

NONWOVEN INTERFACING FABRICS:
A COMPARISON OF FUSIBLE AND NONFUSIBLE INTERFACING
FABRICS AFTER LAUNDERING

by

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ABSTRACT

Two fusible and two nonfusible nonwoven interfacing fabrics available commercially were laundered one, five and ten times. The physical properties at each laundry level were measured according to standard ASTM and AATCC test methods and compared to the physical properties of the fabric before washing. The parameters tested were dimensional change in the machine and cross machine direction, thickness, weight, over-all flexural rigidity, bursting strength, breaking load in the machine direction, elongation, flat abrasion resistance and flex abrasion resistance.

All of the fabrics appeared to be chemically bonded nonwoven fabrics constructed with a uni-directional web arrangement. Two of the fabrics were a blend of nylon and polyester and two of the fabrics were a blend of nylon, polyester and rayon. Both of the fusible fabrics contained a coating of polyamide fusing agent on the reverse side.

The results from the physical testing showed there were significant differences between the two fusible fabrics and the two nonfusible fabrics in all physical properties except apparent elongation where no significant difference could be detected. In addition, there were significant differences between the two types of fabrics in all parameters tested except in flex abrasion resistance. None of the fabrics excelled in every parameter; therefore, the qualities desired of an interfacing fabric should be evaluated and the most suitable fabric chosen for that application.

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