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The finest tailors throughout the world trust Standeven to supply their business with luxury quality cloths

Standeven is the ‘tailors mill’, weaving a broad range of the finest quality British cloth in our own Yorkshire mill, all available as a stock supported cut length service.

We are passionate about cloth, combining our heritage in both design and manufacture, weaving some of the world’s highest quality luxury fabrics available, created exclusively for tailors.

Our skilled craftspeople use age old techniques with rigorous attention to detail, achieving consistency in quality and the highest possible service levels.

New cloths are developed by in-house designers, drawing inspiration from our extensive archives, speaking directly with customers across the globe and translating trends to respond to the market.

We combine a modern-day sensibility with a dedication to be the tailors mill you can always rely on. Our commitment and determination to develop responsibly sourced and sustainable products is a core value of our manufacturing ethos.
We are the Tailors’ Mill

Our obsession is to produce the finest British cloths. Our in-house design team combine inspiration with insights from our extensive cloth archives to constantly introduce new bunches.

Always striving for excellence whilst respecting the natural fibres that are woven into each bunch. We ensure all cloth is manufactured to the highest possible standards through our own mill, with the maker and wearer in mind.

Weaving the world’s finest luxury cloth for over 130 years, we have a wealth of stock supported patterns exclusively available for tailors as a cut length service.
Over a century of Heritage
Incorporated in 1885 by our founding partners John William Standeven and Sam Earnshaw. The company’s prosperity was founded on the excellence of its manufacturing, built by the devotion of the Standeven generations. Mr John Standeven did all his own designing and the business produced 5,000 new designs each season.

This solid work ethic, commitment to customers and passion for design still remain very much in the brands blueprint. Located originally at Mixenden Mill near Halifax, then to Ellen Royde Mills, then Ladyship Mills near Halifax, and now residing at Stanley Mills, Bradford.

At its height the business employed 700 people undertaking all the processes from raw material to finished articles. Processes included combing, drawing, spinning, weaving and finishing. The cloths ranged from tropical goods to 32oz coatings.

Special attention was devoted to export trade and the business had a direct resident representative in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada and the United States of America. Continental business was also well looked after.
**Fibres**

All Standeven cloths are woven exclusively from the finest natural fibres:
- Merino Wool, Cashmere, Mohair, Camel Hair, Cotton, Linen and Escorial Wool.

**MERINO WOOL**

Often said to be the most influential and economically prized breed of sheep, Merino originated in Spain as far back as the 12th Century. In more recent times the breed became synonymous with New Zealand and Australia who now are the main producers of this fibre. This highly valuable fibre is much loved and provides the manufacturers of today with the softest and finest wool available. The micron range of between 13.75-20 microns creates some of the most luxurious fabrics Standeven offers within their collection.

**CASHMERE**

Originating in Northern India, Cashmere goats now found in China and Mongolia produce the finest Cashmere. The natural characteristics of this fibre make it a much sought-after product for manufacturers of super soft luxury fabrics, offering three times the strength and softness of sheep’s wool. The natural colour of this fibre means very light shades can be achieved and with an average diameter of 11-18 microns it is a vital fibre for anyone wanting the ultimate fabric.

**MOHAIR**

Considered one of the elite fibres, boasting natural properties such as durability, natural lustre and insulating properties. Mohair is a key fibre in any luxury fabric collection. Offering warmth in cooler temperatures but also keeps the wearer cool in summer months due to its moisture wicking properties. Due to its natural crease resistance it is a firm favourite with business travellers wanting to ensure they arrive at destination looking smart. The Mohair fibre takes up dye incredibly well, allowing manufacturers of this product to achieve fabulous colours. Mohair fibres are 23-36 microns in diameter.

**ESCORIAL WOOL**

Escorial is a rare and luxurious wool from a small sheep, originating from the Spanish Royal flocks of El Escorial. Today, small flocks are found only in Australia and New Zealand. The difference is in the heart of this fibre, performing as a naturally coiled spring. This flexible characteristic creates a fabric that is incomparable in shape and resilience with a remarkable soft handle. The suppleness and fluidity of the Escorial fabric delivers a garment of comfort and performance. The cloud-like Escorial wool is lightweight and warm, averaging at 14-16 micron due to the elliptical shape of this natural fibre.
Escorial is a rare luxurious wool with a history stretching over centuries. Its origins are in small sheep from North Africa’s Maghreb, brought to Spain by the Moors.

The fleece is recognised for its unique appearance and characteristic crimps, often described as resembling a natural coiled spring.

An elite flock was adopted by King Philip II of Spain at El Escorial Palace, giving rise to the name Escorial.

In 1829, 120 selected Escorial sheep were taken to the southern hemisphere by emigrating Scottish farmer Eliza Furlong, landing in Tasmania.

The Escorial sheep in Europe died out in World War II, leaving Australian Escorial as sole survivors of the historical strain.

The modern Escorial story is one of rediscovery: 40 Australian lambs were taken to South Island, New Zealand by aficionado Peter Radford in 1987. Today, Escorial wool is sourced from a small number of farms in Australia and New Zealand, genetically checked to ensure origin.

Escorial garments, renowned for their comfort and performance, are a joy to wear and an achievement to own. Authentic and 100% sustainable, Escorial wool is traceable to origin, something incomparable to no other wool fibre.

Today Escorial cloth is woven at the Standeven mill, available exclusively from us as cut lengths.
From fibre to fabric

Weaving the finest fibres into luxurious cloths and delivering to tailors around the world. For over 130 years we have been at the forefront of innovative production methods, combining traditional manufacturing skills with the latest technology. Being part of a wider textile group allows us to ensure the highest standards are met at each stage of the manufacturing process.

SCOURING
The first phase of production, washing to remove natural impurities like grease, dirt and vegetation.

CARDING
The clean fibres are lubricated with a little oil and water and run through a series of combing cards that tease the fibres repeatedly, separating, disentangling and airing to produce a carding strand. Shorter fibres are removed and the longer quality of those left to form the ‘top’ are of primary importance because it guarantees the strength and durability of the final fabric.

SPINNING
The ‘tops’ are combed again, ensuring the fibres are aligned producing a ‘roving’. It’s pulled and twisted reducing each thread to a specific count. Worsted Spinning where the longer fibres are combed and have more twist applied create a fine smooth yarn primarily used for men’s suits. Woollen spinning used for jackets and coats have less twist applied.

DYEING
Yarn dyeing consists of dyeing the thread cone prior to being woven, giving a more three-dimensional colour. Piece dyeing dyes the woven cloth, and provides a cleaner, more even colour across the fabric. Throughout the process the colour of the cloth is checked against the quality sample, ensuring consistency of colour.

WARPing
The cones of yarn are unwound over a warp beam, a complicated process depending on the intricacy of the design in the finished fabric. Thousands of threads are positioned precisely around the beams, checked by hand or in some cases laser technology and must all be held in an exact order to ensure the patterns and designs are perfect.

WEAVING
On the looms the warp is interlaced with the weft and then woven into fabric; there are hundreds of types of weave, the three most commonly used are: Plain weave, Serge weave and Satin weave. After the fabric is woven, each piece begins a strict quality control process. Menders examine in detail every inch of the fabric allowing any imperfections to be repaired by hand. Any knots are removed ensuring a perfect surface for finishing.

FINISHING
Finishing transforms the raw fabric into finished fabric, in some cases up to fifty different finishing techniques can be applied to give the fabric its final hand appearance. Obtained by washing, stabilising treatments, steam, singeing and pressing. The final stage is truly where the finest fabrics come into their own, ready for the next stage of tailoring.
British Mohair
A high mohair content gives a cool, dry feel, natural crease resilience with added durability. Comfort and lightness, easy to wear with the ability to transfer heat away from the body. Elegant appearance, wrinkle resistance and lustrous colour. The ultimate fabric that makes an easy transition from business to smart casual.

Carnival
A lightweight and vibrant collection of plain cloths crafted from some of the world’s finest mohair and Merino wool. The refined pallet of colours compliment the beautiful textures of the natural fibres.

Cape Town
The world’s best mohair bunch, created by sourcing the very best mohair from South Africa, alongside the most luxurious wool. Iconic 2-ply and 3-ply mohair cloths are springy with a rebounding handle and a slightly shiny lustre from the natural mohair fibres.

Blackstorm
A refined go to selection of fine wool, mohair and cashmere cloths, woven exclusively for dinner suits, formal and evening wear. An elegant collection of Tuxedo qualities including barathea’s, doeskins and satin constructions. Varying weights and compositions that cover the four seasons.

Primavera
A lightweight selection of Escorial cloths in both Escorial wool 3-ply yarn and Escorial/Mohair blends. Escorial, one of the world’s rarest and most exclusive fibres is complimented with the addition of summer kid mohair, offering a rich and extremely soft collection with both substantial handle and high resistance.

Summerstrand
A balanced and refined selection of ultifine Super 100’s wool and mohair cloths in timeless and classic patterns, with an iconic British handle. Light in weight for warmer climates, inherent mohair properties help in keeping the wearer cool. The natural mohair fibres give a special lustre and natural crease resilience, making it a perfect light weight travel cloth.

Cloth from the British Mohair bunch.
**British Classic**
Woven in 100% wool 2-fold yarn, creating excellent strength and structure with a matt finish. A sophisticated classic pattern selection of both clear cut and flannel designs are both comfortable and durable, providing the wearer with years of enjoyment.

**Oxbridge Flannel**
A luxurious ultra-soft, Super 120’s double milled flannel, inspired directly from our archives. Crafted using traditional techniques, offering a rare lofty handle and a matt finish. Classic shades are combined with more vibrant hues in plains, traditional and contemporary patterns, providing a comprehensive range of coordinated cloths.

**Toledo**
An inspiring selection of our most exclusive suiting patterns crafted from the rare and luxurious Escorial wool. The unique and incredibly soft springy fibres from this pedigreed fleece help make up one of the most luxurious cloths in the world. Toledo offers a soft touch and rich matt finish with a firm handle.
Glenesk offers some truly unique patterns in wool cashmere blends alongside cotton, wool and cashmere twist. Both fabrics offer great depth and colour, with a robust selection to choose from. Glenesk cloth boasts a beautiful soft handle, creates garments with natural drape and is durable in performance.

Escudo
Our most exclusive jacketing and overcoat cloths crafted from 100% Escorial wool. The unique and incredibly soft springy fibres from this pedigree fleece make one of the most luxurious cloths in the world. A soft touch, a rich matt finish and a strong handle, jackets made in Escorial are a joy to wear and an achievement to own.
Evening & Ceremonial

Formal wear - ‘Black tie cloths’

‘Black tie’ formal wear is the dress code for special evening occasions known universally all over the world.

The correct attire is relatively strict and requires a black suit of luxury fabric, often in an extremely thick Barathea cloth with silk peaked lapels.

Over the years a broader scope of cloth types have been deemed acceptable as certain occasions for wearing black tie have become less formal and modern day trends have bent the rules slightly. The variety of weaves and compositions available today make the dinner suit more versatile than ever before for both the occasion and wearer.

Blackstorm

A refined go to selection of fine wool, mohair and cashmere cloths, woven exclusively for dinner suits, formal and evening wear. An elegant collection of Tuxedo qualities including barathea’s, doeskins and satin constructions. Varying weights and compositions covering the four seasons.
Business Suit

British Classic
Woven in 100% wool 2-fold yarn, creating excellent strength and structure with a matt finish. A sophisticated classic pattern selection of both clear cut and flannel designs are both comfortable and durable, providing the wearer with years of enjoyment.

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Park Lane
Only the finest Australian Super 120’s Merino wool is woven into Park Lane. Constructed using 100% 2-fold yarn, this softly finished medium weight cloth gives excellent strength and performance. A selection of classic stripes and elegant checks compliment this quintessentially British collection.

Masterpiece
A colourful twist on classic designs in Super 150’s wool and cashmere, one of our most luxurious cloth collections. The finest Merino wool is spun into a special yarn, when woven creates a luxurious cloth with a soft, smooth handle, reduced pilling and greater resilience to wear.

Summerstrand
A balanced and refined selection of ultratine Super 100’s wool and mohair cloths in timeless and classic patterns, with an iconic British handle. Light in weight for warmer climates, inherent mohair properties help in keeping the wearer cool. The natural mohair fibres give a special lustre and natural crease resilience, making it a perfect light weight travel cloth.

Churchill
The epitome of English quality worsted. Evoking a bygone era and answering the demand for cloths of today with a vintage handwriting. Presenting a bold design character, the patterns in this exemplary bunch are woven from a robust 2 ply yarn in warp and weft. A cloth that rekindles a nostalgic era of unique British quality.
Luxury

Grandmaster
The most exclusive Super 180’s Merino wool is blended with the world’s best cashmere and silk. Suits made from Grandmaster have a remarkable soft handle, beautiful drape and a luxurious appearance, truly suitable for the most discerning customers.

Masterpiece
A colourful twist on classic designs in Super 150’s wool and cashmere, one of our most luxurious cloth collections. The finest Merino wool is spun into a special yarn, when woven creates a luxurious cloth with a soft, smooth handle, reduced pilling and greater resilience to wear.

Platinum
The finest 13.75 micron Super 200’s wool is specially selected from Australian Merino sheep, and 100% pure cashmere from the Mongolian goat. An exclusive and charismatic selection of some of the rarest and finest fibres in the world. Experience ultimate luxury with Platinum, it truly is the finest cloth available.

Primavera
A lightweight selection of Escorial cloths in both Escorial wool 3-ply yarn and Escorial/Mohair blends. Escorial, one of the world’s rarest and most exclusive fibres is complimented with the addition of summer kid mohair, offering a rich and extremely soft collection with both substantial handle and high resistance.

Toledo
An inspiring selection of our most exclusive suiting patterns crafted from the rare and luxurious Escorial wool. The unique and incredibly soft springy fibres from this pedigree fleece help make up one of the most luxurious cloths in the world. Toledo offers a soft touch and rich matt finish with a firm handle.

Cloth from the Grandmaster bunch.
The finest 13.75 micron Super 200’s wool is specially selected from Australian Merino sheep, and 100% pure cashmere from the Mongolian goat. An exclusive and charismatic selection of some of the rarest and finest fibres in the world. Experience ultimate luxury with Platinum, it truly is the finest cloth available.

The most exclusive Super 180’s menino wool is blended with the world’s best cashmere and silk. Suits made from Grandmaster have a remarkable soft handle, beautiful drape and a luxurious appearance, truly suitable for the most discerning customers.

Pure cashmere luxury overcoatings, some of the world’s finest cashmere in the most exclusive bunch. Coatings that offer luxurious comfort, natural softness and a heavy weight warmth, the ultimate winter wearing experience. Everest offers a superior range of yarn dyed shades and textures, crafted and finished with skill and tradition.

Everest

Cashmere

Platinum

Grandmaster
Glenesk offers some truly unique patterns in wool cashmere blends alongside cotton, wool and cashmere twist. Both fabrics offer great depth and colour, with a robust selection to choose from. Glenesk cloth boasts a beautiful soft handle, creates garments with natural drape and is durable in performance.

Heritage Twist
Exceptional depth and colour, a striking range of vintage-inspired designs that create distinctive garments. The unique identity of this medium weight cloth collection is created from cleverly blended coloured yarns that are twisted together. Woven from 100% Merino wool, the handle is firm, yet offers both comfort and high performance.

Country Cloth from the Heritage Twist bunch.
Coatings

Snowdonia
A luxury capsule collection of heavy weight overcoatings in Merino wool, lambswool and camel hair. Using some of the finest natural fibres carefully sourced from selected farms, these truly are premier coating cloths. A diverse range of colours and textures, each one offering a rich finish and firm handle.

Everest
Pure cashmere luxury overcoatings and jacketings, some of the world’s finest cashmere in the most exclusive bunch. Coatings that offer luxurious comfort, natural softness and a heavy weight warmth, the ultimate winter wearing experience. Everest offers a superior range of yarn dyed shades and textures, crafted and finished with skill and tradition.

Escudo
Our most exclusive jacketing and overcoat cloths crafted from 100% Escorial wool. The unique and incredibly soft springy fibres from this pedigree fleece make one of the most luxurious cloths in the world. A soft touch, a rich matt finish and a strong handle, jackets made in Escorial are a joy to wear and an achievement to own.
The Explorer collection contains authentic travel cloth from lightweight tropical weaves to fabrics woven from specially spun high twist yarns. The superior construction of these fabrics combined with yarn twist produces a crisp dry handle, ideal for travel suits and hot climates. Wool is a naturally resilient fibre which allows the fabric to retain its shape.

Carnival
A lightweight and vibrant collection of plain cloths crafted from some of the world’s finest mohair and Merino wool. The refined palette of colours complement the beautiful textures of the natural fibres.

British Mohair
A high mohair content gives a cool, dry feel, natural crease resilience with added durability. Comfort and lightness, easy to wear with the ability to transfer heat away from the body. Elegant appearance, wrinkle resistance and lustrous colour. The ultimate fabric that makes an easy transition from business to smart casual.

Festival
A light in weight selection of fine merino wool and mohair cloths. Developed specifically for a lighter weight feel with the traveller in mind. A robust construction to help with durability, breathability and creasing. Inherent properties of the natural fibres make it an ideal all year round choice.

Primavera
A lightweight selection of Escorial cloths in both Escorial wool 3-ply yarn and Escorial/Mohair blends. Escorial, one of the world’s rarest and most exclusive fibres is complimented with the addition of summer kid mohair, offering a rich and extremely soft collection with both substantial handle and high resistance.

Summerstrand
A balanced and refined selection of ultrafine Super 100’s wool and mohair cloths in timeless and classic patterns, with an iconic British handle. Light in weight for warmer climates, inherent mohair properties help in keeping the wearer cool. The natural mohair fibres give a special lustre and natural crease resilience, making it a perfect light weight travel cloth.
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