

Fabrics from the Land & the Lab



2 Nylon



1 Silk



7 Acrylic



6 Polyester



9 PET

8 Cotton



Q. What are dog leashes made of?

A. Nylon is often used for leashes because it is strong, lightweight, and repels water.

Q. Can fabric be made from animals besides sheep?

A. Yes! Wool can also come from alpacas, llamas, camels, goats, and rabbits.



3 Jute

4 Rayon

5 Wool

10 Linen

Q. What are shoelaces made of?
A. Usually, a blend of nylon, cotton, and polyester.

The moles along the path are using different types of fabric. Guess which items are made of the fiber featured in each section. The column to the right reveals the answers!

1 Neckties

Some ties are made from silk — a strong, smooth, shiny, expensive fabric ... made from insect cocoons!

2 Umbrellas and Parachutes

These items are often made from nylon, a strong lightweight fabric made from coal, air, and water. Nylon is strong, lightweight, and water-resistant!

3 Climbing Rope

Climbing ropes, once made of jute, are now made of nylon. Many other ropes are still made from the strong, flexible fibers that grow inside jute plants.

4 Dancing Outfits

Many dress clothes contain rayon, which is made from a polymer harvested from trees and bamboo.

5 Winter Clothing

Sweaters, coats, scarves, mittens, and hats are often made with wool, a breathable yet insulating fiber from sheep.

6 Athletic Wear

Polyester is a durable, easy-care fabric made from petroleum. It's used in athletic wear, fleece outerwear, cushion filling, pillow stuffing, blankets, and more.

7 Upholstery Fabric & Winter Clothing

Acrylic is a durable, easy-care fabric that's used to make coats, sweaters, mittens, and hats. It's also blended with polyester to make the fabric on sofas and the fur on stuffed animals.

8 Bed Sheets and Pajamas

To keep you comfy in bed, sheets and PJs are often made from cotton, a soft, absorbent, and breathable fabric made from fibers in cotton plants.

9 Fleece Pullover and Shoes

Used plastic bottles that are labeled PET, PETE, or have the number "1" in the recycling symbol can be recycled to become polyester fibers and fabric.

10 Tablecloths

Some fancy tablecloths are made from linen, a soft fabric made with fibers from the fast-growing flax plant.