

Weaving Terms & Expressions

A [index]

B [index]

Back Binders Warp ends which hold the figure pics in place on the back of the label.

Back Coating The process on the finishing machine of coating label strips with the chemical finish

Bleached White Refers to "chalk" quality filling yarn, and dull white warp yarn.

Blind Pic Figure pics woven on back of label in "blank" areas where there is no figure on the face of the label. This illuminates light/dark striping effects or shadows on the face of the label.

Broadloom Weaves labels in blanket fabric form, and slits the broad cloth label edges with hot wires.

C [index]

Calendar Process of subjecting label strips to a higher temperature above what it was woven at, also known as heat setting.

Chalk/1 Single or 100 denier full bleached white filling yarn.

Chalk/2 Two fold or 200 denier full bleached white filling yarn.

Conventional Loom Woven edge single insertion quality, most often known as Shuttle Loom.

D [index]

Denier Yarn thickness. The higher the denier the thicker the yarn, except cotton, which is the opposite.

Density Refers to the thickness of the warp ends, or pics per inch.

Dent One space in a reed. Each space can hold one or more threads. Most fabrics are evenly spaced, i.e. two threads per dent or double-sleyed, three threads per dent or triple-sleyed.

Dents Per Inch (DPI) On a reed, the number of spaces in one inch.

Design jacquard Pattern which produces label during weaving.

DTEX Yarn thickness. Most often known as denier. Dtex equivalent to denier is approximately a number 10% higher

Double Shuttle A design technique used during weaving to cover face binders, resulting in yarn appearing solid in a given figure area.

Double Insertion a loom operation which inserts 2 yarn strands on 1 pic, woven under the same face binder. Similar to double shuttle but 2 times the pics and mm are not added to the pattern, however 2 times the amount of yarn material is used. The loom term is known as eltex.

Dull White Full bleached white Taffeta warp.

Dyeable Yarn Natural fiber cotton and rayon yarn will absorb reaction dye.

E [index]

Ears left and right fabric folded behind the label on an end fold. Also known as "lugs".

ELTEX Loom operation which inserts 2 strands of yarn on 1 pick from 2 separate cones. If one strand breaks the loom stops rather than continuing weaving with only 1 strand.

Ends Per Inch (EPI) The number of warp threads in an inch. Could also be measured as Ends Per Centimeter (EPC).

F [index]

Face Binders warp ends used to hold down the figure filling pics in place on the front of the label.

Figure All graphic elements on face of label, excluding the ground fabric. Also known as filing or tissue.

Filling Yarn inserted into warp to weave ground and figure.

Float A thread which is not caught at every intersection. Can be warp floats or weft floats. Long floats tend to catch on things and weaken the fabric

G [index]

Ground Background of label fabric made up of warp and 1st shuttle ground yarn filling.

Ground Exchange 1st shuttle ground yarn filling, exchanged with an alternative shuttle containing the same color yarn in a lower denier. Also can refer to weaving a figure filling yarn in a ground weave the same or different from the main ground weave of the label.

Ground Weave The structure of the warp and 1st shuttle

H [index]

Harness a device on a horizontal loom that holds a set of heddles. Doesn't really apply to smaller looms.

Heading The blank ground fabric space between the figure repeats of the label strip. Normally refers to the blank ground fabric which is folded under

Heat Seal A single cut label which is fused at either ends

Heat Set Process of subjecting label strips to a higher temperature above what it was woven at, also known as calendar.

Heddle Anything you put warp threads through to create a shed; rigid heddles are usually made of wood, bone or (modernly) plastic. Heddles on warp weighted looms, inkle looms, tapestry looms, and some horizontal looms are made of string. Some horizontal looms have metal or wire heddles.

High Definition A combination of fine yarns and high thread density gives a label of very high quality and durability.

Hook Part of the harness cord connected to the jacquard head.

Hot Wire Slit Process used to cut blanket label fabric on Broad Looms.

I [index]

Impact Printing A printing method that uses a hammer striking a ribbon to transfer ink onto a material.

Imprinting Technique in which copy is applied to blank or previously printed labels with a secondary printing device such as an imprinter, computer printer, or typewriter.

Intaglio Printing A method of printing in which an engraved or acid-etched printing plate (or cylinder) carries ink to the material surface. The material when pressed against the printing plate, actually squeezes into the inked grooves and, thereby, receives the image.

Inverted Face Material A face stock that has the adhesive applied to the surface normally printed upon.

J [index]

Jacquard Card One in a series of perforated cards that control the manipulation of the warp threads and determine the intricate pattern woven on the material on a Jacquard loom.

Jacquard Loom A loom for producing elaborate designs in an intricate weave

(Jac'quard weave") constructed from a variety of basic weaves.

K [index]

L [index]

M [index]

MicroType Smallest possible type size for care content text, woven on 144 Taffeta quality.

Miss Ground Removing the ground filling yarn in a specific area. Most often applied to areas where several figure yarns are concentrated and interweaving tightly.

Mixed Warp A warp that contains an alternative color of warp yarns. Most often every other end. The background and design/lettering is created from the alternating warp ends resulting in a reduced amount of total pics.

Monofilament Clear nylon warp yarn added to a warp, which is used for face binding the figure, resulting in a solid figure yarn appearance.

N [index]

Needleloom Woven edge double insertion quality.

O [index]

Overprint Process where color ink is transfer printed from paper to the label strips in a hear set machine.

P [index]

PANEL Refers to a given area of figure fill yarn on the face of the label.

PIC 1 insertion of yarn.

PIC Gear Gears on loom which control the take up and let off for a given pic per inch count. Also known as pic wheel.

PIC Wheel Same as pic gear, usually refers to one single gear.

PICs Per Inch (PPI) The number of weft threads in an inch. Could also be measured as Picks Per Centimeter (PPC).

Pressure Sensitive Adhesive applied to the back of label, which is peeled off a paper backing and adheres to a garment by applying pressure.

Q [index]

R [index]

Rapier Mechanical arm which picks up the yarn filling pic and inserts it into the warp. Also can be used to refer to a Broad Loom.

Reed A comb that goes in the warp and is used to beat the fabric as it is woven. Only applies to horizontal looms. They are usually metal today but were originally made by fixing slats of reeds between two bars at even intervals.

Reverse Satin The back of the normal Satin label is used to give more opportunities for ground colours although the satin sheen is lost.

S [index]

S twist or wale Diagonals can be characterized by the direction of the slant and whether it matches the slant in the letter S or the letter Z. "S" means the diagonal goes up to the left.

Satin Satin Labels have a smooth feel and fine lustrous appearance and have twice as many threads a Taffeta labels.

Section 1 full repeat of pattern hooks in the jacquard.

Sett The spacing of the warp threads. The reed on a horizontal loom determines this.

Selvedge Edges of label where figure filling pics are reinforced with a tight back binder to prevent fraying.

Semi-Dull A white quality warp that is not as white as a full bleached dull white. Also a filling yarn that is non bright.

Sew Space Blank ground fabric area at left/right, top/bottom, between the folds and figure, or selvedge and figure.

Shed The opening created when you pull some warp threads up and some down. Different types of looms create sheds with different methods.

Shuttle Physical part on a Shuttle Loom which inserts the filling pics. Most often used to refer to the insertion of the filling pics on pattern design.

Shuttle loom Same as conventional loom.

Single Shuttle Standard rate of filling insertion, which will allow the face binders to be visible in figure areas, as compared to double shuttle, which will not.

Sley Verb used to describe the process of pulling the warp threads through the reed.

Spaces The overall number of label strips which a loom will yield, based on the label

width.

Submerged The process on the finishing machine of completely coating the label by soaking label strips through a chemical finish solution.

T [index]

Textured refers to a yarn quality type which has the characteristics of a yarn that is fluffy, entangled, not thin, and separated in appearance.

Thread Count a sum of the warp threads plus the weft threads in one square inch or centimeter. $EPI + PPI = \text{Thread Count Per Inch}$.

Tissue refers to figure filling yarn on face of label. Same as panel.

Total PICs overall number of total ground and figure pics in a label repeat. Also known as weave in mm.

Twill Under Figure design technique performed to alleviate the figure from separating and being covered when the ground weave is reverse twill.

U [index]

Ultrasonic Slitting process where ultrasound and blade is used to cut the broad cloth, resulting in a softer edge.

Up From Ground figure on face of label, woven from the ground filling yarn.

V [index]

W [index]

Wale Parallel lines that appear when a weaving pattern is repeated. For twills, the wale is a set of diagonal lines which are very apparent if the warp and weft are two different colors. For corduroy, the wales are the "bumps" in the fabric.

Warp Warp threads are the threads that are held taut by the frame. If they're too tight they can "warp" your weaving frame.

Warp-faced A fabric that shows more warp threads than weft threads

Weft Weft threads are the threads you manipulate through the warp to make fabric. They go from right to "weft". Sometimes also called "woof".

Weft-faced A fabric that shows more weft threads than warp threads

Woven Edge Shuttle Loom or Needle Loom quality, woven on individual loom spaces, resulting in a very soft edge, since it is not hot or ultrasonically slit.

Wraps Per Inch (WPI) The number of wraps of yarn one can do in one inch around a ruler. It can be varied by whether you pack the yarn in tight or wrap loosely, but gives a rough estimate of how thick the yarn is and how close you will want your sett to be.

X [index]

Y [index]

Z [index]

Z twist or wale Diagonals can be characterized by the direction of the slant and whether it matches the slant in the letter S or the letter Z. "Z" means the diagonal goes up to the right.