

SHELL

Also known as the “Envelope”, the shell is the outermost fabric of a necktie. This fabric is cut “on the bias” (45 degrees to its warp and weft threads) to allow flexibility and maintain shape.

INTERLINING

Hidden between the folds of the outer shell is the interlining. Interlining plays a major role in giving a tie shape, weight and bulk. The interlining of a quality necktie is commonly made of brushed wool. 6 & 7 fold ties do not use interlining.

KEEPER LOOP

The “keeper loop” is an extra piece of fabric that is sewn onto the backside of the wider end (blade) of a necktie. When the tail of a tie is placed through this loop (after knotting) it helps to keep the tail out of sight.

ROLLED EDGE

The edge of a necktie (where the shell goes from the front to the back) is rolled and carefully pressed. This ensures a fullness at the edge as opposed to a flat crease.

LABEL

Most neckties include a label that is sewn below the keeper loop. This label displays the manufacturer or brand of the necktie. The tail may also be inserted through this loop for added security.

CARE & ORIGIN TAG

Care & origin tags contain details and information about a necktie. This may include country of origin, materials used and special care instructions.

BAR TACK

The bar tack is a heavy stitch that holds the two sides of a necktie together. It reinforces the slip stitching and helps a necktie maintain its shape. You may also find a bar tack on the tail of a necktie.

SLIP STITCH

Made with a long single thread and running the entire length of a necktie, this hidden stitching holds the two overlapping sides together and helps a necktie regain its shape after wear. The slip stitch is sewn loosely to prevent breakage from repeated knotting.

TIPPING

“Tipping” is the fabric that is sewn onto the backside of the tip and tail of a necktie. “Decorative Tipping” uses a fabric that is different than the shell of the tie while “self tipping” uses the same fabric as the shell.

MARGIN/HEM

The “margin” is the distance from the edge of the blade to the tipping. The “hem” is the finishing stitch that connects the shell to the tipping. Together the margin and the hem allow for a soft rounded edge and keep the tipping hidden when seen from the front.

