



Evaluating Down and Feather Products

The following are used by retailers or consumers to determine if a product meets buyer specifications and government regulations and to compare with other similar products.

1. Descriptions of Composition

- a. Percentage of Down vs. Feathers
- b. Species of material (Duck, Goose or Landfowl)
- c. Color of material (White or Grey)
- d. Country of Origin (Hungarian, Canadian, etc)

2. Descriptions for insulation value

- a. Fill Power
- b. TOG, CLO, and other warmth/insulation ratings
- c. Maximum cold temperature rating systems

3. Descriptions for cleanliness

- a. Minimum cleanliness requirements
- b. Requirements for special labels such as hypo-allergenic or “super-clean”
- c. Anti-allergy fabrics or treatments.
- d. Dust Evaluation

4. Downproofness of Fabric

- a. Air Permeability.
- b. Physical Downproof Test
- c. Threadcount.

5. Filling Weight

- a. Total Filling weight
- b. Filling weight per square yard.
- c. Down Distribution among panels.

6. Effects of Product Construction

- a. Fabric types
- b. Fabric weight
- c. Panel design
- d. Stitching and other construction details

7. Comparing Down and Non-Down Products

- a. Comparison of Down vs. Other Natural Fills
- b. Comparison of Down vs. Synthetic Fills