



THE WOOLMARK COMPANY

# WOOLMARK SPECIFICATION

WOOL FIBRE QUALITY

## SPECIFICATION F-6

Effective 1 January 2016

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## **SPECIFICATION F-6: 2016**

### **WOOL FIBRE QUALITY**

**This Specification must be read in conjunction with International Wool Textile Organisation (IWTO) Regulation 8 (Regulations for the Fabric Labelling Code of Practice Relating to ‘Super S’ Descriptions) and associated documents. The Super S scheme is owned and registered by IWTO and administered by The Woolmark Company. This specification relates to the use of the Super S fabric descriptors in conjunction with the Woolmark label.**

#### **PRODUCTS**

- **‘Wool fibre quality’** (using the categories as defined in the IWTO **‘Super S’** Code of Practice) claims may be applied to all **Woolmark** branded woven or knitted apparel products (including fully fashioned garments), dyed hand knitting yarns or finished fabric meeting the criteria detailed in this specification and in the relevant Woolmark product specification.
- ‘Wool fibre quality’ claims (using ‘Super S’ categories) may be used on products manufactured from Pure New Wool containing up to 5% decorative yarn.
- The accepted fibre quality claims, fibre content restrictions, and criteria detailed above and in the following tables are those adopted by IWTO (see IWTO Regulation 8). Any change to the IWTO Regulation and/or Code of Practice shall be immediately reflected in the relevant parts of this specification.

SUPER S

### **'Wool fibre quality' criteria**

Products must meet all Woolmark requirements (see Woolmark product specifications AW-1: Flat woven, pile woven and pressed felt apparel, AK-1: Knitted apparel products, SF-1: Knitted fabrics, SF-2: Flat woven, pile woven and pressed felt apparel fabrics or SY-1: Yarns, as appropriate).

<b>Super S claim</b>	<b>Test method</b>	<b>Requirements</b>
Wool content	TM155	Product must meet requirements of the most recent version of IWTO Regulation 8
Maximum mean fibre diameter	IWTO-08 (projection microscope)	As prescribed in the latest edition of the IWTO Code of Practice for 'Super S' and IWTO-08

### **NOTES**

1. The 'Super S' categories as at 1 July 2013 are attached as an appendix to this Specification. Should IWTO change these categories, the changes will also be deemed to apply for products covered by this specification.
2. Claims associated with quality numbers greater than 'Super 250s' are not permitted. Claims associated with quality numbers less than 'Super 80s' are not permitted.
3. For woven fabric and knitted products, use the sampling technique described in the IWTO Code of Practice.
4. The fibre quality ('Super S') classification is allocated to a given product on the basis of the mean wool fibre diameter requirement using the measurement technique described in the IWTO Code of Practice.
5. The fibre diameter requirement is applicable at the final product stage. It is known that the mean wool fibre diameter can increase during textile processing owing to preferential loss of finer fibre. It is not known how much change will occur for any particular set of circumstances but in order to meet the end product requirement it is advised that wools with diameters of approximately 0.5–1.0µm lower than the end-product related minimum be chosen at the raw material stage.
6. When carrying out quality control testing to ensure that a given product quality continues to meet the initial classification allocated to that product quality, no measurement tolerance is allowed.

## APPENDIX

**Table 1: Limits to mean fibre diameter for IWTO defined 'Super S' categories**

<b>Super S claim</b>	<b>Maximum mean fibre diameter (µm)</b>
Super 80s	19.75
Super 90s	19.25
Super 100s	18.75
Super 110s	18.25
Super 120s	17.75
Super 130s	17.25
Super 140s	16.75
Super 150s	16.25
Super 160s	15.75
Super 170s	15.25
Super 180s	14.75
Super 190s	14.25
Super 200s	13.75
Super 210s	13.25
Super 220s	12.75
Super 230s	12.25
Super 240s	11.75
Super 250s	11.25

Source: IWTO Regulations for the Fabric Labelling Code of Practice Relating to 'Super S' Descriptions, as at 1 July 2013

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