SEWING GUIDELINE FOR KNITTED TEXTILES

FEBRIK

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version
270318

KNITS VERSUS WOVEN

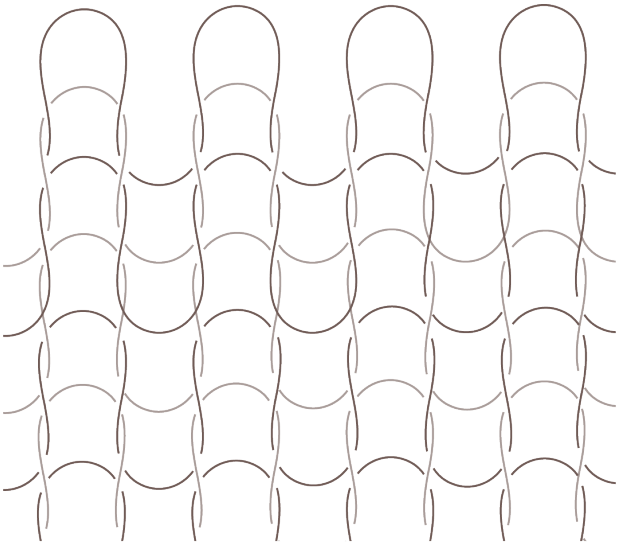
In the world of upholstery, woven textiles are the standard used surface material. Although knits are commonly known in fashion and automotive there is little awareness of the difference between knitted and woven textiles. Knits offer new ways to create products and spaces. One must understand the material to guarantee a quality product taking advantage of the benefits, and avoiding problems when processing the textile and applying to the product.

Woven textiles are normally stiff. Knits stretch by nature. A woven textile is a matrix of weft and warp. A knitted textile consists of loops allowing freedom to move. Because of the stretch it is easier to upholster organic shaped objects.

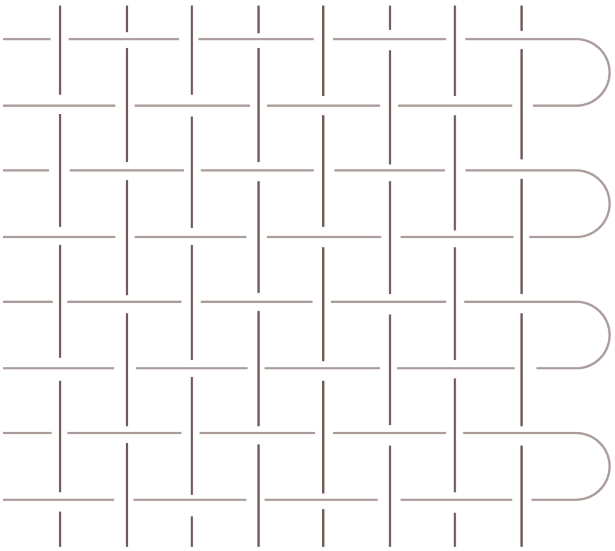
MATERIAL

The FEBRIK collection is produced from different yarns. The main yarn used is a special developed wool yarn. It is a blend of wool and a synthetic yarn to achieve a high performing yarn in terms of abrasion and pilling. Wool is a natural product with good behaviour in terms of cleanliness, durability and touch. However we are dealing with a natural product so slight contamination and irregularities can occur.

Wool is also known for its fire retardant properties. Due to this we manage to reach the commonly used European flammability norms as well as minimising the use of heavy chemicals. For stricter standards like CRIB 5 and M1, we are obliged to treat the textile to meet these requirements.



knitting structure



weaving structure

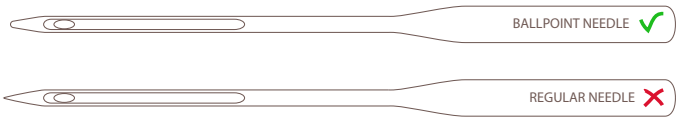
Our textiles are knitted and can be classified as double and triple layered textiles. Knitted textiles are new in the world of upholstery. Particularly the thick padded textiles which need to be understood correctly. One has to be aware of the different features in terms of performance and appearance. These features have to be taken into account when considering how the textiles will be used. First of all, it is important to process the textiles the correct way. These sewing reccomendations will assist you. In general, the most important ones are the type of needle, the tension and thickness of the thread and the type of stitch. Read carefully our instructions and contact our customer service team if you have additional questions.

Handle our knitted textiles with care. Before starting the sewing procedure, make sure you have a clean workplace and it is free of any sharp objects. Overlock the padded textiles before you start sewing, preferably with a **ballpoint needle**. This way you will prevent the filling coming out of the textile and it makes it easier to handle. This is also recommended for the thinner textiles.

not overlocked

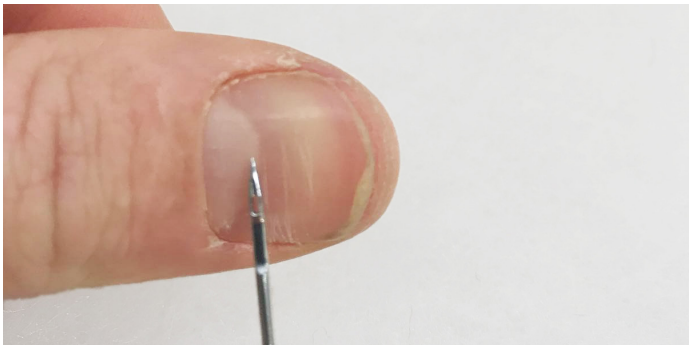
overlocked

The correct needle is a ballpoint needle, preferably a SUK needle. This is a needle with a rounded tip which is typically used for knitted textiles. It does not pierce the textile like a sharp needle could. An incorrect needle might cause a hole as it can damage a thread. Make sure the needles are changed frequently. When a needle is damaged it may cause a defect in the textile.



The recommended needle size is a NM100/NM110. The thicker the needle the more it works as a perforator, which will damage the thread more easily. For the padded textile (like STITCH) do use a NM 110 SUK needle as it is prone to breaking more easily because of the volume of the textile.

The needle should be checked and changed regularly as the slightest damage on the needle could damage the textile when going through the surface. To check the needle, turn the needle point on your nail, if the needle is damaged it makes scratches on your nail. If scratches appear, replace the needle, otherwise it will damage the textile.

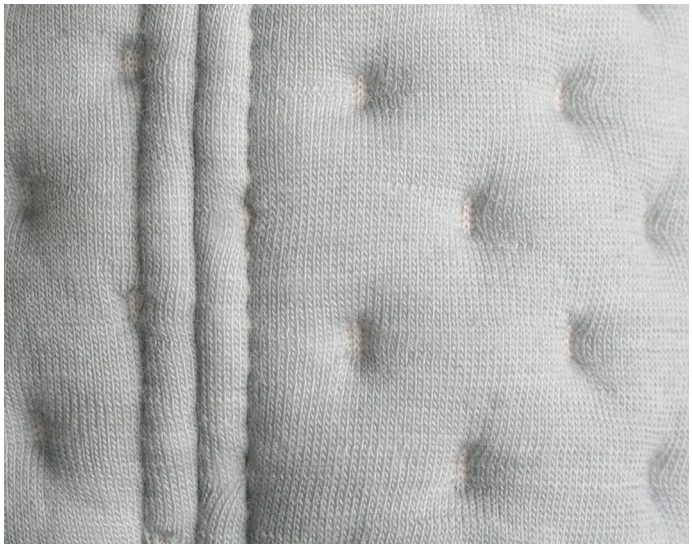


example of a damaged needle

The correct thickness of the thread depends on the thickness of the needle. Nylon and polyester are commonly used. **We recommend 40/3**.
2,5 to 3 per centimeter (about 6-7 stitches per inch) are the correct number of stitches. The more stitches the stronger the seam but too many stitches can result in a higher risk for weak spots. Please make sure that the size of the stitch is not too tight or too small while upholstering padded textiles.

A normal back stitch can be used. When the seam has to resist more tension in the direction of the seam a chain stitch can be used. Chain stitches have the disadvantage that the seam is more open so visually less attractive.

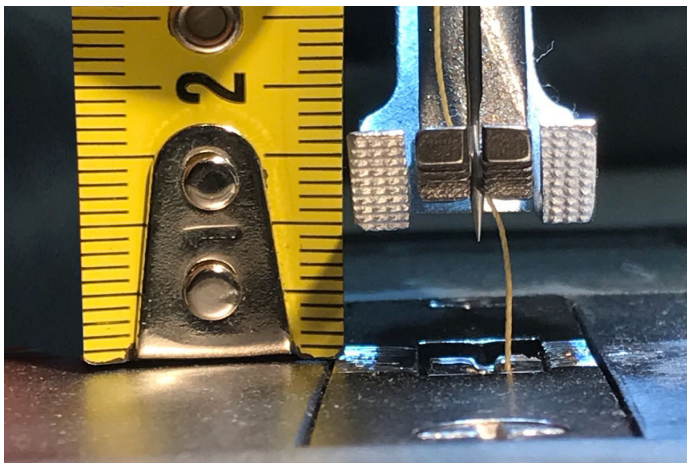
Every seam should be possible. A double English seam is more durable than a single English seam. But, even a simple seam is possible. So no special recommendations on this. Also for the thicker textiles.



double english seam

single english seam

seam inside-out



feet height sewing machine

Recommended features for sewing machine. The sewing machine should have both a top and ground feeder transport for the textile. Only a top feeder system can cause unwilling tension between the layers of the textile. The feeding system of the sewing thread is automated so the thread is fed by itself and not pulled out of the carrier. The difference in tension of the ground thread should be 3 to 4 times more than the tension of the top sewing thread.

For padded textiles the recommended foot height of the sewing machine is 10 mm to make sure that the textile has enough space.

When processing our textiles as wall covering, please be aware of the following:

Upholstering the textile with tension is possible, but only on small surfaces.

If the textile is upholstered with tension, then it is not possible to attach a wall socket afterwards.

Please **glue** the textile for the upholstry of big surfaces (>2m2) or when a wall socket has to be placed afterwards.

The amount of tension is bases on the type of textile. When gluing the textile zero tension is advised.

We recommend **water based two component glue.**

The textiles can't be attached directly on the wall. Always use a panel so it can be upholstered horizontally.

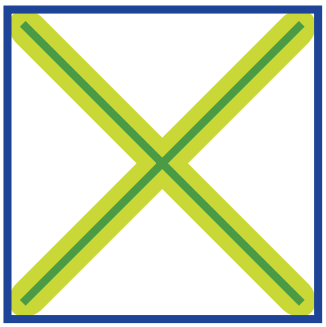
When you are in doubt, please contact FEBRIK.

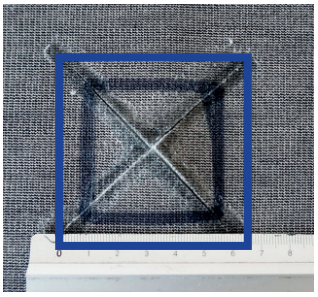
When a hole has to be made after upholstering the panel, please take the following into account:

Make the hole before the wall covering is installed.

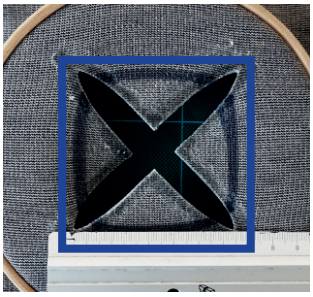
Apply transparant silicone on the front and back of the textile in the area where the textile will be cut open. This keeps the textile from running.

If there's tension on the textile, please make sure that the hole is cut out smaller than the actual needed hole, because the hole will stretch wider.

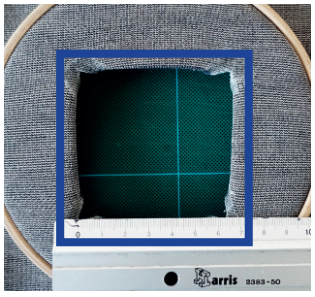




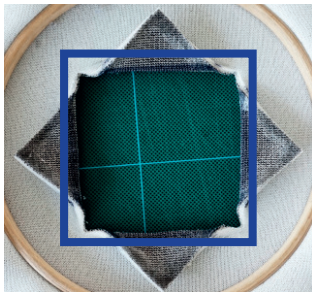
Make sure the silicon is dry before cutting.



Flip the edges to the back.



The hole can be stretched out. In this way the hole will shape itself to the wall socket.



Backside.