## SOURCING DIRECTORIES • FIBER



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McKay & Company Inc	mckaycotton.com			<b>√</b>				<b>√</b>			
Minifibers Inc	minifibersinc.com		1								
Norman W. Paschall Company, Inc.	pashall.com	<b>√</b>									
RSM Co.	rsmcompany.com	<b>√</b>						<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	
Tintoria Piana U.S.,Inc.	tintoriapiana.com								1		
Wildwood Cotton Technologies	trucottonfibers.com				<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			

## **DEFINITIONS • FIBER**

**Comber Noils** | Shorter cotton fibers (under 1/2 inch) that are removed during the combing process in preparation for yarn manufacturing.

**Cotton Flock** | Also known as milled cotton fiber or cotton powder, flock is manufactured by a unique process that reduces fiber length from one inch down to microns.

Linters | After the ginning process removes the virgin cotton fiber from the seed, there are still short fibers called linters that remain attached to the seed. The linters are removed from the seeds by delinting machines. Most mills run the seed through twice, producing "first-cut" and "second-cut" linters. First-cut linters consist of longer, more resilient fibers and are used in many nonwoven products. Second-cut linters consist of shorter fibers and are used to produce high-grade bond paper and as a source of cellulose in the chemical industry.

**Mechanically Cleaned Fiber** | This is virgin cotton that has gone through an additional mechanical cleaning process. This process uses no chemicals. Like virgin cotton these fibers are naturally hydrophobic and oleophilic.

**Recycled Fiber** | Recycled or reclaimed cotton fiber is short waste fiber that has been reclaimed. Sources include remnants from apparel cutting rooms (pre-consumer) and apparel and other home textiles that have reached the end of their useful lives (post-consumer). Both are transformed back into fiber for producing new products.

Reginned Lint | A by-product of the ginning process is reginned lint. After the ginning process, not only do you have cotton seed, cotton fiber, and motes, there is also a considerable amount of gin "trash" (all natural plant matter) that is separated out. Gin "trash" is reginned a number of times to clean and separate any remaining short, cotton fiber. Reginned lint can be used on its own to manufacture nonwovens or can be blended. Like reginned motes, reginned lint is very short in length and inexpensive.

**Reginned Motes** | Another by-product of the ginning process is reginned motes. Motes are small, immature seeds with fiber attached. The fiber can be removed from the motes by a delinting machine, which functions much like the ginning process. Reginned motes are ideal in nonwoven manufacturing processes that desire short, inexpensive fibers.

**Scoured and Bleached Fiber** | This type of cotton is most commonly used in nonwoven applications today. Virgin cotton fiber is scoured to remove the waxes and pectins and then bleached (no chlorine is used) to give it a pure white color and maximize absorbency. Because of its purity, scoured and bleached cotton is commonly found in cotton balls, pads, swabs, wipes, feminine hygiene, and other health and medical products.

**Virgin Fiber** | Cotton in its most natural form is called virgin fiber. It has only been ginned. Ginning is the mechanical process that separates the fiber from the seed. Virgin fiber has a creamy white color. Due to Mother Nature's natural waxes and pectins, it is naturally hydrophobic and oleophilic, which allows for oil absorption, while repelling water.

Find out more on fiber processing at CottonWorks.com/Technical





what will you create?

Find out more at CottonWorks.com/Sourcing or reach out to Nonwovens@CottonInc.com

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