

THE

FASHION DESIGNERS TEXT DIRECTOR

the creative use of fabrics in design

Thames & Hudson





the creative use of fabrics in design

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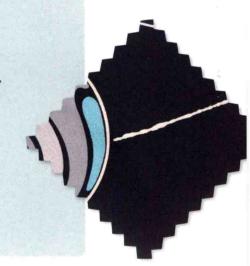
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About this book

This comprehensive guide to fashion textiles comprises four sections: an introduction to the role of the designer; an examination of the textile industry; an exhaustive directory of the textiles available to the designer; and a series of at-a-glance charts: it is a go-to reference for the designer.

Section one: Responsible design (pages 14-19)

This section is an introduction to the ecological and social responsibilities of the designer, and it includes in-depth discussion of how fashion designers can work towards a sustainable textile industry.





Section two: The language of textiles (pages 20-47)

This section discusses the role of designers in the fashion and textile industries and explains everything you need to know in order to understand and communicate with fabric producers and suppliers: it includes information on everything from fibre, yarn and fabric production to finishing processes such as dyeing and printing.

Section three: The textile directory (pages 48-287)

This comprehensive directory of textiles features everything from natural-fibre textiles such as linen and cotton to the latest technological manmade fabrics. It is organized into five colour-coded chapters intended to lead the designer quickly to the right fabric.

The icons (see page 13)

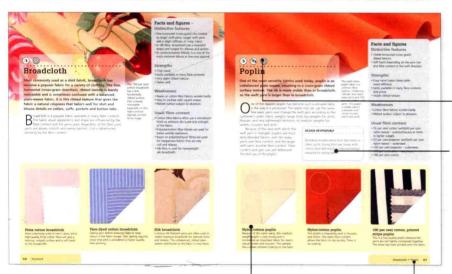
Enlargement

Where relevant, an enlarged photo of the fabric is provided.

Fashion photography

Many of the textiles in the directory are illustrated with full-colour photographs straight from the catwalk; demonstrating how fabrics are used in garments.





Textile swatches

Each textile featured includes swatches of some of the many different ways the textile can appear as a fabric.

Colour coding

Each chapter of the directory is colour coded.



Structure: form that stands away from the body, line created through shaping and seam detail.



Chapter two:

Fluidity: fabrics that flow over the body, following the human form.



Chapter three:

Ornamentation: creating details that will enhance the design.



Chapter four:

Expansion: exaggerating shapes away from the body.



Chapter five:

Compression: compacting the body, following the exact shape of the body.

Within these five categories the fabric entries are organized by weight, working progressively from top weight to bottom weight. Each textile entry includes a discussion of the textile's qualities; a list of distinctive features; strengths and weaknesses; and usual fibre content. The information is accompanied by a series of photographs of fabric samples showing the breadth of textiles available within each category, as well as relevant and inspiring images of the particular textile used for a fashion garment.

Design responsibly

Throughout the directory, where relevant, the author raises any ecological concerns, good or bad, to maintain awareness of the designer's responsibility to consider the environmental and sociological impact of using certain textiles.

The icons

Graphic icons appear on each textile entry and indicate fabric weight and structure at a glance. They also illustrate any special features of the textile, such as water resistance or a wicking action. The icons allow the designer to understand the basic qualities of a fabric without the need for a lot of reading.

Continued ▶



Facts and figures

For each fabric entry, there is a listing of facts and figures including distinctive features, strengths and weaknesses and usual fibre content.

Textile 'concepts'

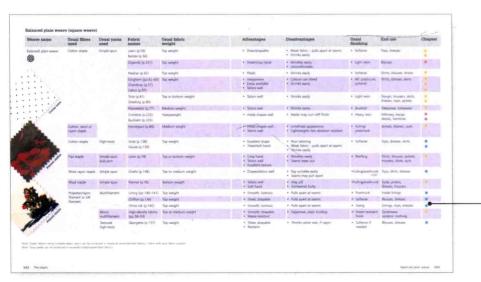
Throughout the directory, key textile and garment construction concepts, such as quilting, pleating and interlining are explained, with photographs and diagrams illustrating the idea.

Diagrams

Where a fabric has a specific technical quality, clear graphic diagrams explain how the textile is structured and how it functions.

Section four: The charts (pages 288-311)

The guides are a series of informative charts, which condense and present a lot of the information at the heart of the directory into highly functional tables. Organized by fabric structure – weave, knitted or massed fibre – they give information on fibre content, yarn type, fabric names, fabric weight, advantages and disadvantages, any finishes and end use. The charts include the icons, cross refer to directory page numbers and are colour-coded so that you can easily find the relevant chapter in the directory.



Glossary, resources and fold-out flap

At the end of the book you'll find a glossary of essential terms used in the book and listings of resources, including further reading, useful websites, and relevant organizations. Opposite page 319 there is a fold-out flap that features a handy instant reference to the icons; you can leave it open while you look at the book so that you won't need to keep referring back to the icon explanation.

Colour coding

Each fabric listed in the charts is colour-coded to correspond with the chapters in the directory.