

The Fabrics Vetted Standard: A Technical Guide to Material Health

Version 1.0 | 2026 Lead Auditor: William Michael Morris

I. Executive Summary

The **Fabrics Vetted Standard** was developed to bridge the gap between material innovation and human biology. In an era of "forever chemicals" and endocrine-disrupting synthetics, this standard serves as a rigorous audit for textiles that interact with the human body's largest organ: the skin. Our goal is to provide a science-backed filter to ensure textiles support hormone health, skin integrity, and long-term wellness.

II. The 5 Pillars of Vetting

1. Fiber Purity & Integrity

- **The Mandate:** Minimum 95% organic natural fiber content.
- **The Audit:** Verification of raw material origins. We prioritize GOTS-certified (Global Organic Textile Standard) fibers to ensure zero GMOs or prohibited pesticides.
- **The Science:** Pure natural fibers (Hemp, Linen, Organic Cotton) allow for superior thermoregulation, reducing the skin-surface heat that can trigger inflammation and bacterial overgrowth.

2. Endocrine & Hormone Safety

- **The Mandate:** Zero intentional use of PFAS, Bisphenols (BPA/BPS), or Phthalates.
- **The Audit:** Cross-referencing supply chain chemistry against the ZDHC (Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals) Restricted Substances List.
- **The Science:** Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs) can be absorbed dermally. We vet for "naked" fibers that do not interfere with the body's delicate hormonal signaling.

3. Skin Biocompatibility

- **The Mandate:** pH neutrality and microbiome respect.



- **The Audit:** Testing for residual formaldehyde and heavy metals. We prioritize Standard 100 by OEKO-TEX (Product Class 1) testing.
- **The Science:** Human skin sits at a slightly acidic pH (~4.7–5.7). Fabrics with alkaline residues or caustic dyes disrupt the skin barrier, leading to chronic sensitivity and dermatitis.

4. Chemical & Finish Audit

- **The Mandate:** No "Easy-Care" resins, Azo dyes, or heavy-metal mordants.
- **The Audit:** Review of the "Wet Processing" stage. We seek out BlueSign® approved chemistry and low-impact, non-toxic dyeing methods.
- **The Science:** Most "wrinkle-free" or "stain-resistant" claims are achieved through formaldehyde-releasing resins or fluorocarbons—both of which are known irritants and potential carcinogens.

5. Mechanical Performance

- **The Mandate:** Tensile strength, pilling resistance, and longevity.
- **The Audit:** 30-day "wear-and-wash" physical testing protocol.
- **The Science:** A fabric that degrades quickly sheds microfibers that can be inhaled or ingested. True material health requires structural integrity to ensure the product remains safe throughout its lifecycle.

III. The Vetted Scorecard

Each product is graded on a scale of 1–5 for each pillar, resulting in a **Weighted Technical Grade**.

- **Grade A (Score 4.5–5.0): Lab Grade.** Exceeds all medical and environmental standards. Recommended for highly sensitive individuals.
- **Grade B (Score 3.5–4.4): Vetted.** Safe for daily use. Contains minimal, non-toxic synthetic stabilizers (<5%).
- **Grade C (Score 2.5–3.4): Standard.** Marginal transparency. Potential for "greenwashed" fibers or undisclosed finishes.
- **Grade D/F (Below 2.5): Reject.** High risk of chemical exposure or skin irritation.

Note from Author:

"As a materials scientist with over 15 years in product development, I believe we shouldn't need a degree to know if our clothes are safe. This standard is my commitment to providing the clarity that labels do not." — **Bill Morris**