

ROMATEX

ALL ABOUT STITCH BOND

Stitch-bonded non-woven material: from plastic bottles to fabric

Romatex is a leading manufacturer and supplier of stitch-bonded non-woven material in South Africa. This sustainable textile is manufactured from recycled polyethylene terephthalate (rPET) plastic, which is most commonly used to produce plastic bottles.

There are many end uses for stitch-bonded non-woven material, including shopping bags, waterproofing membranes, vertical blinds, home textiles, footwear, eco-blocks for housing construction, home textiles and bags.

The colour of the material is determined by the rPET used; beige material comes from ginger beer bottles, green material comes from lemonade bottles and white material comes from clear plastic bottles. Romatex also offers custom dyeing and printing services for customers that purchase stitch-bonded non-woven material.

We have the capacity to manufacture two million square metres of this material every month, which is enough to eradicate around 54 million plastic bottles from landfills. This sustainable textile is hugely beneficial for the economy and the environment. It is an ideal product for rPET and sustains South Africa's recycling industry.

HOW IS STITCH-BONDED NON-WOVEN MATERIAL MADE?

Stitch-bonding is a process whereby the fibres of the material are bonded together by stitching them with a continuous filament. This creates a series of loops that hold the fibres together. The fibres are made from rPET, which begins its life as plastic bottles and other PET products.

This plastic is collected by recyclers and informal waste collectors from landfills across the country. The plastic bottles are sold to recycling facilities, which wash, dry and separate the plastic by colour. They do this so that the rPET has a uniform colour at the end of the process; if all colours were recycled together, then the end product would not be as appealing.

The plastics are pelletised by the recycling facility and sold to various companies. For stitch-bonded non-woven material, these pellets are then extruded into the thin fibres used to create the bulk of the textile. These fibres are stitched together with a polyester filament by Romatex. It is a 100% local product; nothing is imported.

ROMATEX PRODUCES VARIOUS TEXTILES

We are able to produce stitch-bonded non-woven material in various widths and weights, depending on the needs of the customer. The majority of this material is used to manufacture recycled shopping bags for large South African retailers, but some of it is also sold to other end users.

Our dyeing and printing services enable us to create bespoke logos and labels for the material. These materials are important for minimising the environmental impact of plastics and contribute to the local employment sector and economy. It supports numerous business and informal jobs along the entire supply chain. For more information on our various products and textiles, please contact us today.

Romatex has been a leading manufacturer and supplier of stitch-bonded non-woven materials and homeware for over 50 years. Romatex is a Level 2 B-BBEE company that is owned by Deneb Investments Limited, a subsidiary of Hosken Consolidated Investments (HCI), which is listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE).

USES FOR STITCH-BONDED NON-WOVEN MATERIAL

Stitch-bonded non-woven material is made from recycled plastic bottles (called rPET). Romatex is a leading manufacturer and supplier of this sustainable textile in South Africa. We produce around

two million square metres of stitch-bonded non-woven material every month, which is sold as fabric to various companies.

The colours of the material depend on the colour of the recycled plastic bottles. For example, our beige material gets its colour from ginger beer bottles, whereas our green material comes from recycled lemonade bottles. White stitch-bonded non-woven material is made from clear plastics, such as water and cola bottles.

We offer bespoke dyeing and printing services too, so our textiles can be dyed or printed with labels and logos on behalf of our customers. Unlike woven fabrics, stitch-bonded non-woven material is held together by a continuous thread of polymer twine. Since it is manufactured from plastic fibres, this textile has certain properties that are better suited to some products and uses.

WHAT IS STITCH-BONDED NON-WOVEN MATERIAL USED FOR?

There are many applications for this sustainable textile. The current range of markets that Romatex supplies include recycled shopping bags, waterproof membranes, home textiles, footwear, furniture, vertical window blinds and more. These products all contribute to the sustainable cycle of reused plastic, which helps to minimise plastic waste in our landfills and environment.

Recycled shopping bags – One of the main uses for stitch-bonded non-woven material is recycled shopping bags. Many South African retailers offer these fabric bags to customers to keep and reuse. You have probably seen white, green, black, dyed and printed shopping bags at your favourite supermarket.

Waterproof membranes – This is another major market for Romatex stitch-bonded non-woven material. Waterproof membranes are used in the construction industry to seal roofs and walls.

Home textiles – Stitch-bonded non-woven material is also used in various home textiles, from mattresses and furniture to curtains and carpets. It's a lightweight and eco-friendly alternative to cotton and other fabrics.

Footwear – This textile is used in the manufacturing of shoes, as an internal layer.

Vertical blinds – Next time you're in an office or home with vertical window blinds, take a closer look at the material. This textile is commonly used to manufacture flexible window blinds in various colours. However, offices most often use beige or dark grey blinds which are part of our range.

Eco-blocks – Stitch-bonded non-woven material can be used to make eco-blocks for housing and construction. It's the perfect solution to turn plastic waste into permanent and affordable building materials. The fabric can be filled with sand or other materials to create strong bricks.

Romatex supplies stitch-bonded non-woven material to various industries in South Africa. In the last year alone, we have turned 54-million plastic bottles into this eco-friendly textile. As more uses are created, stitch-bonded non-woven material is set to become a more versatile and beneficial textile. For more information on our various products and textiles, please contact us today.

Romatex Bedding and Linen Factory Shop - all contact details and more info can be found via the following link: <https://factory-shops-cape-town-south-africa.blaauwberg.net/bedding/romatex-bedding-linen-factory-shop/romatex-bedding-linen-factory-shop>

Elsies River, Cape Town

Explore this shop via a YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/BfwJz0tjzeQ>