

All prices in Swiss francs, incl. VAT. Offers valid only from September 19 to 30, 2023, as long as stocks last.

FREITAG – Original since 1993

Messenger Bags

Same same but different



DID YOU KNOW?

Something that started out as the idea of two brothers in a shared apartment in Zurich in the fall of 1993 has developed into a company that brings one-off recycled bags to the streets from Europe to Asia. Fast forward to today, the driving principle behind FREITAG has been to keep used materials in circulation for as long as possible. And for the future, there are even plans to close the cycles. So now, on the occasion of its thirtieth anniversary, FREITAG looks back on its beginnings and, as a tribute, copies the counterfeit that made the FREITAG bag an original.



M-24 Messenger Bag UK company, material: truck tarp



Volverup Erlangen Italian company, material: truck tarp



Unbegun Crossbody Bag Dutch company, material: market tarp



sourced Messenger (M) UK company, material: truck tarp



SOMSTIG! Dani South Tyrolean company, material: truck tarp



REBAGO MIGUEL Shoulder Bike Bag Polish company, material: truck tarp



Swiss Mountain Händ Bägs Sidebag Medium Swiss company, material: truck tarp



Mustaches Tasche Nemo #045 Czech company, material: truck tarp

Name Game

Fortunately, some of the initators take their inspiration from not only the form but also the company's beliefs and likewise focus on reusing materials or environment-friendly production processes.



Duel Small messenger bag Canadian company, material: truck tarp



Wochenende (Weekend) Truck Canvas Bag นำเข้าจากยุโรป 100%



Ferientag (Holiday) STA Travel giveaway Condition: used, very good Private sale



Fertile Vintage Canvas Bag

The culture of copying is omnipresent, not only in music, art or literature, but also in design and fashion. And with its unique product and increasingly widespread recognition, FREITAG is attracting imitators. Some limit themselves to sewing the characteristic black-and-white FREITAG logo onto their own creations. For others, however, there are no bounds to their imagination, even when it comes to naming: the list of copies such as «FERTILE», «WOCHENENDE» (Weekend) or «FERIENTAG» (Holiday) is long.

Freshly made bags

DID YOU KNOW?

Let's jump to year three of the FREITAG story. In 1996, Markus Freitag went shopping in a branch of one of Switzerland's largest supermarket chains. Suddenly, there between the carrots and the cookies, he came across something that looked familiar. Directly in front of him was a copy of a FREITAG bag. Except this one was called «Donnerstag» (Thursday) and it was mass-produced from flimsy new plastic. Sure, they'd copied the bag, but not the idea. This bag was neither unique nor recycled, and it probably wasn't all that durable. It wasn't so much the day of the week (in German, Donnerstag is the day before Friday) that was so different, but the choice of material, the production method and the belief behind the product.

The supermarket's counterfeit caused a stir and was a big headache for a bag-making company that was still pretty small and whose production site was a 60-sq.m studio in the Maag complex in Zurich's industrial district. «Can they do that?» «Is the Donnerstag bag the beginning of the end for FREITAG?» These were the questions that caused sleepless nights for the Freitag brothers and their first permanent employee at the time. To everyone's relief, it didn't lead to a horrendous court battle, or even the mass production of Donnerstag bags that would possibly have buried FREITAG. Thanks to a wave of sympathy from fans and friends, which was also picked up by the media, the retailer took the copy off its shelves and promised never again to name bags after days of the week.



olleTog Shoulder Bag Eppan-Furkel South Tyrolean company, made of new truck tarps



The copy of the original

Migros Donnerstag bag (not for sale)

Swiss company. As a tribute to the FREITAG bag copy from back then, an original copy will be reintroduced as a limited edition on September 19, 2023, as the F13-D COPY CAT.

Donnerstag

Known for their animal-friendly styles and designs.



Suri Frey Shoulder Bag Jessey-Plane German company, made of vegan faux leather

as t



bagful Curtis-Messenger Italian company, made of printed PVC 560

Editor's note: In German, Freitag is not only the name of the brothers who invented the eponymous bag but also of the weekday, Friday. "Donnerstag" is German for Thursday.

"Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery" - Oscar Wilde