

Visual Fabric Maps

The printable companion guide to support your sewing projects.

NON-STRETCH

Structure	Crisp but still light	Stable fabrics	Shape-holding, architectural, outerwear zone
Structure	<p>Crisp but still light</p> <p><i>Projects: shirts, summer tops, neat silhouettes</i></p> <p><u>Fabrics: broadcloth, poplin, oxford, seersucker, dobby, chambray</u></p>	<p>Stable fabrics</p> <p><i>Projects: pants, fitted skirts, jackets, light suiting</i></p> <p><u>Fabrics: twill, garbadine, linen, corduroy, suiting fabrics, jacquard</u></p>	<p>Shape-holding, architectural, outerwear zone</p> <p><i>Projects: coats, structured skirts, jackets, statement pieces</i></p> <p><u>Fabrics: denim, heavy wool, boucle, brocade, Mikado, shantung/dupioni, leather / suede, quilted fabrics, faux fur, tech fabrics (woven, ripstop)</u></p>
Drape	<p>Soft flow, movement, often semi-sheer</p> <p><i>Projects: blouses, flowing dresses, gathered skirts, overlays</i></p> <p><u>Fabrics: chiffon, georgette, challis, charmeuse, batiste, lawn, swiss dot, organza</u></p>	<p>Some body but still moves</p> <p><i>Projects: everyday dresses, skirts, relaxed tailoring</i></p> <p><u>Fabrics: crepe, sateen, satin, peachskin, rayon</u></p>	<p>Soft weight, relaxed bulk</p> <p><i>Projects: cozy skirts, soft jackets, seasonal garments</i></p> <p><u>Fabrics: wool crepe, flannel, some heavier linens</u></p>
Light Weight		Medium Weight	Heavy Weight

STRETCH

Structure	Light but holds shape Projects: polos, fitted tops, athletic layers Fabrics: pique, interlock, cotton jersey	Stable stretch Projects: fitted dresses, pants, tailored knits Fabrics: ponte, Liverpool, scuba knit, neoprene, double knit, interlock	Shape-holding architectural Projects: outerwear, athleisure layers, structured garments Fabrics: compression, tech fabrics, nylon blends, sherpa, cableknit, stretch boucle
	Flowy, soft, body-skimming Projects: tops, gathered dresses, flowing skirts, layering Fabrics: jersey knit, bamboo jersey, rayon jersey, ITY knits, mesh, lace, tricot, tulle	Moves but has some body Projects: everyday dresses, tops, skirts Fabrics: brushed knit, double knit, polyester blends, gauze, rib knit	Soft bulk, cozy silhouettes Projects: relaxed sweaters, knit jackets Fabrics: sweater knit, cashmere knit, rib knit (chunky)
Drape	Light Weight		Medium Weight
Heavy Weight			

DECISION GUIDE

When choosing fabrics, consider:

1. Does it **DRAPE** or **HOLD SHAPE**? → determines silhouette
2. How **HEAVY** is it? → determines garment category

PRO TIP: If your **PATTERN** lives in the same zone as your fabric, it is a GOOD match

Non-Stretch Examples:

- Lightweight + drapey → blouse
- Medium + structured → pants or fitted skirt
- Heavy + structured → outerwear
- Heavy + drapey → winter garments

Stretch Examples:

- Lightweight + drapey → wrap dress
- Medium + structured → ponte pants
- Heavy + structured → knit jacket
- Heavy + drapey → oversized sweater