



THE WOOLMARK COMPANY

WOOLMARK SPECIFICATION

RECYCLED WOOL

SPECIFICATION RW-1

Effective 1 May 2024

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SPECIFICATION RW-1: 2024

RECYCLED WOOL

PRODUCTS

- **Recycled Wool** may be applied to all **Woolmark**, **Woolmark Blend** or **Wool Blend** certified apparel and footwear products that meet the criteria detailed in this specification.
- Recycled Wool must be present in the product. The product can be made of pure recycled wool or a blend of recycled wool with new wool. In all cases, the minimum percentage of recycled wool content shall be met.
- Products made of new wool is not covered by this specification. The applicable Fibre specifications for new wool products are F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4 (for **Woolmark**), F-5 (for **Woolmark Blend**) and F-7 (for **Wool Blend**).

Recycled Wool Criteria

Products must meet all requirements in Woolmark Specifications AK-1: Knitted apparel products, AW-1: Woven apparel products, FW-1: Wool-containing footwear products, SY-1: Yarns, SF-1: Knitted fabrics or SF-2: Woven fabrics.

Property	Test method	Requirements
Wool content (%: minimum)	155	Woolmark: 100% Woolmark Blend: 50% Wool Blend: 30% <i>Important: See notes below</i>
Mean wool fibre diameter (µm: absolute maximum)	22, 23 or 24	22.5µm
Percentage of Recycled Wool (%: minimum)	Confirmation: GRS or RCS certificate to be submitted by licensee	20%

- This table must be read in conjunction with the notes that follow.

NOTES

1. Woolmark TM155: Wool Content

Wool content here refers to the overall content of wool fibre in the product, i.e. Recycled Wool and New Wool.

The definition of Recycled Wool and New Wool:

- **“Recycled Wool”** includes reprocessed wool from pre-consumer and post-consumer source. Examples: garments, woven selvage, fabric cutting waste, etc.
- **“New Wool”** follows the same definition as stipulated in the Fibre specifications F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5 & F-7.

The product must meet all applicable requirement in the relevant Fibre specification. When further referring to the requirement in the Fibre specification, the following notes must be read in conjunction and will prevail:

Woolmark (Specifications F-1, F-2, F-3 & F-4):

- The term “Pure New Wool” shall be replaced by “Pure Recycled Wool or a blend of Recycled Wool with New Wool” for the content *prior to* the Notes section of the specifications.
- **“Fine animal hairs”** follow the same coverage and limitations as stipulated in the Notes section of the Fibre specifications. The fine animal hairs can be in the new state or have been recycled. Both are permitted for use.
- **“Non-wool fibres”** include any type of fibre other than wool, in the new state or has been recycled. Re-used fibres are also permitted. Only one type of non-wool fibre is allowed in intimate blend with the wool component in an individual (ie single) yarn.

Woolmark Blend and Wool Blend (see Specification F-5 & F-7)

- The term “New Wool” shall be replaced by “Recycled Wool or a blend of Recycled Wool with New Wool” for the content *prior to* the Notes section of the specifications.
- **“Fine animal hairs”** follow the same coverage and limitations as stipulated in the Notes section of the Fibre specifications. The fine animal hairs can be in the new state or have been recycled. Both are permitted for use.
- **“Other fibres”** include any type of fibre other than wool, in the new state or has been recycled. Re-used fibres are also permitted. Only one type of non-wool fibre is allowed in intimate blend with the wool component in an individual (ie single) yarn.

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2. Woolmark TM22, TM23 or TM24: Mean Wool Fibre Diameter

The mean wool fibre diameter is determined from yarn or fibre (as appropriate) removed from fully finished product. The absolute limit of 22.5µm for the mean fibre diameter represents the required maximum of 22.0µm with an allowance of 0.5µm for the error in the measurement.

Each yarn type used in both knitted and woven products must be evaluated separately and each must meet the requirements.

It is known that the mean fibre diameter can increase during textile processing due to preferential loss of finer fibres and the effects of dyes. It is not known how much change will occur for any particular set of circumstances but in order to meet the end product requirement it is advised that wools with diameters closer to 21µm be chosen at the raw material stage.

If the fibre diameter is determined using TM22 or TM23, this may give an inaccurate result if the yarn is highly twisted; in such cases, the result from Woolmark TWC-TM24 should be accepted. In cases of dispute, the result from Woolmark TWC-TM24 must be accepted.

3. Percentage of Recycled Wool

GRS and RCS stands for Global Recycled Standard and Recycled Claim Standard respectively.

A valid certificate must be submitted.

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