

Knife Coated Nylon

A BETTER FABRIC SOLUTION.

Richey uses 22 Ounce knife coated nylon fabric in all pit section encasements and 18 ounce knife coated nylon fabric in all pit weather covers. There are particular benefits to our nylon fabric over the competition's polyester:

1. 22 Ounce Versus 18 Ounce. All other factors equal, thicker fabric has more vinyl coat which leads to higher abrasion and UV resistance.
1. Tensile Strength. Specifically grab tensile strength, 22 ounce nylon is 10% stronger than 22 ounce polyester, and 33% stronger than 18 ounce polyester. 18 ounce nylon is 6.7% stronger than 18 ounce polyester. Stronger fabric is the greatest factor for longevity in athletic padding.
2. Knife Coated Fabric. Unlike laminates, knife coated fabric, although more expensive, has a much lower instance of delamination than laminated fabrics. This has to do with the coating's ability to fill the voids in the scrim of the base fabric and expand during the curing process, causing greater adhesion. Knife coated fabrics are less likely to show the "cracking" that laminated fabrics exhibit, exposing the base fabric to the elements.
3. Proprietary Adhesive Coat Between the Base Fabric and the Back/Face Coat. This coating forms a molecular bond between the back/face coat and the base fabric during the knife coating process. It is critical in maintaining a better level of adhesion than other fabrics on the market.
4. Thicker Face Coat. This provides higher abrasion resistance and superior UV protection than fabrics coated with equal weights on the face and back coat.
5. Low Stretch/Shrink Coefficients. Because of the proprietary weaving process of our DOMESTIC Fabric Manufacturer/Supplier, including exclusive coating compound formulations (utilizing Elvaloy® KEE by DuPont™ as the principal polymer) and the inclusion of Kynar fibers in the base nylon weave, we see less stretching and shrinking in our fabric than our competitors advertise. Repeated testing of pits in the field show less than 0.4% (or about 3/8" in 10 feet) of fabric movement away from the original cut sizes.
6. Made in the USA. We will never use fabric woven, coated, or otherwise manipulated outside of this country.

