without touching the front rim. There should be a small gap between your toes and the front edge, and between your heel and the back edge.
3. **Adjust the Strap:** Fasten the strap so it holds your foot securely but not too tightly. You should be able to slide one finger underneath the strap. The strap should prevent your foot from sliding forward when walking.
4. **Walk and Test:** Take a few steps to ensure the fit is comfortable and stable. Readjust if necessary.



Image 3.1: Detail of the adjustable strap and metal buckle, illustrating the mechanism for customizing fit.

Note on Sizing: Birkenstock sandals are designed with a specific fit. Refer to the size guide for accurate measurements. If you are between sizes, it is often recommended to size down for a more secure fit.

US WOMEN'S SANDALS Size Guide

Brand Size	US Size	EU Size	UK Size	Heel to toe (in)
4-4.5	4	35	2.5	8.9
5-5.5	5	36	3.5	9.1
6-6.5	6	37	4.5	9.4
7-7.5	7	38	5	9.6
8-8.5	8	39	5.5	9.8
9-9.5	9	40	7	10.2
10-10.5	10	41	7.5	10.4
11-11.5	11	42	8	10.6

4. OPERATING (WEARING)

Birkenstock footbeds are designed to mold to the shape of your foot over time. This "break-in" period is normal and contributes to personalized comfort.

- **Initial Wear:** Wear your new sandals for short periods initially (e.g., 1-2 hours a day) to allow your feet and the footbed to adjust.
- **Footbed Molding:** The cork-latex footbed will gradually adapt to the contours of your feet, providing custom arch support and a deep heel cup.
- **Walking Posture:** The design encourages a natural walking motion, distributing pressure evenly across the foot.



Image 4.1: Side view of the sandal, illustrating the contoured footbed and sole construction.

5. MAINTENANCE

Proper care extends the life of your Birkenstock sandals:

- **Cleaning the Footbed:** Use a damp cloth and a small amount of mild soap to gently wipe the footbed. Allow to air dry completely away from direct heat.
- **Cleaning the Upper (Birko-Flor):** Wipe the Birko-Flor upper with a damp cloth. For stubborn marks, a mild soap solution can be used. Avoid harsh chemicals.
- **Cork Sealer:** Periodically check the cork edges. If they appear dry or cracked, apply a thin layer of

cork sealer (available from Birkenstock or shoe care retailers) to protect the cork from moisture and wear.

- **Storage:** Store sandals in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight or extreme heat, which can dry out and damage the cork.
- **Avoid Water Immersion:** Do not submerge your sandals in water, as this can damage the cork and adhesives.



Image 5.1: Angled view highlighting the junction between the Birko-Flor upper and the cork footbed, areas requiring regular maintenance.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Initial Discomfort:** It is normal for new Birkenstock sandals to feel firm. The footbed requires a break-in period to mold to your feet. Gradually increase wear time.
- **Foot Sliding:** If your foot slides forward, ensure the strap is adjusted snugly but not uncomfortably tight.
- **Cork Damage:** Minor cracks in the cork can be addressed with cork sealer. For significant damage, professional repair may be necessary.
- **Odor:** Regular cleaning of the footbed as described in the Maintenance section can prevent odor buildup.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	BIRK
Closure Type	Slip On
Product Dimensions	12.2 x 4.3 x 3.6 inches
Department	womens
Manufacturer	BIRKENSTOCK
First Available Date	January 15, 2020



Image 7.1: View of the sandal's sole, displaying the patterned tread for grip.

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information regarding your Birkenstock sandals, please refer to the documentation provided with your purchase or visit the official Birkenstock website. For product support or inquiries, contact Birkenstock customer service or your authorized retailer.

Online Resources:

- [Birkenstock Official Website](#)
- [Birkenstock on Amazon](#)