

Labelling for textiles

Textiles sold on the EU market must comply with the [EU labelling regulation](#). In general, they must carry a label clearly identifying the full fiber composition and indicating any non-textile parts of animal origin.

Label contents

Textiles labels and marks must indicate the **fibre content**. This information must be clear, legible, in uniform lettering and separate from all other information. Information should be written in the official language(s) of the EU country where the textile will be marketed.

[Textile products which do not require a label or mark bearing the name or composition \(Annex IV\)](#)

Label composition

Products with just one fibre	the description "100%", "pure" or "all" may be used only for products exclusively composed of one fibre
Products composed of two or more textile components which have different textile fibre contents	should carry a label or marking stating the textile fibre content of each component. The composition of the main lining must always be stated.
	This labelling is not compulsory for components accounting for less than 30% of the total weight of the product.

Authorised names

The term "*cotton*" may be used only to describe the fibre obtained from the bolls of the cotton plant (*Gossypium*)
The term "*cotton linen union*" may be used only for products having a pure cotton warp and a pure flax weft, in which the percentage of flax accounts for not less than 40% of the total weight of the fabric. This name must be accompanied by the composition specification "pure cotton warp - pure flax weft"

The terms "*virgin wool*" or "*fleece wool*" may be used only for products composed exclusively of a fibre which:

- has not previously been part of a finished product
- has not been subjected to any spinning and/or felting processes other than those required in the manufacture of that product
- has not been damaged by treatment or use.

These names may be used to describe wool contained in textile fibre mixtures, provided that the wool fibre has been neither previously incorporated in a finished product nor damaged by treatment, and accounts for at least 25% of the total weight of the mixture. The full percentage composition must be given in such cases.

Labelling alternatives

Only textiles for sale to the end consumer need to be labelled. The labelling requirement for other products may be replaced or supplemented by accompanying commercial documents.

The placement of the label will depend on the type of textile product:

- [Products for which inclusive \(single\) labelling or marking is sufficient](#) (annex VI).
- Products sold by the metre need to be labelled only on the piece or roll offered for sale.
- Other products sold by units or pieces should be marked individually. However if two or more textiles with the same fibre content usually constitute an indivisible set, they might carry a single label.

Conformity Assessment

Textiles can be checked for conformity with the information supplied by the label at any stage of the marketing chain (e.g. customs clearance, distributors' warehouses, wholesalers or retailers' outlets, etc.)

For methods of analysis, see:

- [methods for the quantitative analysis of binary and ternary textile fibre mixtures](#) (annex VIII)

Further information

[EU regulation on textile names](#)

Last update on: January 2016. Please check the [Export Helpdesk](#) for updated information

