

Denim Fit Guide



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How should I care for my jeans?

To best care for your jeans, it is important to follow the care instructions found on the manufacturer's wash tag inside each pair of jeans, since every jean may have slightly different wash and care instructions. It is also advisable to wash your jeans inside out to best protect against fading and general damage to special details. Be mindful when washing new denim with other apparel items because some dyes used in certain types of denim can transfer to other clothing. Some fabrics require dry cleaning only and should not be placed in a washing machine or dryer.



My jeans feel too tight. What should I do?

Denim will usually stretch, so we always recommend putting your jeans on and wearing them for a bit before you make your final assessment on how your jeans fit. Sit, stand, walk, etc. and they should begin to stretch. If your jeans feel like they have stretched a little too much you can try placing them in the dryer in order to help shrink them back to their original shape. Remember to consider the wash and care instructions from the manufacturer.



Will my jeans shrink?

It is not uncommon for your jeans to shrink anywhere from a ¼ to a ½ an inch if you put your jeans in the dryer after washing. The jeans will usually stretch out a bit with wear and then shrink back once washed. If your jeans require hemming, we do recommend washing your jeans according to the wash and care instructions, before bringing them to a tailor.



What is fabric weight and how is it determined?

The weight refers to how much a yard of fabric weighs.

A yard of 14 oz. denim weighs 14 oz.

Denim runs from 5 to 20 oz and the less the weight, the lighter and softer feel the denim will have.



I've purchased jeans that are a little long and need to be hemmed. What is the best way to go about doing this?

.Almost any tailor can shorten your jeans to fit you perfectly to wear with heels or flats. Make sure to specify that you want the original hem put back on once the jeans are shortened. This will ensure that you do not lose the authentic look and styling of the jeans' hem once they have been shortened.

We recommend washing your jeans according to the wash and care instructions, before you take your jeans to be hemmed, since the length may shrink a bit.

If you do not have a tailor in your area that can do an original hem for you, please e-mail customer care at customercare@truejeans.com. Please put "Hemming Request" in the subject line of the e-mail and True Jeans will have an original hem placed on your jeans before they ship to you.



Why should I ask to have the original hem re-attached?

Not only is it aesthetically more pleasing, but also the majority of designer jeans have extra abrasions on the hem for a more vintage look that gets lost from a standard hemming job. It is also makes it less apparent that the jeans have been taken up.



Why are some jeans so expensive?

There are so many components and factors that go into making a pair of jeans, –such as different manufacturing processes and treatments that contribute to the quality and look of the fabric.

For example, the fibers used to create denim may be made by regular spinning cotton and some fibers are made with a special spindle called a ring spun, which spins the cotton unevenly and gives the finished fabric more character and depth, making it a more expensive and more authentic procedure.

This is followed by the cost of cutting the fabric, sewing all the pieces together, and adding the trimming (buttons, zippers, rivets, embroidery, pockets, belt loops, etc.). Even within these trimming there are some companies that use nickel rivets and buttons, which are the cheapest. Finally, there is the washing, which is usually the lion's share of the cost. There are so many different forms and techniques of washing denim that sometimes the washing costs more than the fabric, cut and sew together!

The more details jeans have, the more expensive they are. So every little detail adds extra cost to the manufacturing and, inevitably, the quality of the product.





Will my new jeans bleed?

The more unprocessed the denim, the more likely it is to bleed, so in terms of being a sign of quality, bleed is good. Some cottons lose their dyes when you wash them, especially fabrics with vivid colors. The dyes can stain other fabrics in your wash load. The first time you launder your jeans, wash them alone to prevent dye from bleeding onto other clothes.



What should the proper length of my jeans be?

The recommended length for jeans varies depending on the style of the jean and your style preferences. The proper length will also depend on the shoes you wear with each pair of jeans, but in general your pant's hem should rest comfortably on the top of your shoes. To help us determine the appropriate length for you, please measure the inseam of a pair of jeans that you already like the length of.

Glossary of Denim Terms



Abrasion – refers to the scraping or running of the surface of the fabric giving it a worn or faded look, most often by use of pumice stones.



Denim - 1. Usually a cotton fabric made with indigo dyed warp yarns woven with natural weft yarns in a regular twill weave.
2. Traditionally 100% cotton, but can now be used with other fabrics, it is a coarse twilled cloth.



Finishing – the techniques or processes performed on a garment, which give it its unique look.



Five pocket jeans - the usual four pockets (2 front, 2 back) plus a coin pocket inside of the front right pocket.



Inseam - the seam on the inside of the pant leg.



Grinding - creates the look of age and wear. It is generally applied to hems, seams, belt loops, pockets and waistbands.



Indigo - a blue dye obtained from plants or made synthetically.



Lycra - DuPont's trademark for a spandex fiber.



"Resin Bake" crease - a relatively new finishing treatment. The process seeks to replicate the look of permanent creases which normally would occur only after repeated wear and abuse heaped on specific areas.



Rise - the length of fabric from the crotch seam to the top (or, depending on the maker, sometimes the bottom) of the waistband.



Rivets – metal tabs placed at stress points such as pockets to prevent tearing.



Sandblasting- a laundry process performed before washing in which jeans are shot with sand in order to abrade them and cause a worn appearance. While originally done by hand, this process is now automated at most large laundry houses.



Spandex - generic name for man-made fibers derived from a resin called segmented polyurethane. It has good stretch and recovery properties.



Specs – specifications; a detailed statement of particulars, especially a statement stipulating materials, dimensions, and quality of work for something to be manufactured.



Wash - the color and texture produced by the finishing process of washing the jean; creates varying results, such as an aged appearance or enhanced softness and can include applying colored dye and resin.



Weight - the lightness or heaviness of the denim.

Approximately 8 ounces is a breezy, cotton-y fabric; 14 ounces is on the hefty side.



Whiskering – a fading of the ridges and creases in the hip and crotch area and back of the knees, which gives the appearance of aged denim; can also be the inverse – dark creased in faded denim.