










Components

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When creating a textile product, various **components** can be used with fabric to...

- **enhance** or **embellish**
- add **functionality**.

You should consider the end-user when selecting components, e.g. hook and loop fastenings are easier for young children to use than buckles or buttons.

Component	Description
Dyes 	Dyes are used to colour yarns or fabrics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural fibres – reactive dyes and acid dyes • Synthetic fibres – disperse dyes.
Inks 	There is a range of natural and synthetic inks used in textiles. They are normally used to draw onto the fabric.
Paints 	Different types of paint are available for... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creating special effects, e.g. 3D textures • painting specific fabrics, e.g. silk.
Elastics 	Elastics are used in textiles for different purposes, including... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to hold fabrics in place and to create flexible openings • for embroidery and special effects.
Threads 	There is a range of sewing machine threads available. You can select threads depending on the fabric and the end use of the product. Hand embroidery threads are used for decorative work .
Knitting Yarns 	Knitting yarns are available, for hand and machine knitting, in different weights and thicknesses . They can be made of different fibres , including wool and polyester.
Fastenings 	There are a range of fastenings that can be used, including buttons , zip hook and eye fasteners, press-studs , poppers, toggles, parachute clips and hook and loop fastening, e.g. Velcro®.
Bindings 	Bindings are available in different colours and are usually described as ' narrow fabrics '. They can be used in a decorative and / or functional way.
Interfacings 	Interfacings are used to reinforce or add stability to fabrics. They are often applied using heat , i.e. they are an example of a fusible material.