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Apparel BOM Pre-Flight Checklist

Verify your **Bill of Materials** before it hits the factory floor

A single missing aglet can freeze an entire sewing line. Run this checklist before you hit send — every row must survive the Factory-Read test, the math must close, and no vague adjective may survive.

45 min

Typical build time

3–10%

Wastage buffer to plan

0

Vague adjectives allowed

"The factory can only cut what your BOM can measure."

Document date: 2026-08-14 | Version 1.0

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Free line-item BOM audit · Manufacturing quote · MOQ 100 pcs/style

1. Document Readiness

- ☐ **Structure set: Single-Level or Multi-Level to match garment complexity**

Simple tees stay flat; technical jackets nest. The BOM must mirror the garment's physical build.
 - ☐ **Every physical component has a BOM row**

Touch Test: point to the waistband elastic and ask — "which category pays for this?"
 - ☐ **Every row passes the "Factory-Read" test**

Read it aloud. A warehouse manager must pick the exact item off the trim wall.
 - ☐ **No vague adjectives**

Kill "heavy" and "soft". Write "300 GSM" and "Carbon Peached Finish" instead.
 - ☐ **Naming convention followed**

Category–Material–Spec–Color–Supplier, e.g. FAB-SHELL-001, TRIM-001.
 - ☐ **UOM defined on every row**

Fabric in meters, buttons in sets. Mixing yards and meters stalls the sewing line.
 - ☐ **Colors are Pantone TCX or supplier Lab Dip codes**

Never "standard black". Black zipper tape reads dark grey against deep-black nylon.
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2. Fabric & Trims

- ☐ **GSM, cuttable width, and finish specified for every fabric**

A 20-GSM difference changes the drape entirely. Use cuttable width, not the roll label.
 - ☐ **Fabric consumption taken from the marker**

Or: $\text{total pattern area} \div \text{cuttable width} \div 0.85 \text{ efficiency}$.
 - ☐ **Wastage % applied to raw yield**

3–5% solid knits · 5–8% fleece/high-shrink · 8–10% directional prints.
 - ☐ **Zippers fully specified**

Brand, type (coil vs vislon), size (#5), slider finish (matte rubber pull).
 - ☐ **Lab Dips required for all trims**

Prove trim colour matches the dyed shell before bulk ordering.
 - ☐ **Elastic and thread specs locked**

Width, modulus, plush back for leggings; Tex 27 overlock / Tex 40 stress seams.
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3. Cost & Math

☐ Units unified to one measure

Buy by the roll, consume by the meter !' convert every price to per-meter first.

☐ One reporting currency (USD)

Never mix USD material costs with RMB labour costs.

☐ Line Total formula verified

$(\text{Unit Cost} \times \text{Consumption}) \times (1 + \text{Wastage \%})$. A \$5/yd fabric + 10% waste = \$5.50/garment.

☐ Category subtotals roll up

$\text{Fabric} \cdot \text{Trims} \cdot \text{Packaging} \cdot \text{CMT} \cdot \text{Total per garment} \times \text{volume} = \text{run cost}.$

☐ Shell fabric is the #1 cost driver

Typically 50–60% of FOB. If hangtags crack the top three, you are over-designing.

4. Packaging & Logistics

☐ **Every packaging touchpoint has a row**

Pack-Out test: if you performed an action not in the BOM, you have a data gap.

☐ **Suffocation warning on every polybag**

3PL warehouses reject unlabelled bags — a 5,000-unit shipment can be refused.

☐ **Carton specs complete**

Ply, L×W×H, and units per carton (e.g., 5-ply double-wall, 50 units).

☐ **Barcodes stored as text, not just images**

UPC/EAN digits in a text column so scanners and screen readers can read them.

☐ **Packaging lead time tracked**

Custom packaging can outpace garment production (25+ days). Plan it separately.

5. Version Control & Access

☐ **Revision block filled**

Rev #, Date, Owner, Change Summary, Approved By on the Cover tab.

☐ **Approval Status on every row**

PENDING / SUB PROPOSED / APPROVED. Nothing pending ships.

☐ **Single source-of-truth link shared**

Stop emailing V3 while the factory cuts V2. Share one live link.

☐ **File locked after PP sample approval**

Changed a button colour? Bump 1.0! 1.1 and re-issue the file.

6. Final Pre-Flight — the three gates

Run these three before hitting send. They catch the failures that stop lines at 3 a.m.

☐ **Readability**

Can a non-native English speaker understand every description?

☐ **Access**

Do all image links work without a password?

☐

Math

Manually re-check one row — is the wastage formula correct?

Need a Factory to Review Your BOM?

Get a Free Line-Item BOM Audit

leelinewear.com/contact!' transparent manufacturing quote

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A precise BOM deserves a precise production line. MOQ 100 pcs per style.

This checklist is a practical pre-shipment guide compiled from our factory-floor BOM process as of 2026-08-14. Every row still needs your factory's sign-off before bulk purchasing begins.