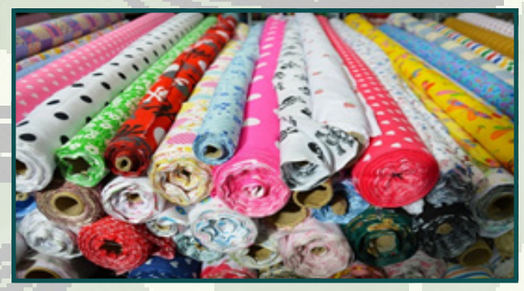
Stock forms

- Textile fabrics and components are all available in *stock forms* which are readily available to designers, manufacturers and home sewers.
- For textiles fabrics, stock forms refer to the width of the fabric which is based on the width of the loom it was made on.
- Standard widths for textile fabrics are:
    - 90cm (for lining and interfacing)
    - 115cm
    - 150cm
    - 200cm
    - 240cm
- For crafting purposes, 'fat quarters' measuring 45cm x 55cm are readily available in bundles of complementary colours and prints.
- Common names for stock forms of textile fabrics include: denim, velvet, chambray, chiffon, corduroy, cotton poplin, satin, tweed, jersey to name only a few, but there are many more.
- For home sewers, textile fabrics are bought off the roll in metre lengths or in multiples of 10cm.



Textile fabrics are readily available off the roll.

Cost

- The cost of a length of fabric depends on its width, the fibre content and source, the type of weave and applied finishes (if any).
- Stock forms of fabrics and components simplify the cost of a product.
- In industry, fabrics and components are bought in bulk (huge quantities) so they are cheaper than what individuals can buy in a fabric shop.
- It is cheaper for specialist manufacturers to mass produce stock forms or standard sizes and designs of component parts.
- The cost of a product is based on the total cost of *all the raw materials*: quantity of fabric used and each component's part to include thread.
- When calculating the cost of material for a product you should consider:
    - The most economical width of fabric to use.
    - Bias cutting of templates increases waste.
    - Templates should be laid out in the same direction on pile and one-way print fabrics.
    - Pattern matching of checks, prints and stripes.

When laying out templates allow for pattern matching of stripes as shown on the T-shirt pictured. A mismatch of stripes on the side seam would spoil the appearance of the T-shirt.

Stock forms for components

Fastenings

- Zip fasteners: available in different lengths, weights, colours and materials e.g., nylon or metal and types- open-ended, two-way, invisible.
- Buttons: different sizes, colours, shapes, patterned or plain and different materials - wood, nylon or metal. Buttons can be 3D printed.
- Buckles: a secure fastening in different sizes, shapes, colours and materials such as brass, wood or plastic. They can be 3D printed.
- Velcro: a secure fastening where two sides of different textures interlock together.
- Eyelets: metallic or plastic rings inserted into the fabric. Ribbon can be threaded through to form a tie.
- Press studs: One side of a press stud simply clicks into the other side - easy to use.

Threads

Different threads exist for different purposes:

- To sew fabrics together - polyester thread is a strong thread which suits most purposes. A thicker thread is used for top stitching.
- For decorative purposes - glossier threads enhance decorative embroidery work.
- For functional reasons – conductive threads carry electricity.

Trims

- Trims can be decorative: lace, ribbon, braids, beads, sequins.
- Trims can be functional: tapes, cords, elastics, boning and LEDs (light emitting diodes).