

FABRIC FINISHES

L.No	Title of Lesson	SKILLS	Activity
11	Fabric Finishes	Critical Thinking and Creative Thinking Problem Solving and Decision Making	Importance and types of fabric finishes and dyeing

Summary

The fabric which comes out of a loom is very dirty, stained, wrinkled, dull, rough, grey or off-white in colour. They are known as **grey fabrics**. No one buys a fabric in this condition even if sold at a low cost. Therefore fabrics are given various finishes to make grey fabric lustrous, wrinkle and stain free, wider, colourful, good texture and print. This makes the fabric more useful and suitable for use. **A finish is a treatment given to a fabric, to change its appearance, handling/ touch or performance. Its purpose is to make the fabric more suitable for its end use.** It improves the feel and touch. These finished fabrics lure the consumers to buy them even if they are costly.

There are two categories of finishes—**basic** and **special** finishes. They can be further classified into three types:

- Functional
- Performance
- Mechanical and chemical in nature.

These are chosen as per the use of the fabric and the type of the fibre.

The process of producing colours and designs on a fabric is called **dyeing** and **printing** respectively. Dyes and printing makes the fabric beautiful and gives variety in design and colour. Dyes are divided into two major categories—**natural** and **synthetic** dyes. Dyes can be applied at different stages such as the fibre stage, the yarn stage or the fabric stage. All these stages give uniform colour. Colour is not uniform when fabric is dyed at garment stage.

Principal Points

Classification of finishes as per function

Finishes	Types	Process involved	Effect on fabric
Basic / Aesthetic	Scouring/Cleaning	With warm water and soap	Improves whiteness, absorbent
	Bleaching	Chemical: Hydrogen peroxide-protein fibre Sodium hypochloride- cotton fibre	Whiteness
	Starching	Soaking in starch	Stiff, heavy, shiny, smooth
	Calendering	Industrial ironing	Remove wrinkles
Functional / Special	Pre-shrinking	Dipping in water	No further shrinkage
	Mercerization	Sodium hydroxide	Strong, lustrous, absorbent
	Parchmentisation	Use of mild acid	Permanent stiffness
	Wash n wear		Wrinkle resistant
	Dyeing and printing	Natural and chemical colours	Variety in colours and design

Build Your Understanding

There are various types of dyeing and printing techniques:

- Tie and dye
- Batik
- Block printing
- Screen printing
- Roller printing
- Stencil printing

Did You Know?

Did you know nature offers us many sources of dyes? Can you guess some? Some of them are mentioned below:

Dye	Source	Effect	Type
Natural dye	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetable • Animal • Mineral 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eco-friendly • Dull colour • Not fast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turmeric • Henna • Madaar • Indigo
Synthetic dye	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemical 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollutes • Allergic • Fast and bright colours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct • Basic • Acid • Disperse • Vat

Maximize your marks

- Read carefully the words and sentences in bold in the module
- Do some activity related to fabrics

What's Important to Know?

Finishes as per performance and nature

Finishes	Durability	Example/Effects
Temporary	Run off with one wash	Starch, blue
Semi- durable	Run off with several wash	Bleaching, dyeing
Durable	Not so permanent	Wrinkle resistant, permanent pleats
Permanent / chemical/ wet	Entire life	Water proofing
Mechanical/ dry	Do not last long	Beating, brushing, calendering, filling

Extend Your Horizon

Design three samples of handkerchief using different types of dyeing or printing techniques.

Evaluate Yourself

1. Why is it advisable to buy sanforised fabrics?
2. Differentiate between Patola dyeing and dyeing?
3. What is the basic difference between dyeing and printing?
4. You need a raincoat, what finish will you look for?