

Materials Glossary

Calvin Klein has always stood for confidence, empowerment and timeless design. Our approach to inclusion and sustainability is inspired by those same values. We are focusing on reducing our impact while improving the lives of our associates and the communities where we operate.

This Glossary provides descriptions of several of the environmentally preferred materials we use which you may see noted on our on-product hangtags.

Plant-Based Natural Fibers

ORGANICALLY GROWN COTTON

Organically grown cotton is grown on farms which have obtained third-party certification for practices meeting organic farming criteria. These methods can include avoiding chemical pesticides, chemical fertilizers, and genetically modified seeds (more details: [Textile Exchange](#)).

How is it verified? Organically grown cotton is certified to standards such as GOTS (Global Organic Textile Standard) and OCS (Organic Content Standard).

TRANSITIONAL COTTON

Transitional cotton, also known as in-conversion cotton, is grown using organic farming methods during the period it takes the farmer to receive the organic certification. This process of transition takes approximately three years, or until the land qualifies to be certified organic under national or international organic standards (more details: [Textile Exchange](#)).

How is it verified? Transitional cotton is certified to standards such as GOTS (Global Organic Textile Standard) and OCS (Organic Content Standard).

RECYCLED COTTON

Recycled cotton is made from pre-consumer (e.g. waste created during manufacturing) or post-consumer (e.g. used textiles) cotton waste. Recycled cotton reduces the need for harvesting new cotton fibers (more details: [Textile Exchange](#)).

How is it verified? Recycled cotton is certified to standards such as GRS (Global Recycled Standard) and RCS (Recycled Claim Standard).

REGENERATIVE COTTON

Regenerative cotton is grown using region-specific farming methods that seek to improve soil health. Regenerative farming methods are selected at each location based on context, climate, and soil type. These methods may include conservation tillage, use of cover crops to reduce soil erosion, irrigation efficiency, and minimizing the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides (more details: [Regenagri](#)).

How is it verified? Regenerative cotton is certified to standards such as Regenagri.

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Animal Fibers

At Calvin Klein, we prioritize using recycled materials when possible, and source materials of animal origin in accordance with our [Animal Welfare Policy](#) which addresses animal welfare and species conservation.

RECYCLED LEATHER

Recycled leather re-uses existing leather materials, maintaining the original structure of the material. As an example, this leather can be sourced from disassembled garments and re-sewn into new products.

How is it verified? Recycled leather is certified to standards such as GRS (Global Recycled Standard) and RCS (Recycled Claim Standard).

RECYCLED LEATHER FIBER

Recycled leather fiber is created by reprocessing leather materials into a new material. Made from leather particles, small pieces or powder derived from pre-consumer (e.g. manufacturing facilities) or post-consumer leather (e.g. used leather products) are combined with synthetic binders to form a new material as a bonded leather.

How is it verified? Recycled leather fibers are certified to standards such as GRS (Global Recycled Standard) and RCS (Recycled Claim Standard).

LEATHER WORKING GROUP

Calvin Klein is a member of Leather Working Group, a multi-stakeholder organization that sets environmental standards against which leather manufacturers are independently audited and certified. (more details: [Leather Working Group](#)).

RECYCLED WOOL AND RECYCLED CASHMERE

Recycled wool and cashmere are created by reprocessing existing materials. The materials are often sourced from manufacturing waste such as fabric cuttings or used textiles, reducing the need for sourcing new fibers (more details on recycled wool: [Textile Exchange](#)).

How is it verified? Recycled wool and recycled cashmere are certified to standards such as GRS (Global Recycled Standard) and RCS (Recycled Claim Standard).

CERTIFIED WOOL

Certified wool fibers are sourced from sheep farms certified to uphold animal and land management requirements (more details: [Textile Exchange](#)).

How is it verified? Certified wool use materials certified to standards such as RWS (Responsible Wool Standard).

CERTIFIED DOWN

Certified down and feathers are sourced from duck or goose farms independently certified to uphold animal welfare requirements (more details: [Textile Exchange](#)).

How is it verified? Certified Down and Feathers are certified to standards such as RDS (Responsible Down Standard).

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Synthetics

RECYCLED SYNTHETICS: POLYESTER, NYLON, ACRYLIC AND ELASTANE

Recycled synthetics, such as polyester, nylon, acrylic, and elastane are created by reprocessing and re-extrusion of existing materials to make new fibers, aiming to reduce the demand for virgin fossil-based raw materials. Pre-consumer inputs generally come from excess or waste material from the manufacturing process, while post-consumer inputs come from items already used by consumers: for example, certain recycled polyester fibers can be produced from used plastic bottles or textiles.

How is it verified? Recycled polyester, recycled nylon, recycled acrylic, and recycled elastane are certified to standards such as GRS (Global Recycled Standard) and RCS (Recycled Claim Standard).

RECYCLED TPR

Recycled Thermoplastic Rubber (TPR) is created by reprocessing existing rubber materials, aiming to reduce the demand for virgin fossil-based raw materials.

How is it verified? Recycled TPR is certified to standards such as GRS (Global Recycled Standard) and RCS (Recycled Claim Standard).

RECYCLED PU

Recycled polyurethane (PU) is created by reprocessing existing materials, aiming to reduce the demand for virgin fossil-based raw materials. It can be made with both pre-and post-consumer materials that are melted into new resin or shredded, ground and then blended with a bonding agent.

How is it verified? Recycled polyurethane (PU) is certified to standards such as GRS (Global Recycled Standard) and RCS (Recycled Claim Standard).

REPREVE® AND REPREVE OUR OCEAN®

REPREVE® is a multi-waste source platform of branded synthetic fibers made from recycled materials including recycled bottles, textiles, or yarn waste. For REPREVE polyester, this means leveraging plastic bottles for diversion from waste streams to recycling to turn them into a performance yarn. REPREVE Our Ocean® is recycled polyester utilizing plastic bottles collected from areas within 50km of coastlines lacking formal waste management systems. Backed by U-TRUST® verification and FiberPrint® tracer technology, all products can be tested and verified at any point in the supply chain (more details: [REPREVE](#)).

How is it verified? REPREVE® polyester is certified to GRS (Global Recycled Standard) or RCS (Recycled Content Standard).

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Man-Made Cellulosics

Viscose, Lyocell, Modal

LENZING ECOVERO

LENZING™ ECOVERO™ viscose fibers are a branded viscose fiber made by Lenzing AG. Derived from wood pulp sourced from certified or controlled responsibly managed forests, their production process reduces the generation of greenhouse gas emissions and water pollution by up to 50% when compared to conventional viscose (more details: [Ecovero](#)).

How is it verified? LENZING™ ECOVERO™ fibers are produced with a molecular marker. This special identification technology ensures the authenticity and traceability of LENZING™ ECOVERO™ fibers even after processing into textile products.

TENCEL MODAL

TENCEL™ modal is a branded modal fiber manufactured by Lenzing AG. Fibers are made from wood pulp sourced from responsibly managed forests. Lenzing has been recognized as one of the best performing companies worldwide in Canopy's Hot Button Report in 2025 (more details: [Tencel](#)).

How is it verified? TENCEL™ Modal fibers are produced with a molecular marker. This special identification technology ensures the authenticity and traceability of TENCEL™ Modal fibers even after processing into textile products.

TENCEL LYOCCELL

TENCEL™ Lyocell is a branded lyocell fiber created by Lenzing AG. The fibers are created from wood pulp sourced from certified or controlled sources. Lenzing has been recognized as one of the best performing companies worldwide in Canopy's Hot Button Report in 2025. TENCEL™ Lyocell is produced in a closed loop process which recovers and reuses 99.8% of the solvent, resulting in close-to-zero wastage (more details: [Tencel](#)).

How is it verified? TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers are produced with a molecular marker. This special identification technology ensures the authenticity and traceability of TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers even after processing into textile products.

CIRCULOSE

CIRCULOSE® is a recycled raw material that is used to produce regenerated fibers such as viscose and lyocell. It is made with recycled end-of-life cotton rich textiles in a process using 100% renewable energy (source: [Circulose](#)).

How is it verified? Circulose® is certified to RCS (Recycled Claim Standard).