Backing Fabrics

Name	Constituents	Uses	Comments
Jacron, Bontex, Texon	Made from cellulose bonded with latex and other agents.	Bontex and Texon are firmer materials used to stiffen bags and to make dividers within bags as well as other types of reinforcement.	They have a leather-like appearance, stitch well, are tear-resistant and available in a variety of weights. We are most familiar with Jacron as the fabric used for labelling denim. Texon has the added benefit of being mould and fungus resistant.
Recycled Leather (aka Bonded Leather)	Made from scrap leather bonded with a synthetic polymer.	A more rigid material, which can be a good solution for bags requiring firm structural support.	Water resistant. The main drawback is weight, bonded leather can be equal to or even heavier than the material it is supporting.
Fabric	Cotton and synthetic blends.	Less rigidity, principally used for strengthening lining fabric, reducing any tendency to crease, and helping to define internal details such as pockets.	Fabric backing is either flat woven (so that the grain of the weave is not apparent through the lining) or as a fussed material that has a flat finish. Available in adhesive and non-adhesive form. The choice will be dictated by the lining fabric and the desired effect you are trying to achieve.
Synthetic Microfibres	Made from a blend of polyester and polyamide that creates tiny tear-drop shaped fibres. These small fibres are finer than a single human hair.	Synthetic microfibre fabric has a slight give, similar to soft leather. It's good for adding structure to a bag without the weight issues associated with bonded leather.	Closely mimics softer exterior materials and is an ideal match to fabrics and more pliable leathers. It has the additional benefit of being water-resistant, and can form a good barrier between the lining and the exterior should any liquid spill into the bag. It's also one of the more expensive backing materials and is favoured by luxury brands.
Foam Board	Ethylene-Vinyl Acetate	High-density foam board is ideal for bags that require a degree of impact resistance, such as tablet computer sleeves.	The board has a tight spongy structure which doesn't fold or bend well, so it's not suitable for intricately shaped bags.
Fleece and Quilted Padding	Cotton or Polyester	Fleece and hollow-fibre quilted padding add depth and a tactile luxury to fabric exteriors, giving a three-dimensional lift to stitching detail.	Very light. Not shock absorbent.