



Properties of Fiber

Source: Fibre Facts by Bette Hochberg

Resistance to Abrasion		Resistance to Sunlight	
Nylon	Good ↓	Acrylic	Good ↓
Linen		Polyester	
Acrylic		Flax/Linen	
Cotton	Medium ↓	Cotton	Medium ↓
Wool (coarse)		Rayon	
Silk		Acetate	
Wool (fine)	Poor ↓	Nylon	Poor ↓
Rayon		Wool	
Acetate		Silk	

Resistance to Pilling		Wrinkle Resistance	
Silk	Good ↓	Wool	Good ↓
Flax/Linen		Silk	
Cotton		Cotton	
Wool	Medium ↓	Rayon	Poor ↓
Acrylic		Ramie	
Polyester		Flax/Linen	
Nylon	Poor		

Qualities of Woolen Yarns

Softer
Fuzzier
Warmer
More air spaces
More nap
Spongy and bouncy
More stretch

Qualities of Worsted Yarns

Harder
Smoother
Cooler
Stronger
More lustrous
Hold crease
Drapes well

Low Twist Yarns

Softer
Weaker
Lighter
Air pockets give warmth
Bulkier, loftier
More flexible
Less abrasion resistant
More likely to pill
Greater coverage
Faster absorbency
Usually for weft

High Twist Yarns

Harder
Stronger
Heavier
Fewer air pockets
Cooler
Less flexible
More abrasion resistant
Less likely to pill
Less coverage
Slower absorbency
Often used for warp

