

# COTTON

Cotton is a soft, fluffy staple fiber that grows in a boll, or protective case, around the seeds of the cotton plants of the genus *Gossypium* in the mallow family Malvaceae. The fiber is almost pure cellulose, and can contain minor percentages of waxes, fats, pectins, and water. Under natural conditions, the cotton bolls will increase the dispersal of the seeds.

**The manufacturing process of cotton fibers involve several stages.**

1. Cultivating and harvesting the cotton plants.
2. Extracting cotton from the plant.
3. Ginning the cotton modules.
4. Scouring and purifying the cotton.
5. Reopening and drying the cotton.
6. Finishing the fibers.
7. Carding the cotton fibers to form long strands.
8. Spinning the strands to create yarn.
9. Weaving or knitting the yarn to make fabrics.