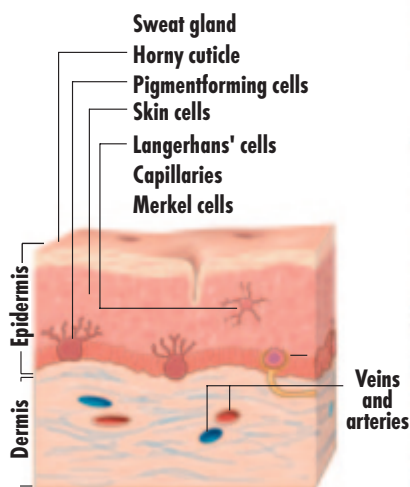


Products tested for harmful substances for delicate children's skin

Children's sensitive skin

Only by the end of puberty does human skin have all its own protective mechanisms. That is why independent testing for harmful substances is particularly important for textiles coming into contact with children's delicate skin. Safety when buying textiles is provided by the OEKO-TEX® Standard 100 system with its "Confidence in textiles – tested for harmful substances" label endorsing millions of products since 1992.



Safe textiles

Depending on the purpose for which they are to be used, textiles are divided into four product classes. The closer the skin contact, the higher the specifications. There are especially strict requirements for textiles for babies and toddlers up to the age of 3 years. Special attention is paid to ensuring that no harmful substances can be released in saliva or perspiration.

Tested quality

The over 100 test parameters which are checked by the independent test institutes include excluding banned azo dyes, carcinogenic and allergenic dyes, pesticides and heavy metal contamination (e.g. nickel). Softeners (phthalates) and formaldehyde must not exceed a strict limit value. The textiles must also be colour-fast and have a skin-friendly pH value.

Help with product selection

One of the reasons why the "Confidence in Textiles" label has established itself as a reliable decision-making aid for shoppers is because a product can only bear the label if all the components without exception meet the relevant requirements of the list of criteria. For example, children's trousers will only be certified if not only the fabric but also the buttons, zips, yarns and so on that are used have been successfully tested. This means that the "Confidence in Textiles" label stands for all-round security when buying textile products of all kinds – regardless of where the textiles were produced.



Functionality with no regrets

In order to be able to serve all kinds of functions, today's clothes use all kinds of materials and textile treatments such as dyes, prints and coatings. That is why, under the OEKO-TEX Standard 100, all the components, materials and treatments are tested against the more than 100 parameters in the list of criteria.

You can find some **examples of the OEKO-TEX® test criteria** in the photo on the right.



Flocking

Material: Viscose

Possible contamination with extractable heavy metals, banned azo dyes

Football shirt printed and flocked

Material: Polyester

Possible contamination with phthalates (from plastisol prints), tin organic compounds

Football trousers

Material: Polyester

Possible contamination with allergenic dispersion dyes

Socks

Material: Polyester & Elastan

Possible contamination with polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH)