



TERRY TOWEL AND ITS PROCESSING – PART I

REF: TT/ JANUARY 2019 / WK 1

Introduction

Terry Towel is a woven fabric with long loops that can absorb large amounts of water. Its content is usually 100% cotton, but may sometimes contain polyester.

The name “TERRY” came from the French word “TIRER” which means to pull out. Research conducted on terry weaving by the Manchester Textile Institute reported that original terry weaving was probably the result of defective weaving. This happened in Turkey.



Parts of a Towel

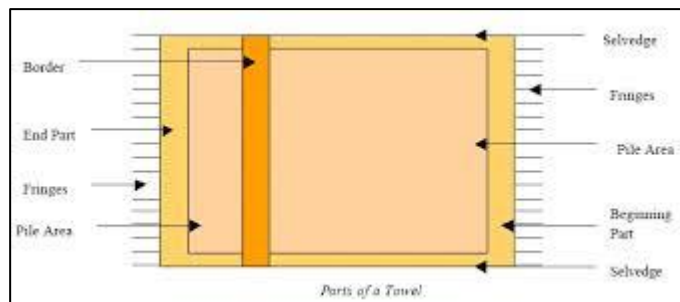


Fig 1.1 Parts of a Towel

There are generally five main parts in a towel.

- **PILE AREA** - The pile area is considered the toweling part of the towel.
- **FRINGES** - Fringes are tied or an untied tasseled part of ground warps and pile warps which are left unwoven at the beginning and the end edges of the towel.
- **BEGINNING AND END SECTIONS** - The beginning and end sections are the tightly woven areas of a towel which come before or after the pile fabric part and prevent this pile area from unraveling. They are woven without pile loops, in a flat weave construction.
- **SELVEDGE** -The selvedge contains fewer number of warp ends than the pile area.
- **BORDER**



Construction of Terry Towels

In a terry towel there are mainly four groups of yarn.

- A) Pile Warp - While towels of the fashion type are mainly piece dyed or printed. In general bulkier and absorbent yarns are used for both types of towels. In real Turkish-toweling, the pile-loops generally consists of a more highly twisted yarn which, while very absorbent, are quite abrasive, thus actively stimulating the skin during drying.
- B) Ground Warp – In ground warps, two ply yarns are preferred because the ground warps ends have the highest tension during weaving. It is common to use a yarn of cotton/polyester blend for greater strength. Rotor spun yarns are also used in ground warps.
- C) Weft (filling) - 100% carded cotton yarns are used generally for weft or filling picks. Rotor spun yarns are also used in wefts.
- D) Border Weft - Premium or high end hand towels have complex borders with fancy weaves and use a very wide range of filling yarns. Decorative, shiny and bulky yarns of rayon, viscose, polyester, chenille, or mercerized cotton are used at different yarn sizes

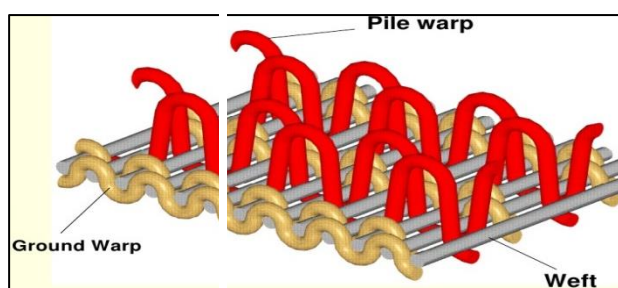


Fig 1.2 Construction of a terry towel

To be continued...

Wishing you a great week ahead!

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