

Maine Cottage®

Linen Fabrics

Why Choose Linen?

Maine Cottage fabrics are selected to optimize color vibrancy and durability. Our 100% linen and linen blend fabrics feature original colors and/or our own artwork custom-dyed to Maine Cottage color standards. Here are some of the important characteristics and benefits of choosing linen fabrics:

- Linen is crisp, clean with unmatched comfort.
- It is soft, yet strong and durable. The more it is used, the softer and stronger it becomes.
- It remains colorfast and launders beautifully.
- It absorbs up to 20% of its weight in moisture before it feels damp, and easily releases moisture to the air to remain cool and dry to the touch - making it perfect for coastal homes.
- It has the additional advantage to be non-allergenic.
- Growing Flax requires considerably fewer pesticides and fertilizers than other crops.
- Linen fibers are recyclable and eventually will biodegrade.

For all these reasons, linen offers designers unlimited creative potential to use linen in home furnishing fabrics and apparel. Upholstered furniture and bedding made with pure or blended linen are in vogue and we never tire of linen at the dining table. The utility of linen in the kitchen is unrivaled. No other fiber can offer this unique blend of luxury and comfort, supreme elegance and down-to-earth practicality.

What is Linen?

'Linum Usitatissimum' translates from the Latin as "most useful linen." In naming this species, botanists recognized the inherent value of the humble flax plant. For ten thousand years or more, we have known this gentle gift of nature was the source of textiles with special properties: soft hand, rich color absorption, lasting durability, and superior comfort.

Ecologically-Correct

Linen is ecologically-correct: every part of the flax plant is used. Flax is most renowned as the raw material for an extraordinary fabric, but the by-products are used for various purposes too. For example, the seeds provide oil for dyes, paint, cosmetics and floor coverings. When the plant is ground, it forms a flour used in poultices. The fibers have even been used as sutures! The by-products of linen production are processed into a pulp used for banknotes or fiberboard. There is no waste in linen production.

Grown and Fabricated in Europe

Flax is one of the few crops still produced in Western Europe, with nearly 130,000 acres under cultivation annually. Climatic conditions in this region are perfect for growing flax, and increasing worldwide demand for linen makes it an important crop.

You will Love Maine Cottage Linen

Call us today to request swatches (\$1) or purchase our vibrant, easy-care 100% linen and linen blend fabrics by-the-yard.

Information about linen provided by renowned Belgian linen manufacturer Libeco-Lagae.

mainecottage.com (888) 859.5522