

THE MODERN Textile Dictionary

by
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tion. Sometimes used on heavily soiled laundry work to speed up the removal of emulsified dirt.

FREE WOOL: Wool free from defects, especially burrs. Also means wool that has scoured to the white evenly and cleanly.

FRENCHBACK: A cloth with a corded-twill backing of different weave than the face of the cloth, which is clear finish in appearance. It is a staple worsted cloth. Back weave is of inferior yarn when compared with the face stock. The backing gives added weight, warmth, more texture and stability to the cloth. The interlacings are covered up better than in the average single cloth. Frenchbacks can be made with little extra cost to the cloth. Fabric is usually made of two warps and one filling. It is piece- or skein-dyed, weight ranges from 15 to 20 ounces per yard. Cloth has good feel and clinginess and may be used for formal or informal wear.

FRENCH-BACKED TWILL: A worsted or cotton-worsted suiting fabric made with a twill weave on the face while the filling is woven on the back in a satin order; a 1-warp, 2-filling formation.

FRENCHBACK SERGE: Men's-wear serge of two warps and one filling. Runs from 16 to 18 ounces per yard in weight, is piece-dyed, given clear or semifinish. Used much in winter suitings. Quality and price vary considerably.

FRENCH CAMBRIC: Neckwear made of cotton and linen content.

FRENCH COMB, HEILMAN COMB, CONTINENTAL COMB, RECTILINEAR COMB: This comb handles worsted-fiber stock as short $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in staple, something that other types of combers are not able to do. Staples stock of other fibers is also well handled by this comb.

A fringe of fibers is combed, followed by a breaking away of the tuft of fibers from the fringe, combing the tail end, and delivering the slub or top formation of stock. The machine is rather small and is of the upright type.

FRENCH COMBING WOOL: Fine wool with a staple of $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches; a large part of Territory-fine clip is of French combing length. The term implies stock that is ideal for "top making" as apart from staple or fine combing and Delaine wools.

FRENCH CREPE: Another name for flat crepe. See **FLAT CREPE**.

FRENCH DRAWING: This worsted operation gives the ultimate yarn a soft, cylindrical, and kindly feel. No twist is given the worsted fibers to make the fluffy yarn, and it is in this respect that it differs from the Bradford or English system of making worsted yarn.

Twist in the French system does not begin until the stock is actually being spun into yarn on the spinning frame. The French, because of the excellent methods produced by the Heilman method of combing, are able to comb fibers as short as $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. This makes it possible to obtain even, uniform, and cylindrical yarn on the spinning frame.

Also known as the Franco-Belgian system.

FRENCH FELLING: A tailoring method of holding two pieces of fabric together, such as the forepart and the facing of an edge. The parts to be joined are laid flat, edges even, right sides within. The needle is passed straight through, at right angles with the edge and close to it from underneath, upwards. The material is then turned right side out and the edge finished with stitching as desired, the felling being intended to hold the edge and prevent raveling.

FRENCH FOOT: A common type of foot on the full-fashioned stocking. The seam on the back of the stocking continues down the center of the sole. Fashion marks show in the sole of the stocking near the heel, and also at the toe. Fashion marks in the toe show the characteristic diamond point, the distinguishing mark of genuine full-fashioned hosiery.

FRENCH HEM: A finish made by turning the raw edges to the wrong

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