

The Shatnez Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3

Sivan 5765/June2005

Basic Guidelines For Ties

Which ties require Shatnez testing?

❖ Silk

◆ Silk ties generally do not need testing unless it is from Spain or made in the E.E.C, where the linings may contain wool, linen and polyester.

◆ A new development was found regarding silk ties made in China. Some were found to contain a reprocessed lining that contained mostly raw silk, but also some wool and linen.

❖ Linen

◆ Linen ties always need testing because the tie linings often contain wool.

❖ Wool

◆ Wool ties require testing.

❖ Polyester

◆ Polyester ties made in Korea require testing as they were found to contain recycled lining, which can contain Shatnez.



Picture of polyester tie made in Korea

Urgent Recalls-Spring '05

Men's Suits

Marcy's, Emporio, Silbigers and The Right Place, four popular Jewish men's suit stores in Brooklyn, issued an urgent recall on some of their suits.

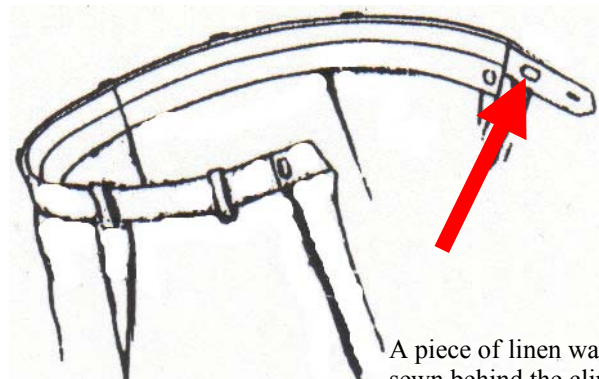
The problem brands are:

Vitali from Silbiger's and The Right Place
Baggio from Marcy's
Alesso and San Raphael from Emporio

Men's Pants

BRAGGI –by LOUIS RAPHAEL men's pants
Made in China, (Lot #: 3324 1416)

45% Worsted Wool 55% Polyester was found to contain Shatnez.



A piece of linen was sewn behind the clip of the pants.

Feldini men's pants made in China Rn# 37763 was also found to contain Shatnez behind the clip (see diagram).

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ANOTHER CASE OF SHATNEZ MISLABELING

Who would suspect a wool/poly outfit purchased at a Jewish Shop would contain a wool and linen Shatnez fabric? This was the innocent assumption made by both the storeowner and the customer who bought a David Charles girl's outfit made in England.

"I had been wearing the garment regularly for a few months," the customer began to explain. "When the outfit became quite soiled, I wasn't sure which was the best way to have it cleaned. I looked for the tags and noticed that the fabric had wool listed in it. I decided the safest way to have it cleaned was to bring it to the dry cleaners. Once I was there, I already figured I would also have it tested for Shatnez, at the cleaners, which was also a Shatnez Drop-off center."

The news of Shatnez in the fabric came as a big surprise. A number of these dresses had been sold throughout the year. It seems this was the first one to have been brought in for testing. "The content label was simply wrong, not an uncommon occurrence," explained the Shatnez Tester to the dress owner.

There are many incidents such as this in which the garment was mislabeled.

SHATNEZ REMINDER FROM A CONSUMER

I would like to share a reminder that I feel is vital for this time of year, yet very often overlooked. Most of us, upon shopping for spring and summer clothing, assume that items geared for these seasons do not contain wool, and thus do not require checking for Shatnez. I myself am guilty of this oversight, and that is why I feel it is important to remind the frum olam of this important mitzvah d'oraissa.

Recently, I was perusing a clothing catalogue I received in the mail, and a pretty lightweight jacket caught my eye. I actually picked up the phone to place the order, and only because I was placed on hold did I continue to read the item description. Right there, in plain view, was the content: 30% wool, 30% cotton, and 40% linen! And I had almost ordered it, without thinking twice. I hung up the phone in a hurry.

The entire incident, however, made me stop and think. I realized that for the most part, my "Shatnez checking" takes place beginning around the time of the Yomim Noraim through Pesach. Rarely during the warmer months do I remember to take the time to read clothing labels, let alone "shlep" to the Shatnez laboratory.

Because I am assuming that I am not alone in this circumstance, I would like to urge everyone to please realize whether they are shopping in December or July, in a store or from a catalogue, they must check for Shatnez. Their neshamos depend upon it!

Consumer from
Bensonhurst, New York

ABOUT THE LAKEWOOD SHATNEZ LABORATORY

The Lakewood Shatnez Laboratory is dedicated to promoting the observance of the mitzvah of Shatnez and operates the International Association of Professional Shatnez Laboratories (NCST&R), a network of over 100 testers in more than 70 cities worldwide.

HOURS

SUNDAY - THURSDAY

2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

8:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

FRIDAY

1:30 p.m.-3 p.m.

**CALL TO MAKE AN
APPOINTMENT FOR A HOUSE
CALL.**

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