



The Fairchild Books

DICTIONARY *of*
TEXTILES *S*

8th edition

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B L O O M S B U R Y

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Fairchild Books
An Imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing Inc.

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An imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing Inc

1385 Broadway
New York
NY 10018
USA

50 Bedford Square
London
WC1B 3DP
UK

www.bloomsbury.com

Fifth edition published 1967

Sixth edition published 1979

Seventh edition published 1996

This edition first published 2014. Reprinted 2014 (twice)

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

A catalog record for this book is available from the Library of Congress
2013938686

ISBN: HB: 978-1-6090-1535-0

Typeset by Precision Graphics

Cover Design Carly Grafstein

Printed and bound in the United States of America

interlacings and emphasized by leaving some dents empty in the reed.

performance property Any chemical or physical characteristic of a textile that is evaluated during wear testing.

performance specification List of requirements to be met by a product intended for a particular end use. There are standard ASTM performance specifications for fabrics to be used in many types of apparel, furnishings, and other end products. They are used as the basis for acceptance testing and quality control.

perigon hair See CATTAIL.

perini fiber 1. Formerly applied to fibers obtained from hibiscus plants, including those such as ambari, roselle, and majagua. See also KENAF. 2. A bast fiber obtained from *Canhamo braziliensis* perino in Brazil. Possesses some of the qualities of flax and has been suggested as a substitute.

periodicity Regularly recurring defect or change in size in a yarn or fabric.

perished staple A weak cotton staple with strength reduced through exposure to any destructive element.

perkan See BARACAN 1.

Perkin, Sir William Henry English chemist and producer of the first synthetic dye, mauveine, in 1856. See BASIC DYE, MAUVE.

Perkin's violet See MAUVE.

perle A finishing process used on woolen dress fabrics that raises the nap in the form of dots. Derived from the French word *perlé*, meaning "resembling pearls."

perle cotton See PEARL COTTON.

perlin (British usage) Scottish lace. See BUNT LACE.

Perlok process A process whereby bundles of continuous filament tow are converted through breaking or cutting into a top or sliver. It was the basis of several other TOW CONVERTING systems. Originally the tow employed in the process was rayon, later acetate, acrylic, nylon, and polyester fiber. Developed by R.H. Hood Company and Turbo Machine Company.

Permafresh® A trademark for a thermosetting reactant that is applied to cellulosic and blend fabrics to contribute wrinkle resistance and minimum care. This finish is applied from an aqueous solution together with a catalyst and, when dry, the fabric is cured to set the finish.

Permanent Care Labeling Requirement of the Federal Trade Commission that wearing apparel must carry

permanently affixed labels giving instructions for care. "Permanent" means the label will stay legible throughout its useful life whether attached or printed directly on the product. See CARE INSTRUCTION, CARE LABELING OF TEXTILE WEARING APPAREL.

permanent deformation the net long-term change in a dimension of a specimen after deformation and relaxation under specified conditions (ASTM). Synonyms: *nonrecoverable deformation*, *permanent growth*, *permanent set*, *secondary creep*.

permanent finish A misnomer, because in most cases finishes are not completely permanent. The words *resistant* or *durable*, which are approved by the Federal Trade Commission, are more accurate.

permanent growth Synonym: PERMANENT DEFORMATION.

permanent press See DURABLE PRESS.

permanents 1. (British usage) Piece-dyed, lightweight cotton cloth often given a lustrous finish. 2. Lightweight cotton fabric that is fast dyed.

permanent set See PERMANENT DEFORMATION.

permanent starchless finish A finishing process that impregnates a fabric with a stiffening material that is not dissolved in laundering. The cloth returns to its original crispness when ironed.

permanis cotton A medium length, wiry cotton grown in Pernambuco, Brazil.

permeability The ability of a material to allow gases or liquids to flow through it.

permo British dress goods made with hard twist, two-ply warp (one singles yarn of cotton and the other of mohair). The mohair warp, because of the soft twist, is too weak for weaving and the cotton yarn is used to give the requisite strength. The woven fabric is carbonized to remove the cotton and the result is a lustrous fabric with a crepe effect. Synonyms: *mohlaine*, *resilda*.

pernambuco cotton A strong, wiry, light-gold Brazilian cotton, obtained from *Gossypium peruvianum*. Cultivated in and around Pernambuco, the part for which it is named.

pernambuco wood See BRAZILWOOD.

pernam cotton A peruvian cotton obtained from *Gossypium peruvianum* in the Andes Mountain regions.

pernyl A wild silkworm of China, *Antheraea pernyi*. It feeds on oak leaves and produces a large yellowish or brownish cocoon.

was used. Done with water colors instead of pigments in oil, or varnish.

porcupine A toothed cylinder or shaft that draws completed lace fabric away from the production zone of a lace machine.

porgee A coarse, plain weave silk fabric made on hand looms in India.

poromeric [pohr'-oh-mair-ik] Porous sheet material having a microscopic open-celled structured membrane that allows water vapor to transfer but not liquid. The material typically is made of polyester with micro pores to permit the transport of perspiration. See ULTRASUEDE®, GORE-TEX®.

porosity The ratio of the volume of air or void contained within the boundaries of a material to the total volume (solid matter plus air or void) expressed as a percentage (ASTM). See AIR CONDITIONING FABRIC.

port cabello cotton A variety of cotton from Venezuela.

∞porte de paris (French) In the 17th- and 18th-century referred to a variety of fabrics including moquette, SATIN DE BRUGES, and bergamo. The term came into trade usage about 1650 from the city where these fabrics were sold. See also BERGAMO 2., MOUQUETTE 3.

porter yarn A two-ply warp yarn used for gunny sacks. See GUNNY CLOTH.

portland sheep A variety of DORSET SHEEP raised in Portland, England.

porto rico cotton See PUERTO RICO COTTON.

port phillip wool Wool that is grown in the southern part of Victoria, Australia and the shipped through the ports of Melbourne and Geelong. Port Phillip is a large bay on the southern coast of Victoria between these two cities.

POS Acronym for POINT OF SALE.

posahuanco A colorful, handloomed cotton shirt fabric used in Central America and Mexico. Used as a wrap-around skirt in blue, red, and purple; dyes are from natural sources.

positive control Mechanically driven (as opposed to passive) control of such textile machine motions as yarn winding.

positive feed Provision of predetermined lengths of yarn to the needles in a weft knitting machine.

postboarding Boarding hosiery after dyeing to assure durable shape setting. Presently, virtually synonymous with BOARDING.

post cure Synonym for DEFERRED CURE.

poster cloth A bleached or greige drill cloth given a smooth-faced, heavily starched, back-filled finish. Sometimes impregnated with pyroxylin to make it weather and vermin proof. Uses: some forms of outdoor advertising posters and displays.

poster rug A rag rug with landscape, floral, or other patterns and with borders in several colors.

postin A napped woolen fabric in plain weave or twill made in West Bengal and Bangladesh. Uses: lining.

pot A measure of length, generally 10,000 yds. (9,144 m), which is used for pieces of linen that are sewn together in these units prior to bleaching.

pota As used in the Solomon Islands, a species of PANDANUS used for fine mats.

potassium chromate Potassium salt used as a mordant in dyeing and printing.

potassium permanganate [puh-tas'-ee-uhm puh-man'-gan-ayt] Oxidizing agent, which is traditionally used for STRIPPING dyed woolen and worsted fabrics. Recently, potassium permanganate solutions have been used to impregnate pumice stones that are used for STONE WASHING garments to produce effects variously referred to as *acid washed*, *ice washed*, *white washed*.

potassium soap See SOAP.

pot box See CAKE.

pot eye Doughnut-shaped ceramic disk used as a guide for yarn or for fabric in rope form.

pot lace Synonym for POTTEN KANT.

pot spinning One method of making viscose process rayon. The rayon yarn is deposited on the inside of a container ("pot") that revolves at high speed. The centrifugal force causes the yarn to form a CAKE on the wall of the pot. It is removed after reaching a thickness of about 1 in. (2.5 cm), generally desulfured and washed in this form, and then shipped to textile mills for winding onto cones or beams as needed.

potten kant Characteristic pattern of Antwerp lace, consisting of a pot or vase and conventionalized flowers. Originally, the pattern pictured the Annunciation. Synonym: *point kant*. See ANTWERP LACE 1.

pottery duck An army-type duck made with a fine, even weave. Used to filter clays in the manufacture of pottery. See DUCK.

potting (British usage) Wet decating. See DECATING 1.