

today

Tuesday, August 8

Perth Australian  
Survivor contestant  
and fashion designer  
Mark Wales.  
Picture: News Corp

## FROM FIGHTING TO FASHION



**Y**ou wouldn't think the war zones of Iraq and Afghanistan would be an obvious source of fashion inspiration.

But for **Perth** former special forces commander and Australian Survivor contestant **Mark Wales**, time on the frontline led him to launch a "tough luxury" fashion label after he left the army in 2013.

"I've always had an interest in fashion but I could never talk about it in the military for obvious reasons, it's not the most coveted hobby there is," Wales said.

The 37-year-old sells limited-edition kangaroo leather

jackets based on the military uniforms he wore while serving in places such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, East Timor and the Solomon Islands. Sold under his label Kill Kapture, the jackets retail for a pricey \$1885 apiece.

"The reason the price is so high is because they're made with kangaroo leather, which is 10 times stronger than cow hide," Wales said.

The jackets also feature a tracking beacon that allows the garment to be located via an app if it is lost.

"It's a lot to pay, I don't want people to buy the jacket for nearly 2000 Aussie dollars only to lose it," he said.