

5.3.3 Ribbons and Decorations

A garment is made not only from the apparel fabric but also various accessory items. These have to be chosen in such a way that they complement the outer fabric both aesthetically, in terms of decoration, and practically, in terms of ensuring that the garment performs as expected in its intended end use.

The manufacture of ribbons, tapes, and decorations is similar to that of textile fabrics; weaving, knitting, braiding, or nonwoven techniques. In many cases, different patterning elements are combined such as fibre and colour effects, structure and finishing.

The commercial names for ribbons often follow from the application or the structure, for example piping ribbon, velvet ribbon. Decorative ribbons (trimmings) are also used for ornamentation.

Ribbons and Tapes



1: Trimming



2: Scalloping, Rick-rack



3: Elastic tape



4: Buttonhole tape



5: Welted tape



6: Galloon

Name	Features, Properties, Applications
Trimmings	General name for a patterned, woven or knitted ribbon in cotton, silk, wool, or man-made fibre.
Scalloping, Rick-rack	Narrow bowed, zigzag, or scalloped ribbon, plain or multi-coloured in cotton or man-made fibres for edge trimming of traditional costumes and children's wear.
Elastic tape	Highly elastic, flat, braided band containing rubber or elastomeric fibres.
Buttonhole tape	Broad elastic tape with buttonholes located in the centre.
Piping	Cotton or linen plain woven ribbon about 1 cm wide, used as a tailoring aid for edges, reverses, and collars.
Moiré ribbon	Cotton, silk or man-made fibre ribbon with a moiré pattern for hat bands and bows.
Seaming tape	Cotton or viscose twill woven tape for stabilising seams.
Welted tape	Cotton or viscose tape with a narrow welt at the edge.
Ribbed tape	Cotton, silk, or viscose tape with pronounced ribs for decoration or for waistbands.
Velvet ribbon	Cotton, silk or viscose narrow-woven velvet; sensitive to handling.
Bias binding	Tape cut on the bias (diagonally) in various widths and materials, plain or patterned, either flat or folded for use as binding.
Stamped tape	Interlining tape with pre-stamped marks to show sewing width and seam allowance. Aids more efficient working.
Taffeta ribbon	Filament yarn ribbon, plain or check patterned, for ribbon bows.
Galloon	A particularly supple, plain or patterned braided ribbon for piping or binding in outerwear.

Decorations



7: Decorations

Fringes	A narrow edging of projecting yarns which are not woven into the fabric, in viscose, wool, or silk.
Cords	Circular braided materials of various thickness in viscose, cotton or synthetics. Used as decoration for clothing, in household textiles, and in sporting goods.
Tassels	Expensive, hand-made articles in silk or viscose. A combination of fringes, cords, and braids.
Rosettes	Decorative items used either alone or in combination with ornamental textiles.
Soutache	A mouldable flat braid with two ribs in silk or viscose used for formal clothes.
Pompons	Bunches of wool, silk or synthetics used as trimmings, hanging alone or in groups.