

**Designtex +
Biobased Materials**

DESIGNtex

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DESIGNTEX

Designtex, established in 1962, has a longstanding commitment to imbuing our products with beauty, utility and sustainability. While this is a challenging balance to achieve, it's a goal we've often met by developing with biobased materials.

1960 – present: Designtex has incorporated wool into its textile offerings since its founding in the 1960s. Over the decades we have developed various wool-based textiles including products like Mohair Plus, which was introduced in 1965 and remains a bestseller today.

1995: Designtex launched Climatex Lifecycle, a groundbreaking collection made with biobased fibers, specifically a blend of the renewable, natural fibers: wool and ramie. This combination not only provided durability and comfort but also ensured that the fabric was compostable at the end of its lifecycle. This marked one of the earliest fully biodegradable, Cradle to Cradle, upholstery textile collections.

2005: Designtex introduced fabrics made from polylactic acid (PLA), a biobased polymer derived from corn, into its product offering with drapery and panel fabrics. This innovation marked one of the earliest uses of PLA in commercial interior textiles.

2008: Designtex introduced its first iteration of DNA wallcovering, a biobased alternative to vinyl made using cellulose from sustainably forested wood.

2024: Designtex launched the Wool Library Collection, with three upholstery textiles that utilize discarded wool clothing waste recycled into new wool textiles. In Prato, Italy, garments are sorted, broken down into fibers and spun into yarns for upholstery textiles, exemplifying a closed-loop recycling process.

2025: Designtex launches Ethos, a polycarbonate-based polyurethane upholstery made with a biobased polymer derived from the fermentation of industrial (non-food) corn biomass sourced from the USA. Ethos pushes our investigation into biopolymers further, with style and high performance, zero compromise.



Biobased Material Types

DESIGNTEX

Renewable materials have always been a Designtex passion. In fact, we still make Mohair Plus, a luxury performance upholstery launched in the 1960s. Since then, our family of biobased products has grown to include upholsteries composed of linen and recycled wool, and wallcoverings composed of cellulose from sustainably forested wood.

Woven Upholstery



Wool

Wool is a natural fiber known for its warmth, resilience, and luxurious feel, making it a premium choice for upholstery textiles. It offers excellent durability and resistance to pilling, while providing a cozy and sophisticated look to furniture.

Lambswool

Lambswool, sourced from the first shearing of young sheep, is prized for its exceptional softness, warmth, and fine texture, making it a luxurious choice for upholstery textiles. It provides a cozy, comfortable feel and adds a touch of elegance to furniture, while being naturally resilient and durable.

Mohair

Mohair, sourced from the Angora goat, is valued for its luxurious sheen, durability, and resilience, making it an excellent choice for upholstery textiles. It offers a soft, silky texture and is naturally resistant to dirt and crushing, providing a long-lasting and elegant finish to furniture.

Cotton

Cotton is a plant fiber known for its softness, breathability, and durability, making it a popular choice for upholstery textiles. It offers a comfortable feel and is available in a wide range of colors and patterns, enhancing the aesthetic appeal of furniture.

Linen

Linen is a plant fiber prized for its strength, durability, and elegant texture, making it an excellent choice for upholstery textiles. It offers a cool, breathable feel and adds a sophisticated touch to furniture.

Today, we are continuing to evolve our offering by introducing biobased coated products, beginning with our first biobased polyurethane textile, Ethos, and have verified the biobased content in our products via third-party ASTM D6866 testing and USDA certification.

Coated Upholstery



Biobased Polyurethane

Biobased polyurethane, made from renewable resources like corn, is used in upholstery textiles for its sustainability and high performance. It offers excellent durability, stain resistance, and cleanability, making it a sustainable alternative to traditional polyurethane.

Wallcovering



Wool

Wool used for wallcovering offers excellent insulation, sound absorption, and a luxurious texture, making it an ideal choice for enhancing both the comfort and aesthetics of interior spaces. Its natural resilience and durability ensure a long-lasting, elegant finish that adds warmth and sophistication to any room.

Cellulose

Cellulose derived from sustainably-forested wood pulp forms the basis of our printed non-vinyl wallcovering. It provides a sustainable option that offers durability and a smooth finish, enhancing the aesthetic appeal of interior spaces.