

English Version

Textiles for healthcare and social services facilities

Textiles dans les établissements de santé et de services
sociaux

Textilien für Einrichtungen des Gesundheitswesens
und von sozialen Diensten

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 16 August 2021 for provisional application.

The period of validity of this CEN/TS is limited initially to three years. After two years the members of CEN will be requested to submit their comments, particularly on the question whether the CEN/TS can be converted into a European Standard.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
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European foreword

This document (CEN/TS 14237:2021) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 248 “Textiles and textile products”, the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes CEN/TS 14237:2015.

In comparison with the previous edition, the following technical modifications have been made:

- The normative references and bibliography were updated.
- Requirements were modified following past experiences with the use of CEN/TS 14237:2015.
- Guidance about children’s cot duvets (excluding duvet covers) was added.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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Introduction

This document provides minimum specifications for the purchase of unused textiles for healthcare and social service facilities. It is intended to assist healthcare and social services organisations select textiles products produced from these textiles and which they intend to be maintained by industrial laundering.

It is recognized that textile materials are currently available which outperform these minimum specifications in this document and it is unable to provide information to correlate these minimum specifications with textile life and value in typical industrial processing. Furthermore, these minimum specifications cannot be correlated with textile life as measure by industrial launder-use trials. Consequently, it is strongly recommended that purchasers discuss the quality of materials and their expected performance requirement with any prospective laundry company prior to making a purchase. Moreover, there is a need for safety of patients and clients which needs to be ensured by hygienic cleanliness according to EN 14065, which is not reachable by domestic washing.

Production technologies in laundries places a requirement for high performance characteristics on the textile to ensure sufficient durability, and which could increase acquisition costs, It is therefore encouraged to carry out some trial processing in the prospective laundry, to better assess textile life and lifecycle costing.

The properties, references and specifications for textiles shown in Tables 1 to 9 provide guidance as a starting point for products to be industrially laundered. It is possible that National Standards may set a higher level of characteristics for textile products.

This document only addresses the properties of the materials used, not the constructions.

1 Scope

This document recommends characteristics, test methods and minimum performance specifications for unused textile for the healthcare and social service facilities (hospitals, residential care homes, etc.) to give guidance on the suitability of products intended to be maintained by industrial laundering.

This document is not applicable to surgical textiles under the Medical Devices Directive nor protective clothing under the PPE Directive.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 Products

NOTE This document classifies the requirements for the fabrics according to its use in the following product groups.

3.1.1

accessories

components different from the main materials of the product (e.g. cuffs, buttons, sewing thread, press studs, zippers, etc.)

3.1.2

baby clothing

garment being provided by the hospital that is worn by babies during their stay

3.1.3

bed textiles

two-dimensional textile such as sheets, pillow covers, secondary covers, mattress covers, draw sheets, bed spreads

3.1.4

blanket

covering used on beds to provide thermal comfort

3.1.5

curtain

piece of hanging cloth that can be drawn to cover a window or to provide a screen

3.1.6

encasing

fully fitting article which covers all faces of the mattress

3.1.7

mattress protector against liquids

mattress cover impermeable to liquids

3.1.8

patient's clothing

garment being provided by the hospital that is worn by a patient during a stay