

# Glossary of standard fabrics

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EXAMPLE	PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION	USE
	<b>Denim</b>	is a rugged indigo cotton twill textile, which has been in use since the late 18th century, particularly for work wear.	In modern times, denim jeans are universal. However, denim is a highly versatile fabric that can be used for all kinds of apparel and accessories. In recent years, this fabric has also become popular in home furnishings.
	<b>Bull Denim</b>	A 3x1 twill weave piece dyed fabric, made from coarse yarns. It's basically a denim without indigo!	Due to its range of colours, strength and machine wash ability, Bull Denim has become increasingly popular for upholstery and soft furnishings.
	<b>Twill</b>	is a type of fabric woven with a pattern of diagonal parallel ribs. Examples of twill fabric are chino, drill, denim, gabardine, tweed and serge. Harris Tweed is a luxury twill.	Twills are often used for sturdy work clothing or durable upholstery because soils and stains are less noticeable on this fabric.
	<b>Canvas</b>	is an extremely heavy-duty plain-woven fabric that comes in a variety of types, such as Waterproof canvas, Water Resistant Canvas, Fire Proof Canvas, Dyed Canvas, Stripe Canvas, Printed Canvas	For making sails, tents, marquees, backpacks, and other functions where sturdiness is required. It is also popularly used as a painting surface, typically stretched, and on fashion handbags and shoes.
	<b>Jacquard</b>	Is the name given to a woven textile with an intricate pattern. Jacquard weaving uses a variety of fibers and blends of fibers, and it is used in the production of fabrics for many end uses.	Jacquard weave is used for upholstery and drapery materials like brocades, brocatelles, tapestries, and matelasses.

EXAMPLE	PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION	USE
	<b>Damask</b>	<p>is a figured fabric of silk, wool, linen, cotton, or synthetic fibers, with a pattern formed by weaving. The term originally referred to ornamental silk fabrics, which were elaborately woven in colours. Damask may feature flowers, fruit, forms of animal life, and other types of ornament.</p>	<p>Damask weaves are most commonly found in table linens. The finest results are obtained when the so-called double damask weaves are used</p>
	<b>Calico</b>	<p>In South Africa, “calico” refers to fabric made from unbleached, and often not fully processed, cotton. The fabric is less coarse and thick than canvas or denim, but because of its unfinished and undyed state, it is inexpensive.</p>	<p>As it is an inexpensive calico is often used by tailors in the construction of mockups of a garment for the purpose of testing a pattern. It has also become popular within the home for curtain material and accessories such as bags.</p>
	<b>Voile</b>	<p>is a light weight woven fabric, generally made of 100% cotton or cotton blends including linen or polyester. Its name originates from the French language and means veil. Today intricately detailed voiles have become fashionable.</p>	<p>The fabric is often used in soft furnishing. Full length curtains are made with voile and used as window treatments, mosquito nets etc. Voile fabric is also used in dress-making either in multiple layers or laid over a second material.</p>
	<b>Percalé</b>	<p>is a closely woven plain-weave fabric. The term describes the weave of the fabric, not its content, so percale can be a 50/50 blend of cotton and polyester, 100% cotton, or a blend of other fabrics in any ratio. Percalé fabrics are made in both solid colors and printed patterns.</p>	<p>A percale weave has a thread count of about 200 or higher and it washes very well. Therefore it is ideal for high quality bed-linen.</p>
	<b>Flannelette</b>	<p>is a light, napped cotton the texture of flannel. Flannelette can either have long or short nap, and can be napped on only one or two sides. It comes in many colours, both solid and patterned.</p>	<p>It is used very extensively for things such as underclothing, night wear, dresses, dressing-gowns and shirts.</p>

EXAMPLE	PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION	USE
	<b>Sateen</b>	<p>is a cotton or rayon fabric with a satin-like finish, Sateen may be bleached, dyed, or printed. It is difficult to make good bound buttonholes on it as it has a tendency to slip at the seams.</p>	<p>traditionally used for bed sheets, but the fashion industry is a huge fan making anything from shirts to ball gowns to luxury bags.</p>
	<b>Poplin</b>	<p>is a fabric consisting of a silk warp with a weft of worsted yarn. It is made with wool, cotton, silk, rayon, or any mixture of these, though originally made from silk.</p>	<p>Poplins are used for dress purposes, and for rich upholstery work. Shirts made from this material are easy to iron and do not wrinkle easily. Medical Uniforms almost exclusively use Poly/Cotton blended Poplin fabrics.</p>
	<b>Suitings</b>	<p>Suitings are made in a variety of fabrics, but most commonly from wool. The two main yarns produce worsteds and woollens. These can be woven in a number of ways producing flannel, tweed, gabardine, and fresco among others. For hot weather, linen and cotton seersucker is worn. Other materials such as cashmere, silk and silk blended with wool are also popular.</p>	<p>Traditional business suits are generally in solid colours or with pin stripes; windowpane checks are also acceptable. Outside business, the range of acceptable patterns widens.</p>
	<b>Linen</b>	<p>is a textile made from the fibers of the flax plant. Linen is labor-intensive to manufacture, but when it is made into garments, it is valued for its exceptional coolness and freshness in hot weather. The collective term linens is still often used generically to describe a class of woven and even knitted bed, bath, table and kitchen textiles.</p>	<p>Garments, bed linen, kitchen linen, soft furnishing.</p>