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Cactus & Ivy, LLC opened in April, 2000, by CEO Lisa M. Rodgers, and is a cruelty free and vegan, natural bath and body products manufacturer. Our products are created utilizing specialty ingredients high in omega 3, Vitamin A, C, D, E and F, oleic acid, palmitoleic acid and linoleic acid to revitalize and restore the skins normal balance. Cactus & Ivy products are available for Retail, Wholesale and Professional use, as well as custom blending/private labeling for wholesale clients and personalization for retail customers.

Cactus & Ivy was created because of a lack of interest in Lisa's corporate 9 to 5, micro managed job. Mrs. Rodgers wanted to create an avenue for her creative side and was always curious as to how beauty products were made. After scouring the web and how to books, she began creating handmade soaps through the cold process method, which then led to lip balms, massage oils and body scrubs. Nine (10) years later, Lisa's dream is still alive!

It seems that natural products are slowly becoming the mainstream in beauty care and we are committed to offering products free of artificial flavors and colors. The skin is the body's largest organ so it's no surprise consumers want to incorporate personal care products with natural ingredients into their lives. In 2009, Cactus & Ivy customers voiced their opinion on the use of fragrance oils in personal care products and we listened. Rest assured we only use phthalate free fragrance oils that are approved for use in cosmetics. The bulk of our products are scented with essential oils, however, we do have several products that contain phthalate free fragrance oils.

Cactus & Ivy has never tested its products on animals, nor will we ever. Our products are tested on family and friends, also known as "Guinea Chicks". In addition, we only purchase raw materials from companies that adhere to the same standard. Cactus & Ivy signed the standard with the Coalition for Consumer Information on Cosmetics and the statement of assurance with PETA's Caring Consumer program.

In 2008, Lisa decided to remove all animal by products from the ingredients used, which means, honey and beeswax are no longer used. Candelilla wax has replaced the use of beeswax in all our balms, which is known for protecting against moisture. In addition, as our raw material supplies decrease, we will purchase organic where available. In 2007, we began offering a natural fly repellent for horses. It seems the trend is true that consumers are also health conscious when it comes to their pets.

We are registered with the [FDA Voluntary Cosmetic Registration Program \(VCRP\)](#), a post-market reporting system. We believe in the FDA and its mission to protect consumers, while also helping cosmetic manufacturers and distributors make informed decisions.



When Cactus & Ivy began, our customer base was custom blending and private labeling. In Custom Blending, we take carrier oils, botanicals & essential oils indigenous in and around the spa or resort we were creating a product line. Sometimes it would fall into a theme or particular direction the spa or resort was headed, all while keeping the basis of creating a particular product and then finding the ingredients most beneficial for the application. Some examples of ingredients we use:

**Cranberry Seed Oil** - Highly moisturizing and penetrates the skin easily, it is rich in vitamin E and other antioxidants possess a 1:1 ratio of Omega 6 to Omega 3 fatty acids. It also contributes to the lipid barrier protection of the skin and helps with moisture retention. It can aid in the relief of scaly, irritated, itchy skin conditions such as psoriasis & eczema.

**Shea Butter** - Our Unrefined, Fair Trade Shea Butter comes from seeds of wild shea trees scattered throughout the fields and forests of the wooded savanna in central and northern Togo. It contains an abundance of healing ingredients, including vitamins, minerals, proteins and a unique fatty acid profile, is a superior active moisturizer, enables your skin to absorb moisture from the air, and as a result, it becomes softer and stays moisturized for longer. Unlike petroleum based moisturizers, it actually restores the skin's natural elasticity. Regular users of pure, unrefined shea butter notice softer, smoother, healthier skin. Shea butter has also been shown to help with skin conditions and ailments such as extreme dryness, psoriasis, eczema, dermatitis, skin allergies, fungal infections, blemishes, wrinkles, stretch marks, scars, scrapes, and more.

**Macadamia Nut Oil** - Especially good for mature or dry skin, due to its high percentage of palmitoleic acid, which protects the skin like human sebum does. It penetrates and hydrates the skin quickly.



## Press & Reviews



Clean the World™

**January 15, 2010** - Cactus & Ivy donated its remaining soap inventory to Clean the World to help the earthquake victims of Haiti. If you would like to help, please click the logo above. Thanks!



**November 2, 2009** - Gift Shop Magazine - All American Sells. Cactus & Ivy Reed Diffusers are featured. Click image to read the story by Sue Marquette Poremba.



**October 27, 2009** - Super duper stoked for our [Reed Diffusers](#) to be included in the Best of the South, Made by Southern Hands in the November, 2009 issue of Southern Living Magazine. Southern Living Magazine.....y'all ROCK!

**May 26, 2009** - Vegan Beauty Review - The Authority On All Things Cruelty-Free & Fabulous reviewed Spearcalyptus Body Soap and Peppermint Tree Foot Balm today. Thanks for the rocking review Sunny and I love the title!! Read '[Homage to my affinity to mintity](#)'

**April 20, 2009** - Cactus & Ivy was reviewed as this weeks featured bath and body products wholesaler by Retail Minded! Thanks for the awesome review of our Cactus Nail Balm Nicole. Read [here](#)



**March 20, 2009** - Woot!! Cactus & Ivy Spring Fever line received a fabulous review from Jami at Bionic Beauty. I met Jami on Twitter and it turns out we have a great deal in common, one of which is our love of horses! ROCK ON Jami and thanks for the love! Click the Bionic Beauty banner above to read the review.



**February 24, 2009** - Cactus & Ivy was featured in the People & Places section of Southern Living Magazine, March 2009. Click the magazine cover to read the story.

**February 6, 2009** - Cactus & Ivy received some love from Naomi Serviss on her Spa Trekking blog! Naomi is a freelance writer specializing in spa-trends, travel and health issues. She also happens to be one fantabulous chick, also known now as a Guinea Chick™! Naomi is not on a Trek at the moment so she decided to share some of her spa-related goodies and Cactus & Ivy happens to be on the list! Read Naomi's spa column [Spa Trekking](#). You ROCK Naomi and thanks for the love!

**January 13, 2009** - Cactus & Ivy Soy Milk Lip Balm™ gets a fabulous review from Shannon with A Girls Gotta Spa! Woo-hoo!!! Loving the review

love!! Read the review [here](#)

**December 11, 2008** - Woo-hoo!! I could so get used to this!! Our Soy Indulgence™ line received a fabulous review from Sonja with [The Coveted](#). Sonja is a former model that also reported the news for TV stations in Seattle, St. Louis & San Francisco. Her love of skin care and make up began at an early age and now. Sonja has expanded her interests into all natural beauty lines. Thanks Sonja for your rocking review! Read Sonja's review [here](#)



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