

The Twelve Components of a Bag Tech Pack

What goes into each one, in the order the factory needs to read it

A bag tech pack fails in one of two ways: it is incomplete, or it is ambiguous. An incomplete pack comes back as a list of questions and costs a week. An ambiguous pack is worse — it comes back as a sample made to a reading nobody intended, and it costs the whole sampling window.

Twelve components in a fixed order removes both. The order is not arbitrary: each row supplies what the next row needs. The materials schedule is read before the construction notes because the construction depends on what is being joined; the construction notes are read before the stitch specification because the stitch depends on the operation.

Component	What must appear in it	Unit / format	Worked example
01 Cover sheet	Style number, season, revision, who owns the drawing, who accepts a change	Style / rev / date / owner	KP-COOL-014 rev 2, owner: product manager
02 Flat sketch and dimensions	Views drawn to scale with every dimension pointed and toleranced	mm, tolerance on every dimension	380 x 180 x 300 mm, +/- 5 mm on all three
03 Materials schedule	Every fabric named by construction, weight and finish, not by trade name	Material / gsm or denier / finish / test	600D polyester PU, 220 gsm, ISO 3801
04 Hardware schedule	Every piece of metalwork and every zip, with finish and supplier stated	Item / size / finish / supplier / qty per unit	No. 5 reverse coil zip, gunmetal, 1.2 m per unit
05 Colourway breakdown	Each colourway with its quantity, its Pantone and which panel takes which	Colourway / qty / Pantone / panel map	600 charcoal / 600 ecru; body charcoal, binding ecru
06 Construction notes	The operations in sequence, written so a floor can run it without asking	Written sequence, operation by operation	Turn hem 15 mm, topstitch 5 mm from edge
07 Stitch specification	Stitch type, stitches per inch, thread ticket and needle size	Stitch class / SPI / thread / needle	ASTM D6193 lockstitch 301, 9 SPI, Tkt 40, Nm 90
08 Print and embroidery placement	Artwork position measured from a stated datum, with a tolerance	Method / datum / offset / tolerance	Screen 2C, 120 mm below top edge, +/- 3 mm
09 Labelling and packing instruction	Every label and its position, then the fold and the pack-out	Label / position / method / carton spec	Woven loop at side seam, 20 per export carton
10 Test protocol	Which standard each claim is tested to, and at what stage	Claim / standard / protocol / stage	Seam strength ISO 13934-1, on the golden sample
11 Tolerance sheet	The acceptable range for dimensions, shade and registration in one place	Attribute / nominal / minus / plus	Length 380 mm, -5 / +5, measured laid flat
12 Sign-off block	Who approves what, in what order, before cutting starts	Role / date / signature	Buyer acceptance precedes material release

Three things that decide whether sampling runs at six days or fifteen

1. Named hardware. A zip named by number, type and finish is an order line; a zip named by colour is a question. If it has to be bought in, the buy starts when the name is confirmed and not before, and that can sit alone at the front of the schedule for two weeks.

2. Written tolerances. A dimension without a tolerance is inspected against whatever the inspector thinks reasonable, which is how a good unit becomes a rejected one. Put the plus and the minus on every dimension and the tolerance sheet becomes the reference an argument is settled by.

3. A golden sample in two hands. The approved unit is the arbiter of everything a measurement cannot reach — hand, drape, gloss, how a print sits. One copy stays at the origin and one travels with the buyer; a fifth reorder is matched against it, not against a memory of it.

A worked cover sheet

Line	Entry	Line	Entry
Style	KP-COOL-014	Revision	rev 2
Category	Insulated cooler tote	Owner	Product manager, buying side
Face fabric	600D polyester, PU coated, 220 gsm	Lining	PEVA 0.15 mm, food contact
Hardware	No. 5 reverse coil zip, gunmetal	MOQ	500 pcs per colourway

Line	Entry	Line	Entry
Colourways	Charcoal 600 / Ecru 600	Terms	FOB Xiamen, T/T 30/70
Inspection	AQL 2.5, ISO 2859-1, Level II	Issue date	Re-set at every revision

The cover sheet is read first and it is the only page a factory, a laboratory and an inspector all open for the same reason. Anything that changes later — a fabric, a tolerance, a hardware supplier — gets a new revision number and a new date, because nobody can tell which version was authoritative if versions are not numbered.

The six gaps that come back as questions

Gap	Typical wording on an incomplete pack	What it should say
Unnamed hardware	"black zip", "standard buckle"	Number, type, tape, finish and supplier: "No. 5 nylon coil, reverse tape, gunmetal"
Weight given as a fibre	"polyester", "nylon"	Denier and mass per unit area with a test: "600D polyester, 220 gsm, ISO 3801"
No tolerance on a dimension	"38 cm wide"	Nominal with both limits: "380 mm, -5 / +5, measured laid flat"
Print placement with no datum	"logo centred on the front"	A datum and an offset: "120 mm below the top edge, +/- 3 mm, from the left seam"
Construction left to the line	"as per sample"	Operations in sequence, with stitch counts and reinforcement named
No test named for a claim	"water resistant"	The standard and the protocol: "AATCC 22 spray test, rating 80, on the golden sample"

Revision and version

Version	Issued	What changed	Agreed by
1.0	First issue	Twelve components in one fixed order	Buying entity and the production team
1.1	Set at each change	Fabric, hardware or tolerance substitutions, renumbered every time	Both sides, before cutting begins

MOQ: 500 pcs per style and colourway (300 negotiable on a repeat) | Sampling: 6-10 working days; 12-15 where the construction is complex | Bulk production: 35-50 days after sample approval | Inspection: AQL 2.5, ISO 2859-1, General Inspection Level II | Payment: T/T 30/70 Terms: FOB Xiamen (CIF/DDP available)