

FIBERFACTS



TEXTILE TRIVIA...Fabrics, Floor Coverings, Fibers & Finishes

Fiber-Seal technicians are the most thoroughly trained in the fabric care business. At the end of their initial training classes, they take a written test that is designed to be very challenging.

The following questions are taken directly from our technical training. How many can you answer correctly?

1. Seed/Fruit Hair Fibers

There are two common fibers derived from the hairs surrounding plant seeds or fruits. Can you name the two fibers?



2. Difficult Leather

Leather has always been a very popular material for home and office seating. Though ease of care varies, one type of leather

is notorious for being difficult. What is it?



3. Fiber Cousins

The fibers *triexta* and *lyocell* are actually similar to two more common fibers. Do you know what they are?



4. Beware Tiny Moths

Many common moths vary between 1 to 2 inches in length. The ones that damage fabrics

are much smaller. Do you know what they are called?



5. Name That Rug

A special type of rug bears an interesting name that is derived from the place of its origin. Can you name this rug?



1. Seed/Fruit Hair Fibers

The first fiber is pretty easy: Cotton, one of the most widely used fibers in the world, is sourced from seed hairs. Also falling into this category is Coir. Derived from the hair of coconuts, this is a “fruit hair” fiber.

2. Difficult Leather

Aniline is a very soft leather that has no pigments or surface finishes. This type of leather is naturally absorbent and extremely difficult to clean. A protective treatment can potentially help retard staining on aniline leather.

3. Fiber Cousins

Triexta is a close cousin to polyester. Reportedly more resilient than polyester, this fiber has become a market player since the introduction of Smartstrand® carpet by Mohawk.

Lyocell fiber is a subclass of rayon. Lyocell is manufactured in a more environmentally friendly process than rayon.

4. Tiny Moths

With a length of about ¼ inch, there are two different types of *clothes moths*: the webbing clothes moth and the casemaking clothes moth. Similar in appearance, the larvae (caterpillars) of both moths eagerly feed on protein-rich materials such as wool, silk, feathers, fur, hair, and leather.

Read more about moths here: <https://fiberseal.com/resources/blog/insect-pests-spring-cleaning-may-be-too-late/>

5. Name That Rug

The name for this rug style is *Savonniere*. These rugs were originally woven in 17th century France, as Louis XIV sought to reduce the tremendous cost of importing rugs from the Orient. The first workshop for Savonniere rugs was created on the site of a defunct soap factory (“savon” is the French word for “soap”). During the first 150 years, these rugs were the exclusive property of the royal court and left France only as grand diplomatic gifts.

Got A Tough One?

Your local Fiber-Seal Service Center, supported by our headquarters lab in Dallas, stands ready to help. Just give us a call!

Designer’s Corner

Have you visited www.FiberSeal.com to see what is new? Lots of great information can be found in Designer’s Corner, including back issues of FIBERFACTS!

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