

Fabric Properties Chooser Chart No. 2

These charts indicate the performance of different fabrics for different criteria. For each criterion the fabrics are listed in order of performance with the highest performers at the top and the lowest performers at the bottom.

Weight

HEAVY

heavy wools
calico
heavy cottons
fur fabric
hessian
medium wools
medium cottons
polyester/cotton
cotton lawn
polyester
muslin
nylon
nylon net
silk
Vilene

LIGHT

Drape

DRAPES WELL

silk
light wools
(e.g. a nun's veiling)
many other wools
polyester/cotton
cotton lawn
muslin
medium cottons
polyester/cotton
polyester
metallic fabric
calico
fur fabric
Vilene light
waterproof nylon
nylon net
hessian
*DOES NOT DRAPE
WELL*

Strength

STRONG

nylon
polyester
silk
fur fabric
metallic fabric
hessian
wool
cotton lawn
fur fabric
metallic fabric
muslin
Vilene light
NOT VERY STRONG

Resilience

SPRINGS BACK WELL

nylon
nylon net
polyester
many wools
polyester/cotton
silk
Vilene
cottons
calico
hessian
*DOES NOT SPRING
BACK WELL*

Absorbency

VERY ABSORBENT

wools
silk
calico
other cottons
hessian
fur fabrics
polyester/cotton
polyester
metal fabric
nylon net
Vilene
waterproof nylon

NOT ABSORBENT

Inflammability

VERY FLAMMABLE

cottons
polyester/cotton
polyester
metallic fabric
hessian
wools
silk
fur fabric
nylon (melts)
nylon net (melts)
Vilene

NOT FLAMMABLE

Aftercare

GENERAL CARE

most cottons
polyester
polyester/cotton
Vilene
cotton lawn
muslin
fur fabric
metallic fabric
hessian
nylon
nylon net
silk
wool
SPECIAL CARE

Cost

CHEAP

muslin
nylon net
Vilene
calico
other cottons
polyester
polyester/cotton
waterproof nylon
hessian
fur fabric
metallic fibre
wool
silk
EXPENSIVE