

## **Abrasion Resistance**

A technical term used to describe resistance of fabric against damage caused by wear and tear. It is usually expressed in rubs (see '*Martindale*').

## **ASTM**

American Society for Testing and Materials.

## **Beaming**

The process during warp making in which the ends are drawn from the warping creel and spread out into sheet form and then wound onto a long beam.

## **BIFMA**

Business and International Furniture Manufacturers' Association.

## **BFD**

Boston Fire Department.

## **Bleeding**

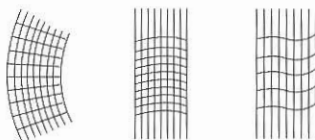
Colour loss from coloured cloth when in contact with a liquid.

## **Blending**

Blending is the mixing process of various fibres. It normally mixes fibres of different physical properties to ensure a consistent finished product.

## **Bow**

The curving of the warp or weft within a cloth.



## **BS**

British Standard.

## **Carbonising**

A chemical process for removing vegetable contamination from animal fibres.

## **Carding**

A process involving the movement of natural fibres between two surfaces covered with wire pins in order to detangle and align the fibres in preparation for spinning.

## **CMHR Foam**

Combustion modified high resilient foam.

## **Cockle**

The wrinkled effect visible on a fabric resulting from inconsistent shrinkage.

## **Colour and weave effect**

An effect that is produced when different coloured warp and weft threads are woven together resulting in distinctive weaves.

## **Colour matching**

The adjustment of the proportions of various dyes present in a piece of cloth to suitably match a given sample.

## **Combing**

The straightening of carded fibres and the removal of impurities by using a comb assisted by brushes.

## **Composition**

The quantity of each fibre used to make a fabric.

## **Condition**

The moisture present in a textile fibre in its raw form.

## **Cone**

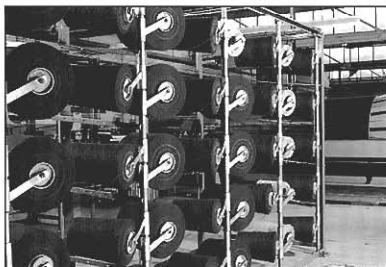
Conical base onto which yarn is wound producing a cone.

## **Count of Yarn**

Number indicating the mass per unit length or the length per unit mass of a yarn. (A measure of its thickness).

## **Creel**

A frame onto which textile packages are mounted.



## **Crepe fabric**

A fabric characterised by a crinkled or puckered surface.

## **Crimp**

Naturally occurring or synthetic waviness of a fibre.

## **Crocking**

An alternative phrase for rubbing as in fastness to rubbing.

## **Crop**

To remove loose fibres from the cloth's surface after it has been woven.

## **Cross colour**

The use of different coloured warp and weft threads.

## **CRE**

Denotes constant rate of extension on a tensile strength testing machine.

## **CRT**

Denotes constant rate of traverse on a tensile strength testing machine.

## **Decatizing**

A pressing process used to improve the quality and appearance of fabric. Fabric is wrapped around a perforated roller whilst steam is blown through it, circulating throughout the fabric. This is a process used mainly for woollen fabrics.

## **Differential dyeing**

Usually descriptive of fibres of the same generic class, but having potentially different dyeing properties from the standard fibre.

## **Dobby**

A mechanism that controls the heald shaft movement of a loom.

## **Double cloth**

A compound fabric produced by the weaving together of two pieces of cloth.

## **Dry clean**

The treatment of fabric in an organic solvent to remove any grease, dirt or oil.

## **Dyeing**

A process used to apply colour to a yarn or fabric.

## **Ecu**

The natural colour state of a fabric before it is exposed to the colouring processes.

## **End**

1. (spinning) An individual strand
2. (Weaving) An individual warp thread

## **Ends per inch/cm**

The density of warp threads per inch/cm in fabric.

**Face**

The side of the fabric that is intended to be visible on the finished product.

**FAR**

Federal Aviation Regulation.

**Fibre**

The basic raw materials in textiles which can be natural or man-made.

**Finishing**

A collection of processes taking place after weaving which fabrics undergo before they are ready for despatch.

**Flame Retardant**

The ability of fabric to resist burning.

**Float**

A length of yarn on the surface of a fabric between adjacent intersections of warp and weft threads.

**Foam Backing**

Foam adhered to the back of a fabric to enhance its resilience.

**Greasy / Greige / Grey Piece**

Terms used to describe a textile product before being bleached, dyed or finished.

## Heald

A flat steel strip, looped cord, or shaped wire with an eye in the centre through which warp yarn is threaded.

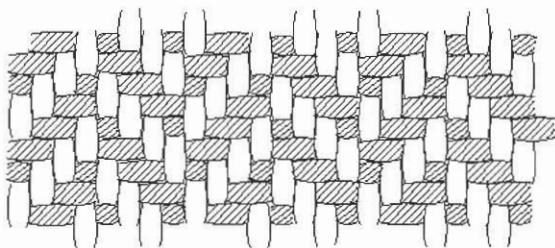


## Heald shaft

A frame complete with healds.

## Herringbone

A combination of twill weaves in which the direction of twill is reversed to produce stripes resembling herring bones.



## HR Foam

High resilient foam.

## Hue

A characteristic of colour that denotes it being predominantly yellow, green, red or blue.

## ISO

International Standards Organisation.

## **Jacquard (weaving)**

A shedding mechanism attached to the loom that gives individual control of up to several hundred warp threads and thus enables large complex designs to be produced.



## **Jacquard Harness (weaving)**

A group of cords and their attachments, from the hooks of the machine downwards that control the lifting of the warp threads.

## **Light Fastness**

Resistance to the fading effect of light or sunshine.

## **Loom**

A weaving machine that produces cloth.



## Loom State

Any piece of woven fabric as it leaves the loom before undergoing subsequent processes.

## Martindale

An abrasion test used to measure the durability of fabric. The warp and weft threads are abraded simultaneously.



## Mending

The correction of faults and imperfections in fabric by hand.

## Metamerism

The change in colour which can result in a fabric due to a change in lighting - for example, viewing fabric in daylight as opposed to artificial light. Normally avoided by correct dye selection.

## Micro Fibre

A microscopically small fibre or filament (nominally 1.7 dTex or less).

## **Milling**

A process that compacts woven or knitted fabrics to alter the handle of the fabric.

## **Overlocking**

The joining of two pieces of fabric by double stitching over and around the edges.

## **NFPA**

National Fire Protection Association.

## **Pick**

A weft thread passing through the warp in weaving.

## **Picks per inch/cm**

The number of weft threads per inch/cm of fabric.

## **Piece**

An accepted unit length of fabric.

## **Piece Dyeing**

Fabric dyed in piece form.

## **Pilling**

Small bobbles of fabric that develop on the fabric surface due to general wear and tear.

## **Reed**

Comb-like feature of a loom through which the warp ends pass.

## **Regain**

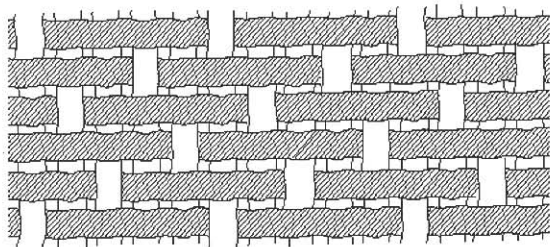
The weight of moisture present in a textile fabric expressed as a % of the oven dry weight.

## **Roving**

An assembly of parallel fibres; the feedstock for worsted spinning.

## **Sateen**

A weft faced satin woven fabric with floats lying horizontally as opposed to vertically.



## **Satin**

A warp faced satin fabric with floats lying predominantly vertical.

## **Scouring**

The washing process of fabric or yarn to remove dirt or grease.

### **Scotchgard®**

A branded chemical finish that increases a fabric's resistance to oil, dirt and water.

### **Selvedge**

The side edges of a finished piece of cloth that are reinforced to prevent unravelling.

### **Shed**

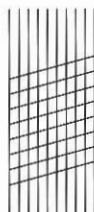
The gap formed when warp threads are separated during the weaving action.

### **Shuttle**

The mechanism on a loom that carries the weft thread through the shed to interlace with the warp.

### **Skew**

A distortion in the cloth where warp and weft do not fall at exact right angles to one another resulting in a skew.



### **Slippage**

Open spaces in the fabric resulting from sliding of weft threads or shifting of warp threads.

### **Spinning**

The drawing out and twisting of fibres to produce a yarn.

## **Stenter/Tenter**

A finishing machine used for drying and to set fabric width.

## **Synthetic fibres**

Man-made fibres produced using petrochemicals.

## **Tensile Strength**

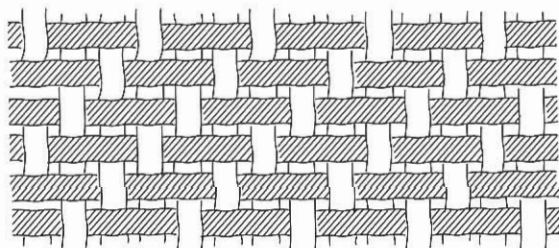
The breaking strength of a fabric, usually expressed in Newtons.

## **Textured yarns**

Man-made filament yarns which have been treated by heat and/or mechanical action to imitate the appearance and properties of natural fibre yarns.

## **Twill**

A diagonal weave effect created by the passing of weft threads over two or more warp ends.



## **Warp**

The lengthways threads in a woven fabric.

## **Warping**

The arrangement of threads in long parallel lengths ready for weaving.

## **Weave**

Formation of fabric by interlacing the warp and weft threads.

## **Weft**

The horizontal yarns that interlace at right angles with the vertical warp threads.

## **Width**

This is the width of the fabric measured from within the selvages.

## **Woollen spun**

Loosely twisted yarns spun from short fibres resulting in a bulky yarn with a hairy surface.



## **Worsted spun**

Tight compact yarns spun from combed long wool fibres to produce a strong, even and smooth product.

