

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF STANDARDS

George K. Burgess, Director

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MASTER SPECIFICATION FOR
TABLECLOTHS, COTTON

FEDERAL SPECIFICATIONS BOARD SPECIFICATION No. 500

This specification was officially promulgated by the Federal Specifications Board on June 10, 1927, for the use of the departments and independent establishments of the Government in the purchase of cotton tablecloths.

[The latest date on which the technical requirements of this specification shall become mandatory for all departments and independent establishments of the Government, is September 10, 1927. They may be put into effect, however, at any earlier date after promulgation]

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I. GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

United States Government general specifications for textile materials, Federal Specifications Board specification No. 345, in effect on date of proposal, wherever applicable, shall form part of this specification.

II. TYPES AND GRADE

1. TYPES.—The tablecloths shall be of the following types as specified: Type A, tablecloths finished. Type B, tablecloth in bolt form.

2. GRADE.—The grade shall be that commercially known as "firsts."

III. MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP

The tablecloths shall be made of cotton thoroughly cleaned and free from waste and as free as practical from avoidable imperfections of manufacture.

IV. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. WEAVE.—Unless otherwise specified the pattern shall be striped, the stripes to be approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide running parallel to the selvage.

2. WIDTH.—The width shall be 58, 64, or 72 inches. A plus or minus tolerance of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch will be permitted.

3. WEIGHT.—The weight per square yard shall be $5\frac{1}{2}$ ounces. A tolerance of plus or minus $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent will be permitted.

4. THREADS PER INCH.—The threads per inch shall be not less than 90 in the warp and not less than 75 in the filling.

5. STRENGTH.—The breaking strength (grab method) shall be not less than 75 pounds in the warp and not less than 55 pounds in the filling.

6. FINISH.—The fabric shall be fully bleached and mercerized. The sizing shall not exceed 5 per cent by weight.

7. STENCILING OR WOVEN INSIGNIA.—If required, stenciling or woven insignia shall be as specified.

V. DETAIL REQUIREMENTS

1. LENGTH—*Type A*.—The length of the finished tablecloths shall be as specified.

Type B.—The length of the bolts shall average 40 yards (approximately).

2. MAKE-UP OF TYPE A.—The finished tablecloths shall be truly rectangular. The cut ends shall have a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch hem uniform in width. All corners shall be over and back stitched.

VI. METHOD OF SAMPLING

SAMPLING—*Type A (tablecloths, finished)*.—One tablecloth from each 1,000 or fraction thereof shall be taken for test purposes.

Type B (tablecloth in bolt form).—In purchases of 10,000 yards or less a sample shall be taken from each 1,000 yards, 10,000 yards and over a sample shall be taken from each one-tenth of the shipment. The sample shall be at least $\frac{1}{2}$ yard long by the width of the material.

VII. PACKING AND MARKING OF SHIPMENTS

Shall be in accordance with the best commercial practice unless otherwise specified.

VIII. NOTES

1. Woven insignia should not be specified unless a sufficient quantity is ordered to warrant the cost of the special loom set-up.

2. This specification is based on Emergency Fleet Corporation, United States Shipping Board specification.

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