

A GENERAL GUIDELINE TO WHICH ITEMS REQUIRE TESTING FOR SHA'ATNEZ¹

THINGS CHANGES ALL THE TIME. THIS LIST MERELY REFLECTS CIRCUMSTANCES CURRENT AT ABOUT THE TIME OF THIS WRITING (2009). YOU MUST CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL SHA'ATNEZ TESTER OR LABORATORY FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION. THE NOTATION "NO TESTING REQUIRED" MERELY MEANS THAT IN RECENT YEARS NO SHA'ATNEZ HAS BEEN FOUND IN THESE GOODS. THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT THIS WILL REMAIN THE CASE FOREVER.

ITEM	REQUIREMENT
Alterations, Tailoring	Items sent for alterations or tailoring, even to an Observant tailor, should be retested when returned.
Army/Navy Surplus	Testing required.
Bags – cloth	No testing required.
Bandages, Dressings for Wounds, Compresses, etc.	No testing required. There is no prohibition of wearing Sha'atnez for these items.
Baseball gloves	May contain felt pads of recycled material. Halachic opinions on this complex issue vary widely.
Bekeshes with lining	Testing recommended.
Bekeshes without lining	No testing required.
Belts – leather	No testing required.
Blankets	If made of wool, reprocessed wool or mixed fibers require testing. Hand-made blankets such as those made in India or Arab shuq should be tested.
Blazers	Require testing.
Blouses/dresses/jumpers – women's and children	The material may be made of Sha'atnez. Sha'atnez has been found in the collars, trimming, patches, collars, cuffs, etc. Wool or cotton blouses made of a single fabric without decorations or applications do not require testing, unless the neck is a separate piece. Pure wool gabardines and crepes; cottons and poly-cottons do not require testing. Rayons and silks are often blended with wool or linen.
Boots – men's and women's	Since the lining may be made of wool and filling or stitching may be made with linen, boots require testing.
Bow ties	No testing required.
Caps	Require testing when fabric is wool, tweed, linen, or linen-look. Genuine wool "Kangool" caps do not

¹ This table was updated by Rabbi Zvi Solomon from the "2009 guide to a Shatnez free home" produced by I.A.O.P.S.L. The footnotes and layout were produced by R' Ruvien Brauner.

	require testing.
Carpets, rugs	Woolen carpets and rugs require testing since some are backed or reinforced with linen. Non-woolen carpets and rugs do not require testing.
Coats - fur	Require testing.
Coats – winter	Require testing regardless if they are long or short, for men, women or children. Down coats, anoraks and parkas with a polyester lining or down filling do not require testing.
Coats - woolen	Require testing.
Costumes	Require testing.
Couches, chairs, sofas	If the upholstery fabric is made of wool or linen, they require testing. Sometimes, linen threads are used in the stitching. Synthetic or cotton fabric generally contains no Sha'atnez. Stuffing may contain reprocessed material. Check labels which, in this case, are usually accurate (at least in the USA). Most sofas made in Israel prior to 1980 contain Sha'atnez.
Covers – quilt, pillow	Embroidered covers may be made with linen or the filling may be made with discarded materials. Require testing.
Curtains ²	Textured or linen-looking curtain fabrics may contain linen and/or wool. Smooth or plain fabrics do not require testing.
Cushions	See Pillows
Custom-made clothing	Require testing.
Doll's clothing	No testing required.
Drapes	Thick drapes which look like linen may contain wool and linen. Thin drapes do not require testing.
Dresses	See Blouses.
Earmuffs	No testing required.
Embroidery kits	Require testing. This includes embroidery, crewel and needlepoint which is to be used for tablecloths and pillows. One should refrain from draping over one's lap when sewing it (if it is wool and linen)
Fabrics, trimmings and threads	Those purchased in a fabric store are often mislabeled. Require testing.
Gloves	Rarely is Sha'atnez found. Hand-made or very expensive gloves, linen-look, lists wool or those with "other fabrics" (O.F.) require testing.

² See SO YD 301:11.

Handbags	No testing required, unless made from linen or wool.
Hats - felt	No testing required ³ , unless has pompom, piping, or applique.
Hats - fur	Require testing.
Headbands	Ask a Rov.
Housecoats - woolen	Require testing.
Jackets – men’s and women’s	Require testing (whether made in Israel or imported).
Jogging suits	No testing required.
Jumpers	See Blouses.
Kapotes	See Bekeshes.
Knitting yarn	Multi-colored or linen-look yarns should be tested
Linens - bed	No testing required.
Linen garments	Require testing
Material, fabrics – unlabeled	Require testing.
Mattresses	Standard mattresses don’t require
Oven mitts	Require testing ⁴ .
Pajamas	No testing required.
Pants	Wool or linen pants require testing. Even if bought as part of a suit and the jacket was tested clean.
Picture frames	No testing required ⁵ .
Pillows - bed,	Don’t require testing
Pillows-throw	Require testing
Potholders	Require testing if reprocessed insulation ⁶ .
Purse	No testing required ⁷ .
Quilts	Polyester and down-filled quilts do not require testing.
Raincoats	Require testing if contain wool in fabric or lining.
Robes	Wool or linen require testing.
Russian-made clothing	Contain a lot of woolen and linen. Any woven item from Russia must be tested.
Scarves	No testing required unless multi-colored, knitted, or list other fibers.

³ The Shach (SO YD 300:1) explains that most Poskim agree that soft felt is only Rabbinically prohibited, while hard felt is certainly permitted. Interestingly, the Pischai T’shuva in 301 quoting the Chomos Yirusholoyim says that we are “no longer experts on what is ‘soft’ or ‘hard’”.

⁴ See SO YD 301:12.

⁵ See SO YD 301.

⁶ See SO YD 301:12.

⁷ The prohibition of Sha’atnez does not apply to a change-purse or wallet and one can even hold them in his hand or in his pocket. See DE 19:85.

Sheets	No testing required.
Shirts - childrens	See Blouses – women’s.
Shirts – cotton or polyester	No testing required.
Shirts – sports, woven	No testing required.
Ski caps	If made in USA or Canada, no testing required. If made in Europe, testing is required.
Skirts	Require testing, except for those made in the USA or Canada.
Sleeping bags	Require testing.
Slippers, house-shoes	If made of wool or linen, testing is required.
Sneakers	No testing required unless covered with tweed, plaid or linen-look.
Socks	Sha’atnez rarely found. Socks made of wool with a linen toe reinforcement have been found.
Sports equipment	Boxing gloves, hockey equipment, etc. are usually stuffed with recycled shredded textile waste.
Stuffed toys	May contain reprocessed stuffing.
Suits – men’s and women’s	A high percentage of suits and sports jackets have been found to have Sha’atnez whether made in Israel or abroad, and even when made by G-d-fearing Jews. All suits, blazers, vests, etc., therefore, must be tested, and even if identical suits were bought from the same store and found to be Kosher.
Suspenders	No testing required.
Sweaters – men’s	Any sweater that lists percentages of wool, cashmere, mohair, alpaca, angora, linen, ramie, or “other fibers” require testing. 100% silk, Acrylic, or cotton sweaters don’t require unless they have pompoms, appliqué, embroidery, or knitted with novelty yarn
Sweaters – women’s	Same as above
Tablecloths	Linen tablecloths with embroidery require testing.
Talleisim	No testing required. There have been isolated cases where threads of linen were found in woolen Talleisim.
Tichels	No testing required.
Ties	Some linings are made of wool. If so, all linen ties require testing. Polyester ties with textured fabric may contain linen.
Towels	Don’t require testing.
Trimmings	Recommended to be tested if to be used for a pillow or