

all about sliders



A slider is the moving component spanning the two rows of interlocking elements in a zipper. The slider interlocks these elements when moved in one direction and disengages them when moved in the opposite direction. The curved channels inside the slider keep the teeth spread apart and gradually bring them together thus ensuring proper meshing. Sliders are usually made from metals such as zinc alloy (by die-casting) or brass/aluminium strips (by press forming).

The various types of sliders are:

- Pinlock: The puller of the slider has to be manually pressed down to lock the slider in place and prevent movement. This type of slider is used in low cost zippers.
- Autolock: This slider is always locked in place and a slight tug on the puller while operating the slider releases the lock only during its operation. This is used in garments such as dresses and trousers.
- Snaplock: This slider allows operation of the zipper only when the puller is at a right angle to the zipper. This is also called springlock, flatlock or semi-automatic lock and is typically used in metal zippers for jeans.
- Nonlock: This slider allows unrestricted movement of the slider. Typical uses include pockets and luggage where the slider need not be locked in one position.
- Notchlock: This slider is locked when the zipper stringers are pulled apart. This ensures that any transverse load on the zipper locks the slider in place, which can be released only by moving the slider. This is used in sleeping bags and similar applications.
- Reversible slider: This slider can be operated from both sides of the zipper and may be used for applications such as tents, which require operation from both sides.
- Slider with special pullers: This slider is attached with special pullers. The difference is in the shape of the puller ie. Thumb, ring, stick, wire cast, ball stick etc. The puller varies depending on the type of application.
- Slider with links: This slider is provided with links only. The customer can attach customised pulls made of leather, rubber or tape. The different links available are C link, Q link and link with cramper.