

Specification for

Flax and jute fabrics for industrial use

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Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by the Textiles and Clothing Standards Policy Committee (TCM/-) to Technical Committee TCM/20, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- Association of Heavy Textile Proofers of Great Britain
- Association of Jute Spinners and Manufacturers
- Flax and Linen Association (GB)
- Made-Up Textiles Association
- Man-made Fibres Producers' Committee
- Post Office
- Textile Research Council

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Textiles and Clothing Standards Policy Committee, was published under the authority of the Board of BSI and comes into effect on 30 March 1990

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The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
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Foreword

This British Standard has been prepared under the direction of the Textiles and Clothing Standards Policy Committee. The standard has been prepared at the request of the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and other public sector purchasers and specifies requirements for jute and flax fabrics suitable for a variety of uses, with the exception of those fabrics included in the following British Standards:

Textile bags, sacks and wrappings:	BS 1133-9
Hessian sandbags:	BS 1214
Tarpaulins:	BS 3408
Lightweight salvage sheets for fire service use:	BS 3566
Interlinings:	BS 4973
Flax canvas water buckets:	BS 6170

Account has been taken of Defence Standards 83-25/Issue 2, 83-26/Issue 2 and 83-38/Issue 3 during the preparation of this standard.

Appendix A gives a list of recommended fabrics for various end-uses and Appendix B gives cross-references between the fabrics references used in this standard, MOD pattern numbers and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) stock numbers. Supplementary information for MOD contracts is given in Appendix C.

Many properties, e.g. colour, handle, appearance and details of additional design features, cannot be specified objectively and are therefore beyond the scope of this British Standard. Public sector purchasing authorities may be able to supply standard patterns which cover these properties and serve to resolve any ambiguities of description.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations. In particular, attention is drawn to Statutory Instrument 1986 No. 26 The Textile Products (Indications of Fibre Content) Regulations 1986.

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 to 10, an inside back cover and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.

1 Scope

This British Standard specifies constructional details and minimum performance requirements for fabrics of flax, jute and mixtures of flax and jute, suitable for industrial use.

NOTE The titles of the publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

2 Definitions

For the purposes of this British Standard, the definitions given in BS 6189 apply, together with the following.

2.1 batch

a definite quantity of some commodity manufactured or produced under conditions which are presumed uniform

2.2 bulk

the total length of fabric included in the contract of supply

2.3 lot

the total number of rolls of fabric included in any part delivery of the bulk

2.4 piece

any roll of fabric not greater than 75 m in length

2.5 boiling

scouring at the boil or under pressure with sodium hydroxide (caustic soda) or with lime followed by sodium carbonate (soda ash), or with a mixture of sodium hydroxide and sodium carbonate

2.6 dry chemical treatment

in the flax and jute industry, a treatment which renders a fabric water-repellent and rot-resistant without disturbing its physical properties or surface detail (i.e. without obscuring the fabric structure as would occur with a coating) while preserving the fabric's water vapour permeability. The treated fabric is essentially dry, non-tacky and flexible

NOTE Dry chemical treatments may be pigmented or non-pigmented.

3 Fabric references

The fabrics shall be allocated references, to indicate the fibre type as follows:

- F — Flax fabrics;
- FJ — Flax and jute mixed fabrics;
- J — Jute fabrics.

4 Manufacture

Flax fabrics shall be manufactured from fully retted flax. The yarns shall be dry spun except for F5, F6 and F7 yarns which shall be wet spun.

Where a residual alkali solubility is specified (see Table 1), fabrics, with the exception of F1, shall be manufactured entirely from boiled yarns. For fabric F1, the residual alkali solubility requirement in Table 1 shall apply only to those component yarns of the fabric which have been boiled.

Compounds which liberate chlorine shall not be used in the boiling process.

Fabrics shall not contain added foreign matter.

If coloured warp threads are woven into the fabric for identification purposes, they shall be at the following distances from each selvedge and in the following colours:

- a) F8; one single red thread at 12 mm;
- b) F9; one single green thread at 20 mm;
- c) F12 and F19; one double blue thread at 25 mm;
- d) F20; one double white thread at 25 mm;
- e) F13, F15, and F23; one double green thread at 25 mm.

NOTE 1 Fabrics will be supplied with coloured warp threads for identification purposes unless otherwise specified by the purchaser.

NOTE 2 Fabrics should be uniformly woven and the selvedges should be firm, straight and flat.

5 Construction and performance

5.1 General

The fabrics shall comply with Table 1.

5.2 Dyeing and colour fastness of dyed fabrics

5.2.1 General. Dyed fabrics shall be piece dyed except for F14 and F20, which shall be yarn dyed.

5.2.2 Dyestuffs. Sulphur black dyestuffs shall not be used.

NOTE There is a risk that sulphur black dyestuffs may degrade the fabric in storage.

5.2.3 Colour fastness. The fabrics shall comply with Table 2, as appropriate.

5.2.4 Water repellency. When tested in accordance with Appendix D, fabrics F3, F11, F14, F15 and F20 shall exhibit no water percolation under the surface of the cone and shall not be wet above the water level inside the cone.

5.2.5 Flammability. The fabrics shall comply with Table 3.