

How to Soften Acetate

There are two products recommended for the softening of acetate, **Orcosoft TXN™** (nonionic/non-durable) and **Orcosoft NQ 320/150™** (cationic/non-quaternary).

Orcosoft TXN™

Orcosoft TXN is a nonionic, non-durable softener which is applicable as a pure finish, a softener in resin formulations, and as a napping aid. It is recommended for use on all natural and synthetic fibers.

Orcosoft TXN™ imparts a soft, full-bodied hand to all yarns and fabrics and in addition provides lubricity and protection against static. It causes no color reversion or yellowing of whites after aging and resists scorching at normal processing temperatures. **Orcosoft TXN™** will not adversely affect the light fastness of dyed goods. **Orcosoft TXN™** is non-chlorine retentive, thus it is particularly suitable for use with crease resistant resins. It improves abrasion resistance, tear strength, and sewability without detracting from wrinkle recovery. Because it is chemically nonionic, **Orcosoft TXN™** is compatible with most of the conventional finishing agents.

For application as a pure finish or napping aid on the quetch or mangle, the use of 6-12 lbs of **Orcosoft TXN™** per 100 gallons of water is recommended.

When applied in conjunction with crease resistant resins, use 8 lbs of **Orcosoft TXN™** per 100 gallons of padding liquor. This amount may be varied to suit the particular fabric and the degree of softness desired.

Orcosoft NQ 320/150

Orcosoft NQ 320/150™ is a unique cold-water dispersible cationic softener, lubricant, and anti-static agent which produces an unusually smooth, soft hand on synthetic fibers and cotton. Being a non-quaternary type softener, **Orcosoft NQ 320/150™** offers less effluent problems than comparable type softeners, and can be applied to all natural and synthetic fibers by exhaust, pad, or spray methods.

In the following procedures, please note all percentages listed are for **Orcosoft NQ 150™**. If **Orcosoft NQ 320™** is being used halve all suggested amounts.

- On *acrylic, polyester, nylon, and blends*, use 1-2% owf **Orcosoft NQ 150™** in the final rinse at 70-90°F(21-32°C). Run for 5-10 minutes. On package work, rinse away anionic detergents before applying the softener. In exhaustion onto synthetics, more uniformity results at lower than at higher temperatures and with the pH adjusted to about 6.0 with acetic acid. As a result, treated fibers exhibit superior drying, picking, spinning and knitting properties.
- As a *napping assistant*, 3.0-5.0% owb can be padded onto the fabric or 1.0%owf may be run in the dyebath to impart a soft, high pile.
- Many optical whiteners are compatible with **Orcosoft NQ 320/150™** in the same bath.