



WEBINAR

SOURCING THE BEST COTTON PRODUCTS: Understanding and Overcoming Skewing

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. **If I'm making a woven dress with princess seams, the skewing isn't always evident because the panel widths are small. Will the garment twist after care?**

Yes, the garment will twist if there is any skew remaining in the fabric. However, as indicated in the webinar, the longer a seam, the more inches it displaces at the same percent skew. With the dress, the panels skew, but it is not as evident.

2. **What skew level should we expect for RS fabrics?**

The unofficial industry 'want list' skew is less than five percent. RS and OE would behave the same. Remember, the tighter the knitted stitch the lower the twist. The lower the twist in the yarn, the lower the twist in the fabric.

3. **Is there an industry skew percent standard for 100% cotton? Such as x% max skew?**

Not a standard, just a "wish" of five percent.

4. **When the fabric has good skew result after HL, but it torques or twist when this pass into the quarter turn of the BRB machine. What could be the problem in the fabric and how can be fixed?**

If you are referring to the standard tubular-stamp cutting system for knit goods, then the direction the tube is quarter turned can have some impact on the skew. If the tube has low skew and it is deflected away from that, then it can skew to some degree. It is common for the fabric to be turned in the direction it wants to skew to better address the skew issue. Tension on the fabric before the stamp cutting can have an effect.

5. **Skewing in general, can it directly be improved by spinning different blends of cotton species?**

The use of some PE can slightly improve the skew; however, the fabric properties will change.

6. **How can I reduce the skew in denim fabric (jeans)?**

Denim fabrics are pre-skewed in the fabric finishing process prior to cut-and-sew. Sometimes it is not pre-skewed enough and other times can be over 'pre-skewed' causing it to skew in the other direction. The fabric must be pretested for skew to determine how much needs to be done at the pre-skewing step. Another concern is that since the garment finisher uses tumble drying which will complete the 'skew-relaxation' of the fabric, the problem shows up at retail instead of in the consumer's home.

7. **Can we reduce with the sewing process?**

Even if the fabric is cut on the bias to not appear to have skew, as soon as the consumer washes and tumble dries the garment, skew will be realized. For example, a knit stripe may be cut on the bias to appear to not have skew or bias. However, when washed, the side seams will still skew if the total skew has not been removed in dyeing and finishing.