

RETAIL

Saks says no to fur

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Saks joins other brands and retailers in phasing out fur merchandise. Image credit: Saks

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Department store chains Saks Fifth Avenue has made a commitment to stop selling products made using animal fur through a phased approach by the end of fiscal 2022.

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The retailer plans to close all of its fur salons by the end of fiscal 2021, and will work closely with vendor partners to phase out the sale of fur products both online and in stores by the end of fiscal 2022. The commitment includes both brand partners and private label merchandise sold online and in stores.

"Across the Saks Fifth Avenue experience, we evaluate a number of factors when making decisions about our assortment, including customer preferences and societal shifts," said Tracy Margolies, chief merchandising officer of Saks. "We recognize that trends constantly evolve, and that the sale of fur remains a significant social issue.

"As such, eliminating it from our assortment is the right step for us to take at this time."

No more fur

Saks Fifth Avenue will eliminate the sale of products made from animals that were raised for the use of their fur, such as mink, fox, chinchilla and sable or those made with fur from wild animals, such as coyote and beaver. Shearling, goatskin, cattle hide, down, feathers, leather and faux fur products will continue to be sold online and in stores.



The retailer will begin phasing out fur products throughout all of its stores, both physical and online. Image credit: Saks Fifth Avenue

Saks is not the first U.S. retailer to take a stance on the use of fur.

In September 2020, Nordstrom announced that it would stop selling fur and exotic animal skin merchandise by the end of 2021 ([see story](#)).

Hudson's Bay Company recently made the decision to spin off the ecommerce site for Saks Fifth Avenue into its own separate entity as luxury ecommerce continues to grow.

With a \$500 million minority equity investment from private equity firm Insight Partners, HBC has established Saks Fifth Avenue's ecommerce business as a standalone company, called Saks, valued at \$2 billion ([see story](#)).

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