

KOHL'S

MIXED MEDIA COLOR PROCESS

The Mix Media Color Process has been created to ensure multiple fabric and trim components are color cohesive within the same garment.

KOHL'S DEPARTMENT STORES COLOR SERVICES – MIXED MEDIA PROCESS



What is a mixed media garment?

A Mixed Media garment is a single garment containing two or more different fabrications that require cohesive color matching

Color Execution & Ownership Expectations

- Vendor (Certified or Non-Certified) manages the mixed media process and owns the execution of color for the garment
- Vendor communicates expectations of mixed media style to suppliers dyeing the components within the garment
- Vendor coordinates all mixed media color submits for consistent color matching

Design Intent Page

Kohl's Design Team

- Kohl's Design Team will label mixed media garments on a "Design Intent Page" during the development stage by identifying:
 - Main body components (more than one may be applicable)
 - Trim components
 - Critical Match colors
- Kohl's Design Team will upload "Design Intent Page" to onePLM
- Fabric position within the garment should be called out on the BOM page within onePLM

Design Intent Page Example

The image shows a 'Design Intent Page' for a garment. At the top left, the product code is 'WCBR342000SD-HR- PR' and the name is 'LS ESSENTIAL FNRCARDIGAN'. The top right features the Kohl's logo with the tagline 'expect great things'. The page is divided into several sections: 'FABRIC (YARN/GG/STITCH):' with details for the main body and HR; 'DESIGN DETAILS:' with a reference to sketch details; 'CRITICAL MEASUREMENTS:' for length and sleeve length; and 'STYLE REFERENCE:' with the code 'CB33229'. A yellow box labeled 'Mixed Media' is highlighted with a red arrow pointing to it. To the right, there are two line drawings of the cardigan. The top drawing is a front view with callouts for 'NECK TRIM: 1/2" JERSEY TUBULAR', 'FULL FASHION ARMHOLE & BODY', 'PLACKET: -CLEAN FINISH TURNBACK W/ SELF YARN FNR STRIP, SAME AS LY -BUTTONS (2) EVENLY SPACED AT BTM HEM, 1 CENTERED ON NK TRIM', 'BOTTOM HEIGHT: 2" RIB TRIM- SAME RIB AS LY', and 'CUFF HEIGHT: 2" RIB TRIM- SAME RIB AS LY'. The bottom drawing is a side view with a callout for 'FNR BODY & SLEEVE'. At the bottom left, there is a 'Hand off Checklist for PM Use (OPTIONAL):' with fields for BRAND, IN DC DATE, SEASON, DESIGNER, PRODUCT/BRAND MGR, FASHION PYRAMID, TREND CURVE, FIXTURE, RETAIL, APPROX. UNITS, SPECIAL SIZE/LENGTHS, PACKAGING, PROJECTED UNITS, and MISC. NOTES. At the bottom right, there is a 'CONFIDENTIAL & PROPRIETARY INFORMATION' notice.

Li & Fung Merchant Team

- Li & Fung/Vendors/Mills can view the "Design Intent Page" in onePLM for specific mixed media styles
- Li & Fung Merchant is responsible for keeping records of the "Design Intent Page" for future reference



SOLID LAB DIPS – Color Approval Responsibility

Vendors

- Vendor is accountable for owning the aesthetic of the garment and ensuring all components are matching/blending to make a color cohesive garment
- Vendor receives style detail information from Kohl's via onePLM
- Vendor will notify Mills to begin the lab dip process for main body garment components
 - Mills can lab dip fabrics simultaneously and do not need to wait until one part of the garment is approved for color
 - Vendor is responsible for communicating to the Mill that the lab dip request is for a mixed media style
- Upon receiving the lab dips from the Mills, the Vendor must review all components together to ensure proper color matching
 - Lab dips should be reviewed as per garment construction details (See “Best Practice for Visual Evaluation” page 9)
 - Lab dips need to be visually acceptable and compared to the garment's coordinating components
 - The Vendor owns the color review process and communication with the Mills to ensure all mixed media components are matching well together
 - Color Certified Mills are allowed to approve lab dips for color. However, the Vendor has final ownership authority to reject the lab dip color if it is not matching to the other body components within the mixed media garment.
- **Certified Vendors**
 - Certified Vendor is authorized to approve lab dips for mixed media
 - If garment lab dips for the main body are a cohesive match, the Certified Vendor Colorist may approve for color
 - Lab dip color may be approved digitally or visually. If approved digitally, the lab dip must fall within the same color quadrant to ensure optimal color matching
 - A “For Reference” of the approved lab dip should be sent to Li & Fung and Kohl's for auditing and record keeping
 - After two rounds if a Certified Vendor cannot make a visual approval, the lab dips should be sent to a Certified Li & Fung Colorist for color evaluation/approval
- **Non-Certified Vendors**
 - Once Vendor feels the lab dips for the main body are a cohesive match, the components are sent to a Certified Li & Fung Colorist for final color evaluation/approval
- Upon approval of a lab dip, Vendor will notify Mill to proceed to bulk

Mills

- Mill is notified by Vendor to begin the lab dip process
- Mill is responsible for achieving acceptable color tolerances for lab dips prior to sending to Vendor for final approval
- Mill dyes lab dip options and reviews for color
 - Lab dips should be reviewed visually against the color standard (Archroma, Pantone, CSI)
 - Based on fabrication type, lab dips can be reviewed via digital assessment using a spectrophotometer (Please see Digital Color Approvals section in this document for details on specifications)

KOHL'S DEPARTMENT STORES

COLOR SERVICES – MIXED MEDIA PROCESS



- **Certified Mills**
 - Certified Mill's Colorist is authorized to approve lab dips for mixed media garments via digital or visual assessment
 - Upon approval of a lab dip, the Certified Mill is required to send the physical lab dips to Vendor
 - Note that the Vendor will ensure the lab dip is matching/blending to the other garment components. In some cases, Vendor may request Certified Mill to re-dye if necessary.
- **Non-Certified Mills**
 - Once Mill feels the lab dip is an acceptable color match, the lab dip is sent to the Vendor for color evaluation
 - Color Certified Vendors can approve lab dips for mixed media styles
 - Non-Certified Vendors must send lab dips to a Li & Fung Certified Colorist for final color approval
- Upon final confirmation from Vendor that the lab dip's color is approved, Mill can proceed to bulk production

Li & Fung

- Li & Fung Certified Colorist is responsible for color approvals and cohesive color matching for mixed media garments if from a Non-Certified Vendor
 - Mixed media components should be sent by the Vendor to Li & Fung Colorist to approve/reject for color
 - Li & Fung Certified Colorist will review all mixed media components together to ensure color consistency across the multiple fabrications and coordinating components
- Li & Fung Merchant is responsible for pulling all style history for proper color review upon receipt of a color submit from the Vendor/Mill
- Li & Fung Merchant will pass all submit history and "Design Intent Page" to the Li & Fung Colorist for color evaluation
- Upon approval of the main garment component(s), Li & Fung will send to Kohl's as a "For Reference" for record keeping

Best Can Do Requests (BCD's)

- **Certified Vendors**
 - If after 2 rounds a Certified Vendor cannot make a visual approval, the submits should be sent to a Certified Li & Fung Colorist for a Best Can Do (BCD) approval
- **Li & Fung**
 - If a Li & Fung Certified Colorist cannot approve a BCD submit from a Certified or Non-Certified Vendor based on acceptable tolerance, only then should submits be sent to Kohl's to approve/reject for color
 - A "For Reference" submit should be sent to Kohl's by a Li & Fung Certified Colorist upon approval for record keeping



SOLID BULKS – Color Approval Responsibility

Vendors

- Vendor is accountable for owning the aesthetic of the garment and ensuring all components are matching/blending to make a color cohesive garment
- Vendor notifies Mill(s) to proceed to bulk for main body garment components based on the approved lab dips
 - Color Certified Mills are allowed to approve solid bulk for color. However, the Vendor has final ownership authority to reject the bulk color if it is not matching to the other body components within the mixed media garment.
- Bulk submits should be reviewed as per garment construction details (See “Best Practice for Visual Evaluation” page 9)
- **Certified Vendors**
 - Certified Vendor is authorized to approve bulk submits for mixed media
 - Bulk color submits should be compared to the approved lab dip to ensure color matching/blending of overall garment
 - Bulk color may be approved digitally or visually. If approved digitally, the solid bulk submits must fall within the same color quadrant to ensure optimal color matching.
 - A “For Reference” of the approved bulk submit should be sent to Li & Fung and Kohl’s for auditing and record keeping
 - After two rounds if a Certified Vendor cannot make a visual approval, a **Mock-Up** with all components must be sent to a Certified Li & Fung Colorist for color evaluation/approval
- **Non-Certified Vendors**
 - Vendor reviews solid bulk submits compared to the approved lab dips to ensure cohesive color matching. Once Vendor feels color submits are an acceptable match, the bulk submits are sent to Certified Li & Fung Colorist for final color evaluation/approval.

Mills

- Mill is notified by Vendor to begin the bulk dyeing process
- Mill is responsible for achieving acceptable color tolerances for solid bulk prior to sending to Vendor for final approval
- Bulk submits should be reviewed as per garment construction details (See “Best Practice for Visual Evaluation” page 9)
- **Certified Mills**
 - Certified Mill is authorized to approve bulk submits for mixed media
 - Note that the Vendor will ensure the bulk is matching/blending to the other garment components. In some cases, Vendor may request Certified Mill to re-dye if necessary.
 - Bulk color submits should be compared to the approved lab dips
 - Based on fabrication type, the solid bulk can be reviewed via digital assessment using a spectrophotometer (Please see Digital Color Approvals section in this document for details on specifications)
 - Upon approval of a solid bulk, the Certified Mill is required to send the physical submit to Vendor
- **Non-Certified Mills**
 - Mill reviews solid bulk submits compared to the approved lab dips to ensure cohesive color matching. Once Mill feels solid bulk color is an acceptable match, the submits are sent to Certified Li & Fung Colorist for final color evaluation/approval.



Li & Fung

- Li & Fung Certified Colorist is responsible for color approvals and cohesive color matching for mixed media garments if from a Non-Certified Vendor
 - Mixed media components should be sent by the Vendor to Li & Fung Certified Colorist to approve/reject for color
 - Li & Fung Certified Colorist will review all mixed media components together to ensure color consistency across the multiple fabrications and coordinating components
- Li & Fung Merchant is responsible for pulling all style history for proper color review upon receipt of a color submit from the Vendor/Mill
- Li & Fung Merchant will pass all submit history and “Design Intent Page” to the Li & Fung Colorist for color evaluation
- Upon approval of the main garment component(s), Li & Fung will send to Kohl's as a “For Reference” for record keeping

Best Can Do Requests (BCD's)

- **Certified Vendors**
 - If after 2 rounds a Certified Vendor cannot make a visual approval, a **Mock-Up** with all components should be sent to a Certified Li & Fung Colorist for a Best Can Do (BCD) approval
- **Li & Fung**
 - Li & Fung reviews the BCD Mock-Up using a 3-4 grey scale class tolerance
 - A “For Reference” submit should be sent to Kohl's by a Li & Fung Certified Colorist upon approval for record keeping
 - If a Li & Fung Certified Colorist cannot approve within the provided tolerance, the BCD Mock-Up should be sent to Kohl's for final approval

Digital Color Approvals

- For Kohl's primary light source (SPX35), the spectral tolerance for digital color approvals is **0.8 CMC ΔE** to the Master Digital Standard (MDS) for lab dips and bulk
- For Kohl's secondary light source (D65), the spectral tolerance for digital color approvals is **1.2 CMC ΔE** to the MDS for lab dips and bulk
- If all lab dip options are within digital tolerance of **0.8 CMC ΔE**, select the lab dip that has the best DH value for final color approval
- Mill is responsible for controlling metamerism
 - Color can be approved if the metamerism index is 1.0 or below
- Fabrics must be flat surfaced (non-shiny) such as interlock, jersey, rib, etc.
 - Contrast & DTM trims do not qualify for digital color approvals. Trims must be evaluated visually to the approved body fabric color
 - These fabrications/colors are exempt from creating spectral data and being used for digital color approvals – velour, corduroy, terry, bulky sweater knits, heathers, high shine fabrics, whites, and neons



PRINTS/PATTERNS – Color Approval Responsibility
(Strike-offs/Handlooms/Knitdowns)

Vendors

- Vendor is accountable for owning the aesthetic of the garment and ensuring all components are matching/blending to make a color cohesive garment
- Vendor receives style detail information from Kohl's via onePLM
- Vendor notifies Mill(s) to create print/pattern for mixed media style
- Vendor will visually pre-screen print/pattern compared to the physical color standard(s)
 - Print/pattern should be reviewed as per garment construction details (See “Best Practice for Visual Evaluation” page 9)
 - Vendor must review all garment components together to ensure proper color matching (including solids)
 - Mill reviews solid bulk submits compared to the approved lab dips to ensure cohesive color matching.
- Once Vendor feels colors within print/pattern are an acceptable match, the submits are sent to Kohl's for final color evaluation/approval

Kohl's

- Kohl's will visually pre-screen print/pattern compared to the physical color standard(s) and approve/reject for color
- Print/pattern should be reviewed as per garment construction details (See “Best Practice for Visual Evaluation” page 9)
- C.I.P. (Correct in Production) or C.N.P. (Correct & Proceed) approval statuses will not be accepted. Submits that do not meet Kohl's color requirements must be approved as a Best Can Do.

Best Can Do Requests (BCD's)

- If after 2 rounds a print/pattern submit cannot be approved for color, Vendor will send a Mock-Up with all components to Kohl's for a BCD approval



PRINT/PATTERN BULKS – Color Approval Responsibility

Vendors

- Upon approval of a print/pattern, Vendor notifies Mill(s) to create a bulk submit for mixed media style
- Print/pattern bulk should be created based off the approved strike-off/handloom/knitdown
- Vendor will create a Mock-Up of bulk print/solid/trim components
- Vendor will visually pre-screen Mock-Up to ensure proper color matching
- Vendor sends Mock-Up to a Li & Fung Certified Colorist for final color approval

Li & Fung

- Certified Li & Fung Colorist will review Mock-Up ensure color consistency across the multiple fabrications and coordinating components
- Li & Fung reviews the bulk Mock-Up for final visual aesthetic approval using a 3-4 grey scale class tolerance (if applicable)
- Upon approval of the bulk Mock-Up, Li & Fung will send Kohl's a "For Reference" submit for auditing and record keeping

Best Can Do Requests (BCD's)

- The Mock-Up submit will be sent to Kohl's for final color approval if a Li & Fung Certified Colorist cannot approve the within visual tolerance



DTM & CONTRAST TRIMS – Color Approval Responsibility

What is a fabric trim?

A fabric trim is any piece of the garment that is not considered to be a main body component (10% or less)

What is a trim & finding?

A trim & finding is a decorative or functional piece on the garment (i.e. buttons, zippers, grommets, snaps, etc.)

Vendors

- Vendor will notify mill/trim supplier to begin the creation of trims
 - Dyed to Match (DTM) trim color(s) must match the approved main body components
 - Contrast trim color(s) must match to the physical color standard
- Vendor is responsible for communicating to the mill/trim supplier that the trim request is for a mixed media style
- Upon receiving the trim for color approval, the Vendor must compare to all other trim and body components to ensure proper color matching
 - Trims should be reviewed as per garment construction details (See “Best Practice for Visual Evaluation” page 9)
- **Certified Vendors**
 - Certified Vendor is authorized to approve trims for mixed media
 - A “For Reference” submit of the approved trim should be sent to Li & Fung and Kohl's for auditing and record keeping
 - After two rounds if a Certified Vendor cannot make a visual approval, the trim should be sent to a Certified Li & Fung Colorist for color evaluation/approval
- **Non-Certified Vendors**
 - Once Vendor feels the trim(s) are a cohesive match, the components are sent to a Certified Li & Fung Colorist for final color evaluation/approval

Li & Fung

- Li & Fung Certified Colorist is responsible for color approvals and cohesive color matching for trims if from a Non-Certified Vendor
 - Trim(s) should be sent by the Vendor to Li & Fung Colorist to approve/reject for color
 - Upon receiving the trim for approval, the Li & Fung Certified Colorist must compare to all other trim and body components to ensure proper color matching
- Li & Fung Merchant will pass all submit history and “Design Intent Page” to the Li & Fung Colorist for color evaluation
- Upon approval of the trim(s), Li & Fung will send to Kohl's a “For Reference” submit for record keeping

Best Can Do Requests (BCD's)

- **Certified Vendors**
 - If after 2 rounds a Certified Vendor cannot make a visual approval, the trim(s) should be sent to a Certified Li & Fung Colorist for a Best Can Do (BCD) approval
- **Li & Fung**
 - If a Li & Fung Certified Colorist cannot approve a BCD submit from a Certified or Non-Certified Vendor based on acceptable tolerance, submits only then should be sent to Kohl's to approve/reject for color



Best Practice for Visual Evaluation

Category Examples

- Knit – Woven (Overlay)
- Knit – Woven (Body Piecing)
- Sweater – Woven or Knit
- Solid Woven or Knit – Print Woven or Knit

Knit – Woven (Overlay)

Knit fabric – Folded (2 layers) OR until opaque
Woven fabric – No fold (single layer) placed on top of knit fabric



Knit – Woven (Body Piecing)

Knit fabric – Folded (2 layers) OR until opaque
Woven fabric – As garment is constructed





Sweater – Woven or Knit

Sweater – Folded (2 layers) or until opaque
Woven - As garment is constructed



Solid Woven or Knit – Print Woven or Knit

Solid Woven – As garment is constructed
Print Woven – As garment is constructed



Trims

Compared to the main body components and as garment is constructed

