

Accreditation Scheme for Manufacturers of Cotton Mops



The Accreditation Scheme for Manufacturers of Cotton Mops was inaugurated in 1995.

Before the Scheme, buyers of cotton mops used long-standing and commonly accepted weight descriptors to order the product. A typical order was for 12, 14 or 16 mops. The descriptors used to refer to the weight of the mop in ounces, but they were ill-defined and not uniform across the industry. For example, a 12 mop may or may not have weighed 12 ounces. If it did, there was no way to know how much of the weight was the expensive yarn and how much the socket. The variation in weight of different sockets is huge, but irrelevant to the performance of the mop.

The CHSA Accreditation Scheme for Manufacturers of Cotton Mops addressed this challenge. The Scheme defines precisely what the weight refers to and the cotton content of the yarn.

The Scheme Specification

- The yarn of every cotton mop must be at least 70% cotton.
- A No 12 mop has a minimum of 160 grm yarn.
- A No 14 has a minimum of 210 grm yarn.
- A No 16 has a minimum of 260 grm yarn.

In addition, members must:

- For CHSA Accredited Product, the manufacturer, whether in the UK, Europe or overseas, must provide a copy of their most recent official ethical audit report which meets the minimum CHSA requirements of an ethical audit which covers labour and health and safety standards. A comprehensive ethical audit would also be acceptable, to encompass the following areas:
 - Labour standards
 - Health & Safety
 - Environment
 - Business Ethics
- Sign the CHSA's Code of Practice, which includes the Competition & Markets Authority's Green Claims Code.
- Sign the CHSA's Ethical Marketing Commitment.



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Testing and inspection

Every member of the Accreditation Scheme for Cotton Mops works with third-party laboratories to produce independently verifiable test results to confirm the cotton. First the fibres are reviewed through a microscope and then a series of chemical tests are conducted to isolate and determine the percentage of each fibre present.

The Independent Inspector of the CHSA's Accreditation Schemes evaluates the evidence and test results to confirm the Scheme member complies with the specifications. He also weighs a sample of the cotton mops, accounting for the weight of the socket, to confirm the weight of the yarn is as specified.

Where once there was a free for all in terms of the weight and content of cotton mops, there is now consistency across the industry. Buyers of cotton mops can depend on the CHSA Accreditation Scheme for Manufacturers of Cotton Mops to make sure they get what they pay for.

Our Standards. Your Guarantee.



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