

FACT SHEET

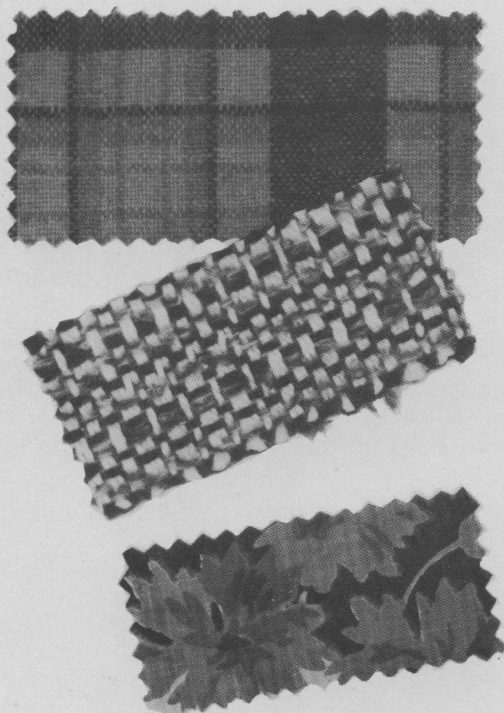
Rec D - 10,000 - 12-12-69

new - Clothing Specialists

L-863

Finishes - - Permanent Press And Soil Release

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Much has been said about the permanent press and soil release finishes. They promise big savings in time and energy, so important in today's busy world. But what does all this mean when it comes right down to the selection, use and care of such finishes?

PERMANENT PRESS — WHAT IS IT?

This fabric finish has been engineered so carefully that a crease is not removable and wrinkles do not readily form. The garment retains its shape throughout life with sharp creases, flat seams, smooth surface appearance and no seam puckering without ironing.

Permanent press differs from other easy care finishes in that permanent press is positively no ironing. Other easy care finishes such as durable

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press may need touch up ironing. An ease-of-care finish requires ironing after laundry and wearing but has good wrinkle resistance.

What to Look For

- Smoothness—no set-in wrinkles or packaging wrinkles.
- Even color—no streaks or blotches of color.
- Flat seams and details—puckered stitching lines will appear even more so after laundry.
- No odor—odor indicates excess resin or improper curing of finish.
- Fiber content of at least 50 percent polyester—gives adequate strength to the fabric.
- Good fit—new seams lines will never be as flat and creases will never be as permanent as the old, so alterations are a problem.

Care

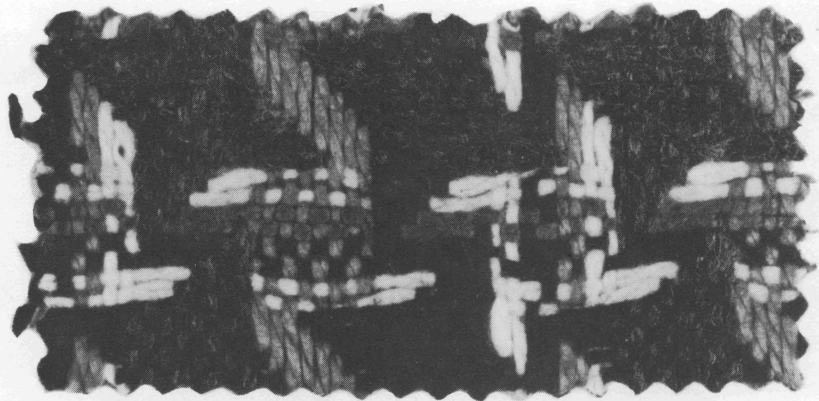
Permanent press has everything but perfect cleanability. The finish attracts oils, but is resistant to water, and detergents cannot penetrate. Because of the permanent finish, clothes tend to look fresher longer, and needed washing often is delayed.

How to Laundry

- Launder according to the most heat-sensitive fiber in the blend.
- Turn garments inside out before laundering to help prevent discoloration and wear along crease lines.
- Thoroughly tumble-dry and remove from the dryer as soon as dryer has stopped, to prevent wrinkling. Line-dry only heavy fabrics with enough weight to hang out wrinkles by themselves.
- Pretreat stains by soaking in a small amount of liquid detergent, and then launder according to instruction.
- Sponge oily stains with a safe cleaning fluid before laundering.

Sewing with Permanent Press

- A simple pattern with few seams and details gives best results.
- Preshrink zippers and interfacings before application.



- Set the machine for 10 to 12 stitches per inch and use sizes 11 or 14 needle.
- Use a regular throat plate with a small round hole rather than zig-zag plate with oval hole.
- When the zipper is inserted, ease the zipper tape to the placket area to minimize puckering.

Disadvantages of Permanent Press

Permanent press fabric may:

- Be warm because it is nonabsorbent.
- Wear out faster at seams and creases than similar products without the finish.
- Have permanent soil and staining problems.

SOIL RELEASE — WHAT IS IT?

There are two types of soil release—soil repellency and soil release. A fabric treated with a soil repellent finish resists the absorption of soils or stains, such as water and oil. Such a finish is commonly known as Zepel, Scotchgard and Dual-Action Scotchgard. A soil release finish allows the fabric to release soil in cleaning more readily than does untreated fabric. Trade names are Come Clean, X-It, Visa and Fybrite. A soil release finish does not guarantee stain release.

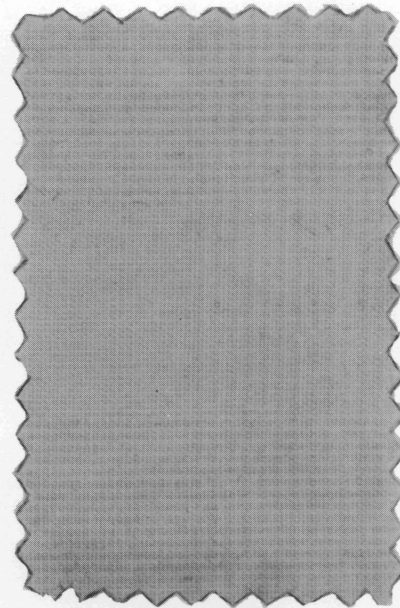
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Soil-repellent finish:

- Needs thorough rinsing after cleaning since detergents left in the fabric will interfere with soil repellency.
- Pressing is recommended after laundering to help restore stain resistance.
- Oil stains may need spot-cleaning with solvent.
- Laundering, as well as wear, reduces soil repellency.

Soil-release finish:

- Attracts water so soil is more easily washed away, but stains still need pre-spotting with detergent.



- Oily stains need to be sponged with a safe cleaning fluid before laundering.
- Any stain not removed during laundering may be heat set if ironed.
- Sponge aged stains with a full-strength detergent solution for an hour or more before laundering.

PERMANENT PRESS COMBINED WITH SOIL RELEASE

A combination of permanent press and soil release has given extra features to fabrics. Oily stains tended to be a problem with permanent press fabrics. Soil releasing finishes applied to the fabrics reduce the attraction between fibers and oily soil. The combined finishes release normal soils and stains of both the oil and water-borne variety in one wash, using the normal amounts of detergent and normal washing temperatures, and the fabrics remain permanently pressed.