

## What is a performance fabric?

---

While there are no legal standards that define and regulate the term “performance fabric”, there are industry standards that have been implemented and accepted over the years. There are standardized tests that prove whether a fabric is a performance fabric. We encourage you to review these test results prior to purchasing a performance fabric. The proof of performance is in the test results.

## Moisture Barrier Protection

---

Any fabric calling itself a performance fabric should have a permanent barrier. This barrier prevents anything from passing through the fabric into the cushion. It prevents the growth of molds, mildews, bacteria, and odor. Crypton® is the only fabric to have an integrated moisture barrier. Not a laminate, Crypton’s® barrier will never separate; it will never fail because it part of the fabric. Crypton® fabric is soft, breathable, flexible, and easy to sew. The test that verifies the effectiveness of a moisture barrier is called a Suter test. The Suter Test for an umbrella is 30cm. The Suter test for Crypton® Fabrics is a minimum of 100 cm. That means that Crypton® is at least 3 times more moisture resistant than an umbrella! Test: Suter AATCC 127.

## Stain Resistance

---

While many claim it, few can prove it. True stain resistance means the fabric is resistant to stains for the life of the fabric. A topically treated fabric will wear off with normal use or cleaning. An integrated system like Crypton’s® encapsulates the stain resistance within each fiber through immersion and heat treatments that crosslink the chemicals to the fibers forever. Every fiber within a Crypton® fabric is stain resistant. Crypton® fabrics are Class 5, meaning they have the highest ranking for stain resistance. Intertek Stain Removal Test, Test BFTB 402.

## Microbial Resistance

---

A fabric is microbial resistant when an organism cannot grow on its surface. However, if the fabric is treated with a laminate or topical treatment, it loses its microbial resistance over time. Crypton’s® process is integrated. Its stain, bacterial, and odor resistant properties are part of the fabric and its liquid barrier ensures that both the upholstery and the cushion will remain bacteria free. Since bacterial growth causes odor, Crypton’s® microbial resistance also makes it odor free. Crypton® tests for effectiveness on 48 organisms. Test: AATCC147-1998 and AATCC 6538.

## Clean Ability

---

If it is not easy to clean, it’s not a performance fabric. Due to Crypton’s® integrated construction it is very easy to clean. Simply wet, blot and wipe with a clean towel. It does not matter if the stain is a minute old or a month old. For particularly nasty spills, try a mild detergent, or better yet use one of Crypton’s® amazing Crypton® Care products which magically erase stains from all cleanable fabrics, including Crypton® of course.

## Performance

---

Abrasion Resistance: Fabrics that are strong will last. Crypton® exceeds all standards for abrasion.

Flammability: The standard is California Class 1, Cal 117 and NFPA 260. If a fabric says it’s stain resistant make sure the fabric still can pass these requirements. Crypton® does.

## Other things to consider:

---

Pilling Resistance, Seam Slippage, Breaking Strength. Crypton® is the only fabric on the market today that is thoroughly engineered to meet or exceed all of these test requirements.