Apparel, Domestics, and Footwear Quality Assurance Requirements
# Table of Contents

**Legal Requirements** .................................................................................................................. 3

**Test Requirements** .................................................................................................................. 3

  Apparel, Domestics (Home Textile) and Footwear ....................................................................... 3

**Labeling and Workmanship Requirements** .............................................................................. 3

  Apparel ........................................................................................................................................ 3

  Domestics (Home Textiles) ........................................................................................................... 4

  Footwear ..................................................................................................................................... 5

**Packaging Requirements** .......................................................................................................... 5

  Apparel ........................................................................................................................................ 5
**Legal Requirements**

Vendors must know and comply with all applicable apparel, domestics and footwear requirements, state, federal and local laws and regulations including but not limited to regulations enforced by Federal Trade Commission.

**Test Requirements**

**Apparel, Domestics (Home Textile) and Footwear**

Care Instruction and other Testing Requirements: This is a general list of test methods, but is not all inclusive.

1. Dimensional Changes in Laundering AATCC 150-2003
2. Colorfastness to Washing AATCC 61-2009
   - Class 3.5
3. Colorfastness to Dry Cleaning AATCC 132-2009
   - Class 3.0
4. Colorfastness to Perspiration AATCC 15-2009
   - Class 4.0
5. Flammability 16 CFR 1610 Apparel
6. Flammability 16 CFR 1615 & 1616 for children’s sleepwear
7. Colorfastness Crocking AATCC 8/116
   - Dry Crocking Class 4.0
   - Wet Crocking Class 3.0
8. Tensile Strength ASTM D5034-09
9. Tear Strength ASTM D1424-07a
10. Seam Strength (Lbs.) ASTM D1683
12. Water Resistance AATCC 42
13. Water Repellency Spray Test AATCC 22-2005
15. Fabric Weight ASTM D3776 (OZ./SQ. YD.) and (GMS/SQ. METER)
16. Rug Flammability 16 CFR 1631 & 1630
18. Colorfastness to Professional Leather Cleaning Not greater than 3-4 on Gray Scale
19. Leather and Imitation Leather Guide 16 CFR 24, Guides for Select Leather and Imitation Products Not greater than 3-4 on Gray Scale

Email questions to: Merch.QA@bluestembrands.com

**Labeling and Workmanship Requirements**

**Apparel**

1. Color shade variation between components that are positioned together (e.g., jackets with pants) must not be greater than class 3-4 on the AATCC gray scale.
2. Complete care instructions (in compliance with Federal Trade Commission regulations)
a. Must provide full care instructions about regular garment care, or provide warnings if a garment cannot be cleaned without harm.
b. Must be permanently attached and remain securely fastened and legible throughout the useful life of the product.
c. Labels must be fastened so that they can be seen or easily found by consumers at the point of sale.
d. Care labels are required on all textile wearing apparel (except gloves)

   a. The country where the textile product was made or processed must be labeled. In a garment with a neck, a label disclosing the country of origin (on the front) must be attached to the inside center of the neck—either midway between the shoulder seams or very near another label attached to the inside center of the neck. On garments without a neck, the country of origin label location must be conspicuous and accessible.

4. Manufacturer's name, Registered Identification Number (RN#) or WPL number.

5. Fiber Content (Generic name) or fur type by percentage.
   a. If two or more fibers are present, the label must indicate the fiber contents in descending order of content percentage. For down products, the label must specify percentage of down and percentage of feathers. Type of feathers must also be specified (e.g. waterfowl)
   b. Fur products must have a label disclosing: the animal name.

6. The country of origin for imported fur products.
   a. If the fur is pointed, dyed, bleached or artificially colored. If none of these treatments applies, the fur should be labeled as “natural.”
   b. For complete requirements refer to the Fur Product Labeling Act.

**Domestics (Home Textiles)**

1. Color shade variation between components that are positioned together (i.e. shams with comforter) must not be greater than 3.5 on the AATCC gray scale.
2. Color shade variation for parts not positioned together (i.e. drapes with bedspreads) must not be greater than 3 on the AATCC gray scale.
3. All printed information on inserts may vary, but not contradict product’s material content label.
4. Products with fill must have a permanently attached law label with the fill content disclosed.
   a. The complete description of material content may be on the law label or attached/packaged with each product.
5. Manufacturer's name, Registered Identification Number (RN#) or WPL number.
   a. The country where the textile product was made or processed must be labeled
7. Fiber Content (in compliance with Federal Trade Commission) Generic name by percentage. If two or more fibers are present, the label must indicate the fiber contents in descending order of content percentage. For down products, the label must specify percentage of down and percentage of feathers. Type of feathers must also be specified (e.g. waterfowl)
8. Complete care instructions (in compliance with Federal Trade Commission regulations)
   a. Must provide full care instructions about regular care, or provide warnings if a
      product cannot be cleaned without harm.
   b. Care labels are required on all textiles

**Footwear**

1. Finished surfaces shall be free of cosmetic defects and consistent in color between
   pieces. There must be no color shade variation
2. Country of Origin (in compliance with Federal Trade Commission and Customs
   regulations) The country where the product was made or processed must be labeled.
3. Manufacturer's name, Registered Identification Number (RN#) or WPL number.
4. Fiber Content (Generic name). If two or more fibers are present, the label must indicate
   the fiber contents in descending order of content percentage.
5. Leather products must comply with Leather and Imitation Leather Guide 16 CFR 2

**Packaging Requirements**

**Apparel**

Bluestem Brands’ preferred packing method for apparel is to have the garment ‘retail folded,’
bagged and sealed, without a hanger included. Hangers are acceptable if they are a part of
the retail packaging, are used with leather or outdoor garments, formal wear, and/or products
with multiple pieces (e.g., two piece suits). If hung, the garment must be bagged and sealed at
the bottom. There should be no more than three inches of extra space from the bottom of the
garment to the bottom of the bag.

Please refer to the link below to obtain specific fold requirements.
[IDC Vendor Manual](#)

**Footwear**

Shoe box lids must be secured with a rubber band. Shoe boxes should be master packed to
mitigate damage to the individual shoe box package.