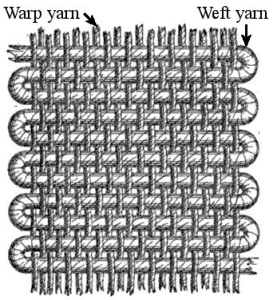
THE STITCHERY

Woven Fabric VS. Knit Fabric

Fabrics, both woven and knit, are made of fibres. **Fibres** are the basic raw materials in textiles, which can be natural or man-made. The **face** or **right side** refers to the side of the fabric that is intended to be visible on the finished product. This occurs in both woven and knit fabrics.

Woven Fabric

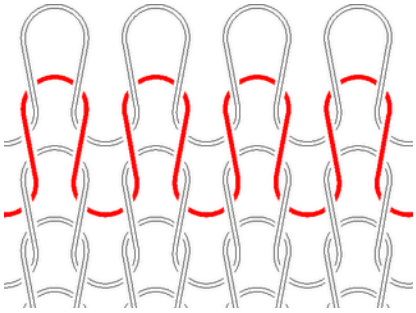
The terms **warp** and **weft** are used in reference to woven textiles. Warp and weft are the technical terms for the two types of thread used to create a finished woven product. The warp is the tightly stretched lengthwise core of a fabric, while the weft is woven between the warp threads to create various patterns.



Even-weave fabric is any woven fabric where the warp and the weft threads are the same size

Knit Fabric

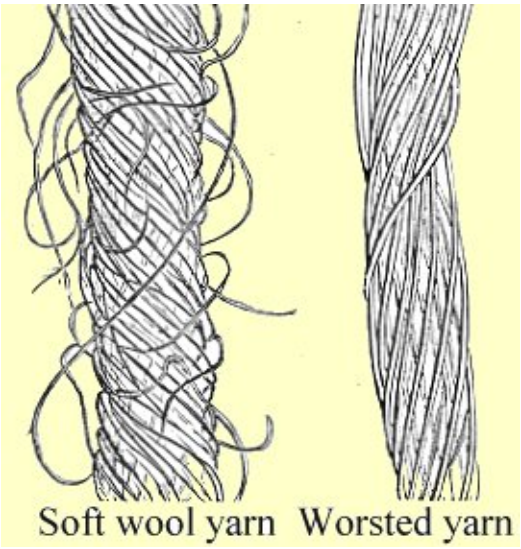
Knitting is one of the several ways to turn thread or yarn into fabric. Unlike woven fabric, knitted fabric consists entirely of parallel courses of yarn. The courses are joined to each other by interlocking loops in which a short loop of one piece of yarn is wrapped over another piece. Knitting can be done by hand, but in the textile industry, knitted fabrics are made on machine.



Two types of yarn used in knitted fabrics

Worsted spun: Tight compact yarns spun from combed long wool fibres to produce a strong, even and smooth product.

Woolen spun: Loosely twisted yarns spun from short fibres resulting in a bulky yarn with a hairy surface.



Synthetic Fabrics

The invention of synthetic fabric has changed the textile industry. Fibres that are more numerous and diverse than any found in nature, are now routinely created in the industry's laboratories. Fibre engineers can combine, modify and tailor fibres in ways far beyond the performance limits of natural fibre drawn from the silkworm cocoon, grown in the fields, or spun from the fleece of animals.

Synthetic fabrics are made from fibres that are either completely made from in-organic materials or organic materials combined with chemicals. Synthetic fabrics have numerous properties with the purpose for which it is produced and finished. Some are lightweight with ultra sheer and others are moisture wicking and fast drying. Fabric has both physical properties and chemical structure that makes it rough or soft, easy to clean or easily stained, always wrinkled or neatly presses. The possibilities really are endless!