BUYER WORKBOOK / SOURCING

Fabric & Trim Comparison Workbook

Fabric selection should begin with the garment behaviour you need. A swatch can look right and still behave differently in a draped dress, fitted trouser or structured jacket. Record the desired appearance and the practical constraints together, then assess options against the same brief. Treat a sample swatch, a colour approval and a bulk material approval as separate decisions.

01

Describe the end use

State the garment category, intended season, skin contact, lining requirements and desired drape. Explain which qualities are essential and which can change.

02

Compare named options

Give each candidate a supplier reference. Record composition, weight and usable width with the stated units; attach a swatch reference and note any data still awaiting confirmation.

03

Review in the garment

Assess the chosen material in the relevant construction. Look at seam appearance, opacity, stretch recovery or shape retention where these affect the design.

04

Freeze the approved reference

Record the selected material, colour and trim versions. Identify who approves a proposed substitution and which checks must be repeated before bulk use.

Before you proceed

- ☐ Fabric reference, composition, weight and width with units.
- ☐ Colour reference and the method used to approve colour.
- ☐ Required hand feel, drape, opacity and stretch behaviour.
- ☐ Trim dimensions, finish, attachment and colour matching.
- ☐ Availability, order constraints and substitution approval process.
- ☐ Required evaluation, who arranges it and the approved reference retained.

Use page 2 to record the current project position. This planning aid does not confirm a quotation, production slot or approval; record order-specific decisions with the responsible parties.

PROJECT WORKING SHEET

Build a Fabric & Trim Sourcing Brief

Brand / project:

Owner / revision date:

Garment / intended use

Style code, silhouette, season and material performance priorities.

Candidate A

Supplier reference; composition, weight, width and units; swatch ID.

Candidate B

Record the same information so the options can be compared fairly.

Trim specification

Item, dimensions, colour, finish, attachment and nominated reference.

Availability / evaluation

Order constraints, evidence requested, evaluation owner and due date.

Selection / substitutions

Approved reference, date, approver and unresolved conditions.

Keep this sheet with the supporting specification and references. Mark undecided items explicitly and share one consolidated revision. Further reading: yifufashion.com/blog/compare-private-label-clothing-quotes