

Sunbrella® Fabric

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What does "solution-dyed" mean?

A: The term "solution-dyed" refers to superior pigments that are added during the production of fade-resistant Sunbrella fiber. The final result is Sunbrella yarn and fabric with color throughout that will not fade or wash away. Think "carrot."

For other fabric, dyes are added to the surface of the yarn or fabric. The color only penetrates the outer layer and washes out or fades away over time. Think "radish."

Q: Do Sunbrella fabrics provide UV protection?

A: Sunbrella fabrics have been tested and proven to provide up to 98% UV protection from harmful effects of the sun when used in shade applications. Sunbrella fabrics have been awarded the "Seal of Recommendation" by The Skin Cancer Foundation, an international organization dedicated to the prevention of skin cancer. Lighter colors provide less protection than darker colors which have more depth of color. This UV protective factor is inherent to the product and will not be reduced by usage or exposure to the sun.

Q: Is Sunbrella fabric waterproof?

A: Sunbrella fabrics are designed to be breathable, so they are water repellent but not completely waterproof. Over time, the water repellency can be refreshed by using 303 Fabric Guard.

Q: Are there different grades or weights of outdoor Sunbrella fabric and does it affect UV protection?

A: Glen Raven, the maker of Sunbrella, manufactures many different materials for outdoor applications. Sunbrella Marine Grade and Awning collections are the standard outdoor acrylic fabric. Sunbrella Furniture Fabric is designed for both indoor and outdoor use and each collection varies in weight and weave construction. Sunbrella Plus is similar to the Sunbrella Marine Grade, but it has a urethane coating on one side for greater water and abrasion resistance. Sunbrella Supreme is also similar to Sunbrella Marine Grade but it has a soft flocking adhered to one side of the acrylic that increases water and abrasion resistance. As a general rule, UV protection increases with heavier grade fabric.

Q: Can graphics, letters or logos be painted on Sunbrella fabric?

A: Yes, acrylic paint can be used to actually paint images, letters, etc right on the surface of Sunbrella.

Q: Can I use Sunbrella on indoor furniture?

A: Absolutely! Sunbrella is now available in thousands of sophisticated styles designed for indoor furniture and is perfect for living rooms, sun rooms, dining rooms, or any place in your home. Sunbrella Furniture Fabric has a softer texture and feel but still has the same performance features Sunbrella is known for - easy to clean, colorfast, and long lasting.



Sailrite Enterprises, Inc.

2390 East 100 South, Columbia City, IN 46725

Phone (800) 348-2769 / (260) 244-4647

Fax (260) 818-2005

Email info@sailrite.com

Sailrite.com

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