

Fabric Finishes

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Fabric Finishes

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The fabric in ready-to-wear or on the fabric counter undergoes many processes after it leaves the loom or knitting machine. These processes (finishes) depend on the end use of the product. For instance, a dress fabric may be printed, a raincoat treated with a water repellent finish and a wool skirt treated for moth resistance. Finishes are designed to improve the appearance, hand (feel) or performance of the fabric.

Some finishes, such as the printed design, are obvious, but most of the others are invisible. Read the hang tag on the fabric or garment or the printing on the fabric selvage or on the fabric bolt end to see what finishes have been applied. The information should include the fabric finish name and purpose, how durable the finish is and how to care for the garment or fabric. Save this tag or label, along with the fabric care label and sales check, for handy reference. Follow the care instructions **exactly** because some finishes can be destroyed.



Finishes may be **non-durable**. They may come out during the first few washings or drycleanings. Sometimes, these can be replaced after each cleaning. You might restore other fabric finishes at home; some may be replaced by the drycleaner. Examples are using a starch for stiffening or a fabric softener for an anti-static finish.

Durable finishes last for much of the wear-life of the garment or fabric, perhaps through 15 drycleanings or launderings. These **may** or **may not** be replaceable. A little of the finish is lost each time the article is laundered or cleaned.

Permanent finishes last as long as the fabric does. Certain dyes, Sanforizing and some moth resistant treatments are examples of permanent finishes.

Often a fabric receives several finishes. A cotton fabric can be bleached, printed and plissé. Socks are dyed and an antibacterial finish may be applied. On the other hand, one finish might provide several advantages. For instance, the ciré (wet look) finish also may make the fabric water repellent.

Basic Finishes

Many basic finishes convert the just-woven or knitted fabrics into attractive textiles, depending upon the fiber and end-use for the products. As an example, different finishes are used on wool than on nylon. Wool might be bleached while nylon might be delustered. A blouse fabric might be dyed while a cotton flannel pajama fabric would be brushed and napped.

First, a fabric might be washed (scoured) and **bleached** if it is of naturally beige or gray wool, linen or cotton. Other fibers require different processes:

- **degumming** silk,
- cleaning and shrinking wool by **carbonizing** to remove grasses and leaves clinging to the wool,
- **crabbing** to set by pressing
- **fulling** to improve the hand and appearance.

A yellowish-white fabric might be dyed a blue-white by using a **fluorescent whitener**. You may add this finish at home, depending upon the laundry products you select.

Tentering straightens the fabric. Fabric tented off-grain does not have the crosswise yarns at right angles to the lengthwise yarns. If resin or other heatset finishes are applied while the fabric is pulled crooked (off square), it cannot be

straightened. Thus, the serviceability and aesthetic qualities may not be what you expected.

In **mercerizing**, the cotton yarns or fabric are treated to increase their strength, luster, absorbency and dyeability.

Starch (non-durable) or resins (durable) are **sizings** added to give weight, crispness or smoothness to fibers and fabrics. Gums or metallic salts are used to **weight** silk to add body and weight.

Dyeing and **printing** can take many forms. If the dyeing wasn't done in the solution (before fiber formation of man-made fibers), fiber or yarn stage (before weaving or knitting takes place), the fabric may be piece-dyed or printed. Some colorings are more durable than others; Chromespun and Coloray are two examples. Excess dye may remain in **any** fabric. Therefore, you should wash colored items separately at first to remove excess dyes and see if the fabric bleeds during washing.



Fabrics may go through an ironing process to make them smooth and lustrous (**calendaring** and **beetling**).

Decorative Finishes

Glazing is used to create a chintz or a polished cotton fabric. Glazing can be a temporary finish that washes out or a more durable finish. For a **ciré** finish (wet look), the fabric is glazed by slightly melting the manmade fibers, often nylon. This creates a shiny surface, closes the spaces between the yarns and increases water repellence.

Three-dimensional designs (non-durable or durable) can be ironed into the fabric. The **embossed** design may imitate piqué or other, more expensive finishes. It is three-dimensional, like a foot-print in the sand.

A **plissé** design is sometimes mistaken for a woven-in seersucker design. Chemicals shrink strips of the fabric, leaving the areas between to pucker. To check which finish it is, pull the fabric between your hands. The plissé embossed design will flatten out. Real seersucker or piqué will not, as the pucker is woven in permanently. To maintain these fabric finishes, follow the care label; wash gently as instructed. Avoid ironing.



Moiré is a watered (woodgrain) effect that may be temporarily or permanently ironed on the fabric, often acetate or silk taffeta.



Raising the fibers on the fabric provides softness and/or warmth. In some **napping** and **brushing**, the fibers lie in one direction, requiring a one-way (with nap) sewing pattern layout. **Flocking** is another form of a soft finish. Loose fibers are glued to the fabric surface in small motifs, large motifs or as all-over designs. As some flocked fabrics are less durable than others, follow care instructions **exactly** or else you will be left with bald areas on the fabric. Drycleaning solvents may remove or damage the adhesive, loosening the flocking.

Interesting effects are obtained when acid is applied to certain fabrics. Organdy receives an all-over treatment which makes it sheer and stiff (**parchmentized**). **Frosted acid** and **burnt-out** designs result when acid is applied in certain areas to obtain clear or translucent areas on the fabric. If two fibers are used to make the fabric, one fiber can be dissolved out, leaving a sheer background.



Functional or Performance Finishes

Functional finishes improve fiber performance and minimize care. Examples are finishes for wrinkle resistance; wash and wear; durable press; soil release; spot, stain, soil and water repellence; shrinkage control and moth resistance.

Other finishes that improve the fiber behavior are abrasion resistance, absorbency, antislip and antistatic. Other finishes provide a safety factor — antibacterial and fire retardancy.

Abrasion Resistant Finishes — Some fibers wear easily when rubbed or abraded. These fibers often are blended with stronger fibers, or given a finish to strengthen them. Pants linings, pockets and other inner fabrics may receive this treatment. Usually no tradenames are given.

Absorbent Finishes — Absorbent finishes increase the amount of moisture a fabric can hold or transfer. Transference speeds up the drying process. This useful finish is found on diapers, towels, active sportswear and underwear. It improves sanitary products and surgical dressings. The finish used varies with the fibers in the fabric.

“Superslurper” is the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s modification for cotton which causes it to absorb many times its weight in moisture.

Because of their limited absorbency, many man-made fibers are considered uncomfortable for wear, especially under hot humid conditions. New finishes and fiber modifications help the fiber wick, taking moisture away from the skin surface to the fabric surface, where it evaporates.

Antibacterial Finishes — This safety finish is also known as antiseptic-bacteriostatic-hygenic. Problems of perspiration odor, mildew and the spread of disease and infection are caused by bacteria. Antibacterial finishes help retard bacterial growth and athlete’s foot reinfection, minimize diaper rash and eliminate mildew odors.

The finishes are non-durable (renewable) or durable. Read the label to see which is on the article. Socks, shoe linings, infants’ wear and bedding, health products, some clothing and underwear have been given an antibacterial treatment. A variety of home furnishings and sporting goods, such as tents, have a longer wear-life when protected from mildew.

Antislip (Slip Resistant, Non-slip) Finishes — Slippery fibers may cause shifting or slippage of the fabric yarns and fraying. Many fabrics of manmade fibers are treated with a resin finish to minimize these problems.

Antisnag Finishes — Soft knits, especially for girls’ and women’s wear, are very prone to snag. A combination finish — Zepel — reduces snagging, provides water repellency and reduces static and oily spotting and staining.

Antistatic (Anticling) Finishes — Anyone who walks across a carpet, then touches another person or a metal object and receives a shock, feels the need for an antistatic finish. Other common examples of static electricity, especially when the humidity is low, are socks that stick to trousers, a slip that rides up and a blanket that crackles and sparks when a bed is being made. Static from uniforms and surgical drapes can cause serious trouble during surgery. Static can cause soil and lint to adhere to fabrics. Look for antistatic finishes on fabrics containing manmade fibers such as nylon or polyester.

The finish applied depends on the fibers in the fabric. Newest developments involve chemicals added to man-made fibers before they are spun. The label should tell you if the finish is non-durable (renewable), durable or permanent.

Durable Press (Permanent Press) Finishes — As most of the durable press finishes are not "permanent," the term "durable press" is more appropriate. The lasting qualities of these finishes depend upon the fibers used, the yarn and fabric construction, the garment or article made and the care given by the consumer.

"Wrinkle resistant" and "wash and wear" finishes, while forerunners to durable press, are still widely used. Watch for other finishes in combination with durable press, such as spot and stain resistant, soil release and water repellent finishes.

A well-engineered durable press garment has lasting creases and retains its shape during wear. Since it usually returns to its original neat appearance during laundering and drying, it requires little or no ironing.

There are shortcomings to durable press. The finish may weaken some fibers and stiffen the fabric, so fiber blends often are used. Blends contain a manmade fiber (polyester or nylon) for strength and hand and a cellulosic fiber for absorbency (cotton, linen or rayon). A typical blend is 65 percent polyester and 35 percent cotton. Newer manmade fibers are modified, making them more comfortable to wear, so the blend proportions may change, depending upon cost and other factors.

In blends, manmade fibers may attract oil during use. During laundering they may pick up fugitive (loose) dyes and become dingy looking. Creases inadvertently put in the garment during the manufacturing process usually are permanent.

Dimensional stability is improved with durable press, however, various parts of the garment occasionally may shrink different amounts as abrasion (wear) resistance is decreased and the folded fabric edges may "frost" or wear excessively. The durable press process adds to the cost of the fabric or item, but many consumers feel the no-iron properties outweigh the problems.

Avoid clothes and other textile products with a "fishy" odor. The finish may not have been cured or set properly and could wash away. You also may be sensitive to the chemical.

Durable Press: All Cotton — New processes for all-cotton durable press provide a wrinkle resistant and wrinkle-shed finish without weakening the fabric excessively. These are available in shirts and blouses, blue jeans and a variety of other clothing.

Durable Press: Wool — Several processes have been used to make wool, naturally a very resilient, bouncy fiber, permanently pleated and creased. Besides the durable press finish, some wool fabrics also are given finishes to provide stretch or shrinkage control. A blended fabric of wool with cotton or rayon and nylon often is used.

Durable Press: Linen — One of the shortcomings of linen is its wrinkling during wear and laundering. Look for the tradename "Linnisfree," a durable press finish for linen developed in Ireland. Linen blends also may have durable press finishes applied.

Flame Retardant, Flame Resistant Finishes — Some clothing and household textiles have been made flame retardant because of legislation requiring it.

These finishes may be non-durable or durable. No one finish will work for all fibers and fabrics. What works for one fiber will not successfully treat another. The newest developments in this field are chemically modified, flame resistant fibers which do not need a finish.

Old finishes which were possibly carcinogenic are no longer on the market. You need not worry about this aspect of flame retardant finishes.

Fume Fade-Resistant Finishes — Acetate and triacetate fabrics may change color because of airborne gases. The exposed shoulder of the garment may change color as it hangs in the closet. Finishes that provide resistance to fume fading are semi-durable at best. Choosing an acetate garment or fabric which features non-fading dyes might be a better choice.

Moth Resistant (Mothproof) Finishes — Moth larvae, carpet beetles and other insects feed on protein, especially wool and food stains. They also will eat through other natural and manmade fibers to get to wool. Since they eat food-stained fabrics of any kind, it's unwise to store soiled fabrics. Non-durable or durable moth resistant finishes are applied during the manufacturing process.



Shrinkage Control Finishes — When fabrics are knit or woven, they are under tension on the knitting machines or looms. If treated during the finishing steps, the fibers return to their normal size and shape. If not, the fabric will shrink when you wash or dryclean it. Sometimes the fabric will continue to shrink for several launderings or cleanings. Then, too, certain fibers like wool, cotton and rayon naturally shrink. To minimize shrinkage of clothing and yardgoods, manufacturers can apply finishes for shrinkage control.

"Preshrunk," "processed for minimum shrinkage" and "shrinkage controlled" are vague terms and guarantee you nothing. Instead, look for specifics like "less than 1 percent residual shrinkage" (Sanforized), etc. More than 2 or 3 percent shrinkage can cause real problems with fit. For instance, a 3 percent shrinkage on a 25-inch waistband would be $\frac{3}{4}$ inch.

Reflective Finishes — Children, snowmobilers and others out after dark are more likely to be safe when the light from headlights, flashlights, etc., is reflected by reflective tape or fabric on their clothes. Halloween costumes especially should be well marked.



Stain, Soil and Spot Repellent Finishes — These finishes aid in cleaning the fabric by filling in the spaces the soil would normally enter and by making the fabric smooth so the soil just “falls off;” or, the finish makes the fabric slippery or electrostatic, repelling the soil.

Some of the finishes repel waterborne stains, some repel oily stains and some repel both. The label should tell you which type of finish is on the fabric. The finishes are non-durable to durable.

Durable press fabrics which attract oily stains benefit from these stain repellent finishes. Water repellent finishes for raincoats, etc., also repel waterborne stains.

Wrinkle (Crease) Resistant Finishes — Consumers enjoy the absorbent comfort of cellulosic fibers (cotton, rayon, acetate and linen) in clothing. However, these natural or modified fibers have a common problem. Wear wrinkles often destroy a neat appearance, and crumpling during laundering requires lots of ironing to restore a smooth look. Wrinkle resistant finishes are non-durable or durable, depending on the finish and the care used.

Soil Release Finishes — A shortcoming of durable press is its tendency to absorb oily spots, stains and soil. Furthermore, the finish reduces absorbency or watability; thus the detergent and water don't penetrate the fabric as easily to wash the dirt away.

Two of the soil release finishes also are stain repellent — Dual Action Scotchgard and Zepel. The fibers are coated, so soil cannot enter the fibers. When the fabric is washed, the soil easily floats away.

Other soil release finishes attract and enable the water and detergent to enter the fibers, washing out the soil.

Water Repellent, Water Resistant and Waterproof Finishes — All of these finishes may be found on rain gear, shower curtains and elsewhere where protection from wetting is needed. Each term means something different, however. A **water resistant** finished raincoat protects you for a while from a light rain shower. A **water repellent** finish protects from a heavier rain.

A **waterproof** garment is the only one which lets no water through at all. Plastic and rubber garments are uncomfortable to wear as the fabric isn't air permeable. New developments using microporous coated fabrics, which are waterproof, allow perspiration to evaporate through the tiny spaces too small for raindrops to penetrate.

Water repellent, water resistant and waterproof finishes can be non-durable or durable. Some tradenames, like Cravenette, are used for all three types, so read the label carefully. Some finishes resist oil, too. The kind of fiber, yarn, fabric and garment construction affect the degree of water repellence.

Wash and Wear Finishes — Wash and wear finishes are designed to improve the fabric smoothness and lessen the need for ironing. The improved finishes are superior to the early wash and wear finishes which predate durable press. They are often found on shirts and blouses even if a durable press finish is not listed.

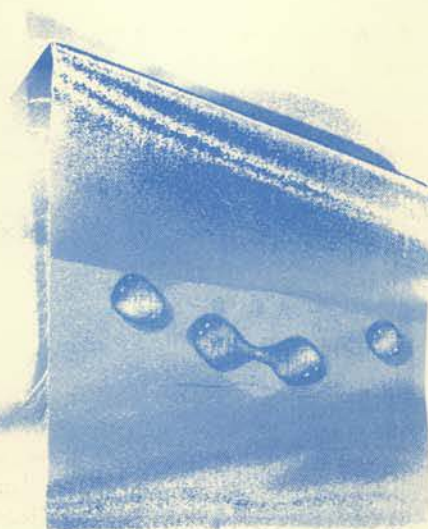


Summary

As the chemistry of fibers and finishes becomes more complex, the fine line between fiber alterations and finishes blur, although the end result is similar. For instance, instead of applying an antistatic finish to a fiber or a fabric, carbon can be added to the fiber before it is spun.

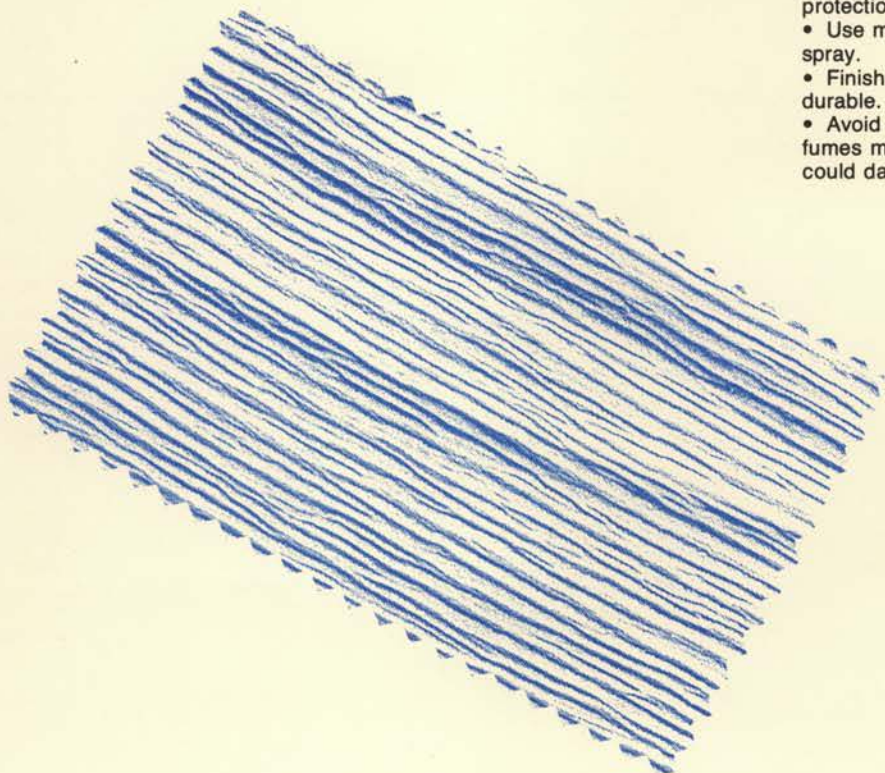
Keep up-to-date by reading labels carefully to see what the product is, what it promises to do and the care required. Tradenames used may change as manufacturers develop new products and new tradenames appear. The finish designated by a particular tradename also may change. As you find new finishes on ready mades and yard goods, add the new names to the listings at the end of each category. Doing so will keep this publication up-to-date and more useful to you.

Refer to the chart to find common tradenames of the various types of fabric finishes. It is also a quick, easy reference for characteristics, performance and care of today's finishes.



Type	Some trademarks	Characteristics	Performance and care
Abrasion resistant		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides strength. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on pockets, linings, pants.
Absorbent	Absorbit, Aqualink, Aquasorb, Hysorb, Nylonized, Nylonex, Quel, S I Cellulosic, Sorbtex Fantessa, Telezorbant, Visa, Zelcon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increases absorbency. • Faster drying through wicking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on towels, active sportswear, underwear, medical uses.
Antibacterial (antiseptic) (bacteriostatic) (hygienic)	Arigal, Blue Magic, Germicide, Eversan, Pacificate, Permafab, Permafresh 99, Sanigard, Sanitized, Steriseptic, Sylgard, Ultra Fresh, Vita-Fresh.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retards bacterial growth causing perspiration odor, mildew, athlete's foot, diaper rash and spread of disease and infection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on socks, shoe linings, infants' wear, bedding, health products, some clothing and underwear. • Longer wearlife possible. • Avoid chlorine bleach. • Finish may wash out. • Can be renewed with Borateam, Dovicide, Sanitized, etc.
Anti-slip (non-slip) (slip-resistant)	Extralok A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimizes fabric yarn slippage and fraying. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on slippery fabrics. • Finish may be non-durable. • Read and follow care instructions for best results.
Antisnag	Zepel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces snagging. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on soft knits.
Antistatic (anticling)	Antron III, Aston, Blue Magic, Body Free, Crepeset, Enkalure, Fybrite, Lostat 105D, Nopcostat, Permastat, Stanax, Staticide, 22N, Valstat, Zepel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces cling, static shock, safety during surgery, lessens soiling and lint. • Fiber treatment: resistant and fabric cling free have same characteristics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on manmade fibers. • May wash out. • Finish can be renewed after laundering with Rain Barrel, Downy, Bounce, Static Guard and other similar products. • Too much fabric softener on a fabric may decrease absorbency and increase static electricity. • Periodically omit using fabric softener to reduce buildup. • Bounce, Toss'n Soft and Cling Free are examples of treated sheets added to the dryer.
Durable Press (permanent press) [Blends]	Ameriset, Burmi Crease, Coneprest, Dan-Press, Ever Press, Grid-press, Koratron, Lee Prest, Never-Prest, Penn-Prest, Perma-Prest, Primitized, Reeve-set, Sharp/shape, Sta-Prest, Super-Crease, VanoPress.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrinkle resistant. • Wrinkle shed. • Returns to original neat appearance after laundering with little or no pressing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on cotton/polyester and other blends. • May need to avoid chlorine bleach, too hot water, too hot drying; best when machine dried and removed promptly. • May be difficult to alter. • May be soil retentive. • Possible "fishy" odor. • Possible allergic reaction (in an automatic washer, try a wash-wash and a cool rinse). • Remove clothes from the dryer immediately and hang them on hangers to avoid wrinkling. • Reduce wrinkling by tumbling the clothes with a damp towel in a dryer for a few minutes at the durable press setting. • Launder clothes inside out to reduce abrasion (frosting) on edges and creases.

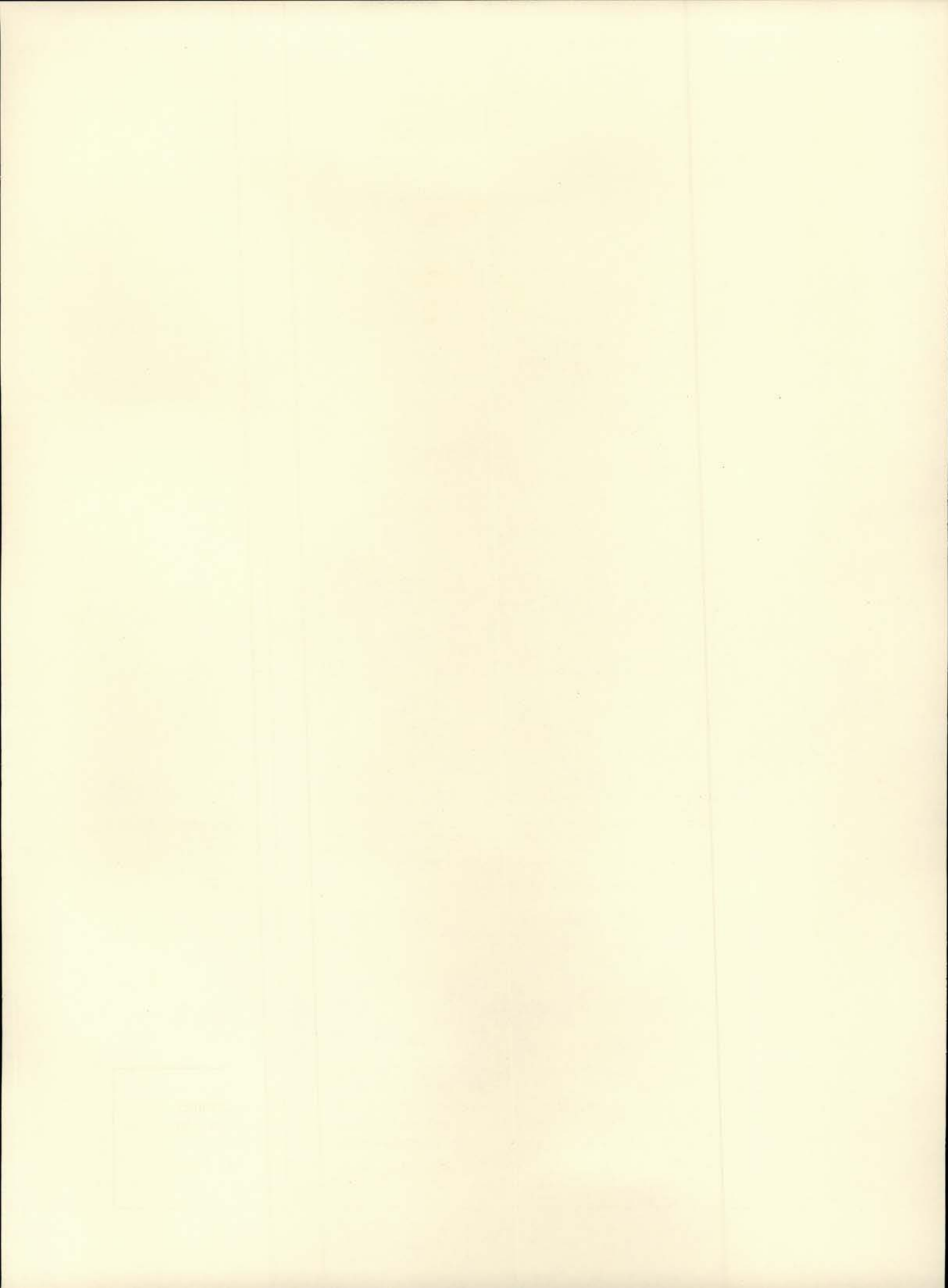
Type	Some trademarks	Characteristics	Performance and care
Durable press (cont'd)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pretreat oily spots with detergent or cleaning fluid (Energine or Thoro). • Creases and seams may be pressed in homesewn articles by using a slightly warmer setting on the iron than required to press the fabric. • Avoid glazing (melting) the fabric surface by pretesting a fabric scrap or seam allowance.
[All cotton]	Cotton 100, Cotton ease, Sanfor-Set.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrinkle resistant. • More comfortable to wear than blends. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on all cotton shirts, jeans, blouses and other readymades. • May need touch-up ironing.
[All wool]	Lin-trak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent creases. • Pleats set in. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on 100 percent wool and wool blends. • Used on wool slacks.
[All Linen]	LinnisFree, Lintrend.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrinkle resistant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on tailored linen clothes especially. • Follow care instructions.
Flame Retardant (flame resistant)	Apex, Banfire, CM Flame Retardant, Cuddlesoft, Firefoe, Firegard, Firemaster 200, Fire-Stop, Firetard, FWWMR, Fyrol, Proban, Pyropel, Pyroset, Pyrovatex CP, THPC, THPOH, Zirpo (wool).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety and protection: children and infants, infirm and elderly. • Fiber treatment may be used instead of finish; see details in this publication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used for infants' and children's sleepware. • Avoid hard water, non-phosphate detergents, soap, chlorine bleach, fabric softeners and commercial laundries. • Follow care instructions on label exactly to maintain flame retardancy.
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p>Flame retardant fibers include Arnel FR triacetate with additive, Clevyll T vinyon, Cordelan vina/vinyon matrix, Leavil vinyon, Orlon FR acrylic, SAY FR acetate with additive, SEF modacrylic, Teviron vinyon and Trevira 271 polyester.</p> </div>			
Fume Fade-Resistant		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimizes damages caused by airborne gases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on acetates. • Finish may be semi-durable only.
Moth Resistant	Nondurable: Eulan, Larvex and Lanoc CN. Durable: Crestocide, Hartocide, Mitin, Neocide and Repel-o-tac.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminates damage by moths, carpet beetles and other insects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on woolens, cashmere and other animal fiber and on blends containing them. • Keep clothes clean. Use special insect proof storage and odorous protection. • Use moth preventive crystals or spray. • Finish may be non-durable or durable. • Avoid using cleaner bags. The fumes may soften the plastic, which could damage your clothes.



Type	Some trademarks	Characteristics	Performance and care
Reflective for safety	Flashback, Reflexite, Scotchite, Thread of Light.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflects light from headlights, flashlights, etc. • Comes as tape or fabric. • Can be on readymade or purchased at notions counters and applied at home. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on children's clothes, outerwear, jogging wear, Halloween costumes, shoes, and clothing for utility and highway repairmen, firemen and law enforcement officers.
Shrinkage Control	<p>Wovens: Rigonel, Sanforized, Sanforized Plus, Spring/Shrunk.</p> <p>Knits: Pak-Nit, Perma-Size, Sanfor-Knit, Shrink-no-Mor.</p> <p>Wool: Bancora, H O, Lanaset, NH21, Sanforian, synthapret, Superwash.</p> <p>Lintrak: durable creases on slacks.</p> <p>Rayon: Avcoset.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To minimize shrinkage and maintain shape. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on a variety of fabrics. • Follow care instructions. • Shrinkage control may not mean shrink proof.
Soil Release	Blue Magic, Cirosol PT, Come Clean, Courtral, CraveClean, Dan Clean, Eastman SR-30, SR-100, Fybrite, MiracleClean, Perma-Clean, Rhapex, Riegel Release, Scotch-Release, Soliex, Soil Out, Springs-Clean, Stain-Less, Tectron, Unisec, Wash-Ease, Visa, X-it, Zelcon, Zip-Clean, Scotchgard and Zepel are also stain repellent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Releases soil, increases antistatic properties, may increase watability of fiber, resists fuzziness and pilling. Fabric may peel, soften, cooler to wear. Reduces graying of white and pastel fabrics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on durable press and other fabrics. • Finish may wash away eventually.
Stain, Soil and Spot Repellent	Fybrite, Paramul, Permel, Scotchgard, Spotshed, Tectron, Unisec, Visa, Zepel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repels waterborne and/or oily stains. • Fabric less likely to soil. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on work clothes, rainwear and upholstery. • Ignored stains may be difficult to remove: blot up or wipe off stains as they occur. • Finishes may not be durable. • Rinse washed articles thoroughly to maintain finish.
Wash and Wear	Arrow Wash and Wear, 100 percent cotton: Belfast, Disciplined cotton, Dri-Smooth, Everglaze, Fibilized, Mansmooth, Minicare, Regulated Cotton, Sanforized Plus, Unidure, Vanalux, Vantage All Cotton.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to durable press. • Smoothest fabric. • Lessens need for ironing. • Often used if a durable press finish is not listed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on cotton and blends. • May need to avoid chlorine bleach. • Line dry and/or light pressing necessary.
Water Repellent, Water Resistant	<p>Non-durable: Aquarol AX, Aridex WP, Cravenette, Crestdri, Cyanatex, Dryon, Plcotex, Repelex.</p> <p>Semi-durable: Aquanon, Bishopel, Cravenette, Dryon A-F, Durane, Nalan W, Repello DC.</p> <p>Durable: Aerotex, Aquagard, Blue Magic, Cravenette, Drilene, Hydro-Pruf, Impregnole, Norane, Quarpel, Ranedare, Scotchgard, Sylmer, Tanpel S, Tectron.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repels or resists water. • Some tradenames such as Cravenette represent more than one durability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on rainwear and shower curtains and tents. • May be non-durable, semi-durable or durable. • May be wash or dryclean only or both. • Some finishes can be replaced by drycleaner. • Scotchgard can be applied at home also.
Waterproof	Bion II, Blue Magic, Goretex, Klimate, Phobotex FTC, Reenair, Storm Shed, Tectron.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterproof yet breathes so is not hot to wear. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on rainwear. • May be washed only or dryclean only or both.
Wrinkle or Crease Resistant	Anticrease, Bounce, Fresh-Tex, Marafin, Perma-Smooth, Prestwick, Unidure (rayon), Vitalized, Tebelized, Wat-A-Set, Wrinkle-Shed, Zeset.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resists creasing. • Recovers from wrinkling. • Can be stiff, less strong, less absorbent and less abrasion resistant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used on cottons and blends. • May be non-durable or durable finish. • May require some ironing to restore finish. • Non-durables can be replaced by the cleaner or at home. Scotchgard is available at most stores.

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trademarks is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is implied.

Source: *Fabric Finishes* by Jane Winge, North Dakota State University, 1981 Finish Companies.





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2M; July 1986 (formerly CIS 257)

50 cents per copy

