

how to order a zipper



Ordering of zippers is a key step in the garment manufacture process. Any mistakes made at this stage will have an impact on the entire garment production process. Today, we will highlight the precautions to be taken while ordering the zipper. Typically, the garment manufacturers specify their requirements when ordering zippers i.e. the size, length, colour, and quantity. However, it is important to understand exactly what these specifications mean.

Length

A common error made while ordering zippers is to measure the length of the teeth or the length of the opening between the top stop and the bottom stop. A faulty order of this sort may result in the buyer ending up with a zipper 6 to 12mm short (1/4" to 1/2"). Another error is to measure and order a zipper by taking into account the tape extension, which will give a much larger zipper than intended. Close-ended zipper: length should be measured from top of the top stop to the bottom of the bottom stop
Open-ended zipper: length should be measured from top of the top stop to the bottom of the box & pin

Colours & DTM

Colours that are selected from the standard range are usually delivered faster. Every zipper manufacturer has a standard shade card with a large number of colour options (for example, the TEX shade card offers over 300 shades). Colours can also be DTM(Dyed-To-Match). DTM involves developing 3 colour options for the type of zipper required, based on fabric swatches provided by the garment manufacturer. The buyer can select the closest match or request further options. The process of developing DTM shades sometimes leads to extension of delivery period by 5-7 days. At times, the matching is extremely difficult, especially if it involves multi-colour fabrics/mixed yarn/velvets or pile fabrics/fabrics with sheen e.g. silks. In some cases, computer matching is used to confirm the match between the zipper sample and the swatch.