

UNDERSTANDING BASIC KNITS AND THEIR USES

Knitted fabrics are very different from weaves. Because the construction of knitted fabrics is different from that of woven fabrics, the characteristics of knitted fabrics are different from those of woven fabrics. Knitted fabrics generally wrinkle less than woven fabrics that have not had special treatment to prevent wrinkles.

Knitted fabrics stretch easily, woven fabrics do not stretch unless the fabric is made with a stretch yarn. The construction of knitted fabrics gives them the ability to adjust easily to body shape.

Double knit fabrics are a variation of weft knitting. Two sets of needles are used in this process, making it possible to knit two layers of fabric at once. The two layers are knit together as they are made. Double knit fabric will not fray or ravel.

1. **WARP** knitting is usually tighter, flatter and less elastic than weft, or stretches less. Warp is a strong knit and does not ravel. It is used in underwear, blouses, dresses, gloves.

Fabric names are tricot, raschel, Milanese.

2. **WEFT** knit had more stretch than warp knits and it may get a run in it if a stitch is broken. It is used in hosiery, pile fabrics, underwear, shirts, sweaters, dresses, sportswear, scarves and mittens.

