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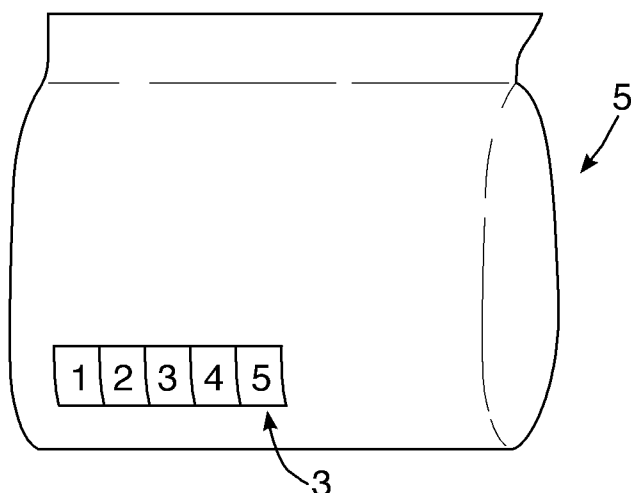
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[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title:** FABRIC COLOUR GUIDE

Fig.1.



(57) **Abstract:** A fabric colour guide comprising at least one colour or range of colours.

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Fabric Colour Guide

The present invention concerns a fabric colour guide for monitoring colour of a fabric.

5

In many circumstances, fabric colour is extremely valuable to consumers. Indeed, for some garments (e.g. expensive coloured suit shirts, uniforms) precise colour is necessary so that dulling of the colour is perceived as unacceptable.

10

In these cases, reduced colour may even result in the garment being discarded by the consumer. Repeated wash-wear cycles can reduce the colour of a garment.

15

The ability of washing powders to maintain and even rejuvenate colour may be increased by the use of shading dyes.

20

An objective is to provide a device and method for in-home consumer monitoring of the changes in colour of fabric and evaluation of the colour benefits of a laundry composition.

25

Accordingly, in a first aspect, the present invention provides a fabric colour guide comprising at least one colour or range of colours.

30

The fabric colour guide allows in-home consumer monitoring of the change in colour of a fabric by comparing the shade of the fabric with the colour displayed visually on the guide.

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The guide may comprise a colour scale which displays a colour/range of colours varying progressively from low colour at one end of the scale to high colour at the other end of the scale.

5

Alternatively or additionally the guide may comprise a colour palette of different colours. The colours may be grouped according to hue, lightness, position in the spectrum or they may be in random order.

10

The or each colour may be defined in terms of $L^*a^*b^*$ values (the CIE LAB colour space, (CIE 1976 $L^* a^* b^*$), where L^* is the lightness value of the colour ($L^*=0$ yields black and $L^*=100$ yields white), a^* is the red-green value (negative values indicate green while positive values indicate red) and b^* is the yellow-blue value (negative values indicate blue and positive values indicate yellow).

15

The variation in colour is preferably due to a change in colouration (a^* and/or b^*) and/or change in luminance/lightness (L^*).

20

The highest colour may be defined as $L^*_{\max}$, $a^*_{\max}$, $b^*_{\max}$ (UV-included) such that:

25

$L^*_{\max}$ is in the range **1-70**, preferably 5-50

$a^*_{\max}$ is in the range -40 to +40, preferably -20.0 to + 20.0

$b^*_{\max}$ is in the range +40 to -40, preferably +20.0 to -20.0.

and the minimum colour values as $L^*_{\min}$, $a^*_{\min}$, $b^*_{\min}$ such that

30

$$\Delta L^* = L^*_{\min} - L^*_{\max},$$

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where ΔL^* is 3 to 30 units preferably 5 to 10 units,
reflecting the luminance of the coloured cloth

$$\Delta a^* = a^*_{\min} - a^*_{\max},$$

5

where Δa^* is +/- (0 to 30) units, preferably +/- (0 to 10)
units reflecting red/green value of the colour of the cloth

$$\Delta b^* = b^*_{\min} - b^*_{\max},$$

10

where Δb^* is +/- (0 to 30) units, preferably +/- (0 to 10)
units reflecting the blue/yellow value of the colour of the
cloth.

15 The a^* values may be constant or at least within +/- 1 unit,
to restrict the guide to focus on blue-yellow colouration
rather than red-green.

The b^* values may be constant or at least within +/- 1 unit,
20 to restrict the guide to focus on red-green colouration
rather than blue-yellow.

The L^* values may be constant or at least within +/-1 unit
to restrict the guide to focus on red-green and/or
25 blue-yellow i.e. colour proper rather than on lightness or
luminance.

For dark colours a preferable range of $L^*_{\max}$, $a^*_{\max}$, $b^*_{\max}$ (UV-
included) are:

30

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$L^*_{\max}$ is in the range 1-30, preferably 5-15

$a^*_{\max}$ is in the range -8 to +8, preferably -4.0 to + 4.0

$b^*_{\max}$ is in the range +10 to -15, preferably 0 to -10.

5 ΔL^* is preferably 3 to 30 units preferably 5 to 10 units.

Δa^* is preferably +/- (0 to 10) units, preferably
+/- (0 to 5) units.

10 Δb^* is preferably +/- (0 to 30) units preferably
+/- (0 to 10).

Intervening colour values in any scale/palette or in any
part of a scale/palette may be between the above extremes.

15 The intervening colour values may be equally distributed.
Alternatively, the L^* and b^* and a^* values may be lowered in
alternate steps.

The guide may be configured for monitoring changes in colour
20 due to an increase or decrease in one particular colour
(e.g. blue). Accordingly, the b^* and/or a^* values may vary
in either the positive or negative with the L^* values (and
either a^* or b^* values corresponding with any colours not
being measured) maintained constant or constant at least
25 within +/- 1 unit.

The guide may be configured for monitoring changes in colour
due only to the change in luminance or lightness of a
fabric. Accordingly, the L^* values may be varied and the a^*
30 values and b^* values maintained constant to within +/- 1
unit. The a^* may be maintained at zero or at least close to

- 5 -

zero (within ± 1.0 and preferably within ± 0.3 of zero). The b^* values may be maintained constant at a value (to within ± 1 unit) which is less than 2 and preferably less than ± 3 units.

- 5 There may be multiple guides each showing different changes in one or more in different colours and lightness, so the consumer can select the appropriate guide according to the a particular colouration/whiteness of the coloured fabric to undergo the measuring. In this way the consumer can identify
10 and appreciate the cause of a change in colour and/or lightness, by matching the fabric with the correct scale.

The colour palette or scale may be continuous (where colour changes gradually) across the guide or scale it may be
15 stepped. In the case of a stepped scale, this will comprise a plurality of discrete portions, wherein the progression from one portion of the scale to another portion, involves a step-change in colour and/or lightness.

- 20 In the case of a stepped palette or scale the total colour difference between adjacent shades is preferably such that the shade of one portion of the scale is easily and quickly distinguished by the naked eye from the shade of an adjacent portion. This means that in-home testing can be done by the
25 busy consumer, without the need for laboratory conditions or equipment. However, at the same time it is preferred that the scale is focussed on subtle changes in colour within a restricted range of high colour values.

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Accordingly, the difference in colour between adjacent portions may be defined such that the colour of each portion has Lab values: L_n^* , a_n^* , b_n^* , defined by :

$$\begin{aligned} L_n^* &= L_{\max}^* + \frac{(n-1)}{(N-1)} \Delta L^* \\ a_n^* &= a_{\max}^* + \frac{(n-1)}{(N-1)} \Delta a^* \\ b_n^* &= b_{\max}^* + \frac{(n-1)}{(N-1)} \Delta b^* \end{aligned}$$

where the highest colour has $n=1$, there are N discrete shades of whites in the scale and the shades decrease in colour in equal steps (± 0.3 units) along the 3 axes.

Preferably, the total colour difference represented as the ΔE value (corresponding to the positive square root of $[(L_n^* - L_{n-1}^*)^2 + (a_n^* - a_{n-1}^*)^2 + (b_n^* - b_{n-1}^*)^2]$ is preferably greater than or equal to 0.5, and more preferably 0.5 to 2.0, (UV-included).

The values of L^* and b^* may vary alternately on the scale, such L^* only changes when n is an even number and b^* when n is an odd number.

The values of L^* and b^* may vary alternately on the scale, such b^* only changes when n is an even number and L^* when n is an odd number.

The L^* value may decrease linearly whereas the b^* values decrease for even values of n .

- 7 -

The b^* value may decrease linearly with each value of n , whereas the L^* values are only decreased for even values of n .

The values of L^* and a^* may vary alternately on the scale,
5 such L^* only changes when n is an even number and a^* when n is an odd number.

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such a^* only changes when n is an even number and L^* when n
10 is an odd number.

The L^* value may decrease linearly whereas the b^* values decrease for even values of n .

The a^* value may decrease linearly with each value of n ,
15 whereas the L^* values are only decreased for even values of n .

The portions may have a uniform shade of colour. A uniformly shaded portion is easier for the consumer to match with the
20 fabric.

By "continuous", it is meant that the change in colour appears (to the naked eye) continuous along the scale or scales. A continuous scale(s) may however, include
25 demarcation by visual indicia e.g. lines, so as to divide up the scale into multiple portions. This makes it easier for the consumer to remember, without recording, roughly where the colour of the fabric falls on the scale.

30 The guide may be labelled with directional visual indicia to direct the user to hold the product in a predetermined

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orientation. The higher colour values may be on one side i.e., the right or left of the user (when facing the product).

The portions of the scale or palette may be labelled with
5 numbers, names, logos etc. applied by e.g. printing to ease monitoring.

The portions of the scale or palette may be arranged in a single, straight row. Alternatively, the portions may be
10 arranged in multiple rows. The row or rows may be straight or curved.

Preferably the portions are of equal size and shape. This is advantageous in that no portion/s is/are given undue
15 preference due to size. This affords more accurate comparison between the colour of the portions and the fabric based on colour.

The portions may be 0.5 to 4 cm, and may be greater than 2
20 cm in length / diameter. By length/diameter it is meant the greatest length/diameter of a shape e.g. this will be the diameter of a circle, the greater diameter of an ellipse, the length of a side of a square, and the length of the longer side of a rectangle.

25 The colour scale or palette is preferably a rectangle and is preferably 1-4cm, and may be greater than 2 cm by 10-12 cm.

The guide may comprise apertures corresponding with the
30 scale or palette, whereby the fabric can be viewed through

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the apertures to identify the level of colour according to the scale or palette.

If the guide includes apertures, it is preferred that the
5 length or diameter of the portions are at least 1.3 times,
more preferably two times the length or diameter of the
apertures. Preferably the portions are at least 1 cm in
diameter and more preferably at least 3cm. This allows a
large area of the guide to surround the aperture for
10 matching with the fabric to be tested.

The apertures may correspond with the portions, and there
may be one aperture per portion. Alternatively there may be
more than one aperture per portion so that the colour of the
15 fabric is viewed through multiple apertures, which may be in
a pattern or grid. The aperture or apertures may be entirely
enclosed within the perimeter of the or each portion.

Alternatively or additionally, one or more of the apertures
20 may be in the form of a shape which is cut into the
perimeter of the portion i.e. so that it is not enclosed by
the perimeter, but itself forms part of the perimeter.

The aperture may have a curved perimeter. It may be circular
25 or elliptical. A curved perimeter is advantageous as it can
make judging the shade easier for the human eye.

The aperture may have an undulating perimeter, and the
undulations may be such that the shape has multiple (2-
30 dimensional) protrusions.

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Alternatively the shape may be angular, such as star shaped.

Visually interesting shapes such as undulating and star shapes provide visual stimulæ for the consumer, to attract the consumer to do the testing and also providing visual
5 stimulæ during testing.

The colour guide may have 3-20 portions, preferably 8-14 portions. A more complicated guide offers greater accuracy
10 however excessively complicated guides can be off-putting for some consumers. Surprisingly a very simple guide increases the frequency of use of the device for first time users, and monitoring becomes more habitual. There may be a choice of scales, a first scale having 3-20 portions and at
15 least one other scale having a lower number, such as half, than the first scale.

The guide may have less than 10 portions. This is advantageous for colour guides focussed on a restricted
20 range of colour, as described above. This is the optimum range which provides portions which are easily visually distinguished by the consumer.

The guide may be a planar member. By planar, it is meant
25 less than 2mm thick, preferably less than 1 mm. This has the advantage that the surface carrying the scale is not distanced (by thickness) from the fabric substrate during measuring, which allows for more accurate comparisons.

30 Preferably the guide is sufficiently flexible so it can flex to lie against a flexible substrate such as fabric. This has

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the advantage that the guide can be easily flexed to conform to the shape of a garment to carry out the colour comparison.

5 The colour guide may be provided with the packaging, unattached and loose inside. This has the advantage that the guide is quickly obtained on opening the package. The colour guide may be wrapped in packaging to protect it from the washing composition, so that when it is initially retrieved
10 from the pack and used, it is not contaminated with the washing composition which could then transfer on to the fabric during colour measuring.

Alternatively the guide may be integral with the packaging,
15 e.g. printed on the side of the pack. This reduces packaging material, prevents the guide being accidentally lost and also the consumer is reminded to use the guide each time they dose from the pack.

20 In a second aspect, the invention provides a method of consumer-measurement of the colour of a fabric, the method including the step of comparing the fabric with a colour guide of the first aspect of the invention including any optional, advantageous features as described above.

25 The step of comparing may take place after washing with a laundry composition. Alternatively or additionally, it may also take place before washing. This allows the consumer to evaluate the efficacy of the washing process to improve
30 colour. The step of comparing may be repeated e.g. before and/or after multiple e.g. consecutive washing operations,

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for evaluation of the progressive improvement in colour of a particular washing composition. The guide can confirm the maintenance of colour due to a particular washing composition.

5

The invention also allows the consumer to compare the different washing compositions or brands of compositions or other conditions such as temperature of the wash. The step of comparing may take place after other events which affect washing, for instance drying of washed fabrics outside, in sunlight etc.

In a third aspect, the invention provides a package containing a laundry composition in combination with a fabric colour guide of the first aspect, including any optional advantageous features as described above, and preferably together with instructions for use of said fabric colour guide to measure the colour of a fabric according to the method of the second aspect including any optional, advantageous features as described above.

The provision of a colour guide together with the washing powder enables the consumer to effectively monitor the effectiveness of the powder and appreciate the benefit of colour agents added to the washing powder. Thus the consumer is given more control over the evaluation of different products and different washing and also drying conditions.

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The guide may be perfumed, and the perfume of the guide may be the same as or correspond with the perfume of the laundry composition.

5 The detergent powder may contain an agent for improving rejuvenating or maintaining colour. The agent may comprise one or more dyes for increasing perceived colour. Preferably the colour/s of the guide correspond with the colour of the/or each dye whereby increase in the perceived
10 colour can be measured/monitored using said guide using the human eye.

Preferably the dye, or dyes together, has/have a peak absorption wavelength on the substrate fabric of 540 nm to
15 650 nm, and further preferably from 570 nm to 630 nm.

Dyes that are substantive to fabrics may be used. The dyes may be a direct dye so as to be substantive to cotton or they may be disperse and solvent dyes which are
20 substantive to synthetic fibres e.g., polyester and nylon. The composition may contain a mixture of dye so as to be substantive to both fibres.

The laundry composition may contain predominately anionic
25 surfactants. In this case dyes containing acid groups are preferred. For use in products which contain predominantly cationic surfactants, dyes containing basic groups are preferred. This is to prevent precipitation between the dye and surfactant.

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Suitable dyes for use in products containing predominately anionic surfactants include those listed in the Colour Index as Direct Violet Dyes Direct Blue dyes, Acid Blue and Acid Violet dyes.

5

Dyes which may be metabolised to carcinogenic amines should not be used. For example dyes which when reduced release benzidine, 3,3'-dimethoxybenzidine, 3,3'-dimethylbenzidine or 3,3'-dichlorobenzidine should not be used.

10

The laundry composition may contain predominately cationic surfactants. Suitable dyes here include those listed in the Colour Index as Basic Blue and Basic Violet Dyes.

15 The dyes may comprise one or more hydrophobic dyes selected from benzodifuranes, methine, triphenylmethanes, naphthalimides, pyrazole, naphthoquinone, anthraquinone and mono-azo or di-azo dyes. Hydrophobic dyes are dyes which do not contain any charged water solubilising group.

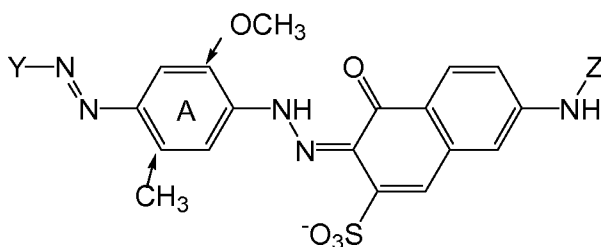
20 Hydrophobic dyes may be selected from the groups of disperse and solvent dyes. Blue and violet anthraquinone and mono-azo dye are preferred.

Preferred dyes include solvent violet 13, disperse violet 27
25 disperse violet 26, disperse violet 28, disperse violet 63 and disperse violet 77

The shading dye(s) may be a direct violet dye. These are particularly useful for cotton containing fabrics

30 Preferred are dyes are selected from the group comprising bis-azo direct violet dyes of the formula:

- 15 -



where Z is H or phenyl, the A ring is preferably substituted
 5 by a methyl and methoxy group at the positions indicated by
 arrows, the A ring may also be a naphthyl ring, the Y group
 is a phenyl or naphthyl ring, which may be substituted by
 sulphonate groups and may be mono or disubstituted by methyl
 groups.

10

The shading dye(s) may comprise the dyes direct violet 7,
 direct violet 9, direct violet 11, direct violet 26, direct
 violet 31, direct violet 35, direct violet 40, direct violet
 41, direct violet 51, and direct violet 99.

15

Cu containing direct dyes such as direct violet 66 may also
 be used.

20

The shading dye(s) may comprise acid dyes for shading cotton
 and may be selected from acid blue 98, acid violet 17, acid
 violet 50, acid black 1, acid red 51, acid red 17 acid blue
 29. One preferred acid shading dye is acid blue 98.

25

The shading dye may comprise a photobleach covalently linked
 to another blue or violet chromophore.

The shading dye may comprise a reactive dye covalently
 linked to a polymer or a solid particle.

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Pigments may be included to shade clothes. Dyes and pigments are listed in the Color Index International published by Society of Dyers and Colourists and the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists.

5

The shading dye may be a pigment.

Preferred pigments are pigment blue 1, 1:2, 1:3, 2, 2:1, 2:2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 10:1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15:1, 10 15:2, 15:3, 15:4, 15:6, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 61:1, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 79, 80, 83 and pigment violet 1, 1:1, 1:2, 2, 3, 3:1, 3:3, 3:4, 5, 5:1, 7:1, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 23, 25, 15 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 35, 37, 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48, 50, 54, 55 and 56

More Preferred organic pigments are pigment violet 1, 1:1, 1:2, 2, 3, 5:1, 13, 23, 25, 27, 31, 37, 39, 42, 44, 50 and 20 Pigment blue 1, 2, 9, 10, 14, 18, 19, 24:1, 25, 56, 60, 61, 62, 66, 75, 79 and 80.

More preferred pigments are pigment violet 3, 13, 23, 27, 37, 39, pigment blue 14, 25, 66 and 75.

25

The most preferred is pigment violet 23.

The shading dye may comprise a dye adsorbed onto a solid particle, such as a clay.

30

For ease of incorporation into laundry products it is preferred if the shading dye is supplied in a liquid form.

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The level of dye in the laundry composition may be in the range from 0.000001 wt % to 0.01 wt % preferably in the range from 0.0001 to 0.01 wt%.

5 The composition may comprise a fluorescent agent (optical brightener). Fluorescent agents are available commercially. The fluorescent agent may be supplied and used in the form of their alkali metal salts, for example, the sodium salts. The total amount of the fluorescent agent or agents used in
10 the composition may be generally from 0.005 to 2 wt %, preferably 0.01 to 0.1 wt %.

Preferred classes of fluoescer are: Di-styryl biphenyl compounds, e.g. Tinopal (Trade Mark) CBS-X, Di-amine
15 stilbene di-sulphonic acid compounds, e.g. Tinopal DMS pure Xtra and Blankophor (Trade Mark) HRH, and Pyrazoline compounds, e.g. Blankophor SN. Preferred fluoescers are: sodium 2 (4-styryl-3-sulfophenyl)-2H-napthol[1,2-d]trazole, disodium 4,4'-bis{[(4-anilino-6-(N methyl-N-2 hydroxyethyl)
20 amino 1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)]amino}stilbene-2-2' disulfonate, disodium 4,4'-bis{[(4-anilino-6-morpholino-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)]amino} stilbene-2-2' disulfonate, and disodium 4,4'-bis(2-sulfoslyryl)biphenyl.

25 The laundry composition and colour guide may include a common shading dye or fluoescer, as described above.

The present invention relates to compositions which are used to treat laundry items such as clothes. Such compositions
30 are preferably laundry detergent compositions used for washing (especially particulate detergents, liquid

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detergents, laundry bars, pastes, gels or tablets), laundry fabric conditioners used for softening fabrics, pre-treatment products, post-treatment products, tumble dryer products, ironing products etc. Preferably they are laundry treatment products which are applied in an aqueous environment.

Various non-limiting embodiments of the invention will now be more particularly described with reference to the following figures in which:

Figure 1 shows a packaged laundry composition according to embodiments of the invention where the package is a flexible bag; and

Figure 2 shows a colour guide with apertures according to further embodiments of the invention including a loose or removable colour guide.

Referring to figure 1, a flexible plastic bag 5 is shown. The bag 5 has a colour scale printed onto the outside. The scale consists of five 2 x 2cm² square portions, numbered 1,2,3,4,5 from left to right. The portions have the following L*,a*,b* values measured using a reflectometer with UV included:

	L*	a*	b*
1	10.0	0.5	-4
2	12.0	0.5	-2
3	14.0	0.5	0
4	16.0	0.5	+2
5	18.0	0.5	+4

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The pack contains 1kg of laundry composition A or B or C or D.

A further embodiment comprises the plastic pack as described
5 above in reference to the figure except that the portions
have the following LAB values measured using a reflectometer
with UV included:

	L*	a*	b*
1	10.0	0.5	-4
2	12.0	0.5	-4
3	12.0	0.5	-2
4	16.0	0.5	-2
5	16.0	0.5	0

10 The pack contains a laundry composition A or B or C or D.

In further embodiments, the above packages are provided with
colour scales printed onto a cardboard strip. The strip is
provided loose within or removable from the package 5 so
15 that it can be retrieved on first opening by the consumer.
The portions may be 3 x 3 cm and may be as shown in figure
2.

In further embodiments, the above cardboard strip 7 is as
20 shown in figure 2 and is 20 cm long and 6 cm wide. At the
top of the card 7 in a space 2 cm long and the width of the
card, a tradename is printed (not shown). The rest of the
card is equally divided into boxes of 3 x 3 cm, so that
there are 12 boxes in total. The colour of the boxes are as
25 follows:

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	L*	a*	b*
1	8.5	1	-4
2	9	0.7	-4
3	9.5	0.4	-4
4	10	0.1	-4
5	10.5	-0.2	-4
6	11	-0.5	-4
7	11.5	-0.8	-4
8	12.0	-1.1	-4
9	12.5	-1.4	-4
10	13.0	-1.7	-4
11	13.5	-2.0	-4
12	14.0	-2.3	-4

A circular hole 11 of 1cm radius is cut into the center of each portion.

5

The circular hole 11 allows the consumer to view the fabric within an window surrounded by an area of the colour shade of the scale. The size of the hole 11 relative to the size of the portion is selected so that there is sufficient area of the colour shade to enable quick, accurate matching of the fabric with the colour shade.

10

In some embodiments, the portions are arranged in a single row. In a further embodiments, the portions are in two rows (shown at dotted line B).

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Formulation	A	B	C	D
NaLAS	14	10	15	21
NI (7EO)	10	5	21	15
SLES (3EO)	7	10	7	-
Soap	2	4	1	0
Citric acid	1	1	-	1
glycerol	0	1	5	0
Propylene glycol	5	3	0	4
Sodium chloride	1	-	-	-
Amine ethoxylated polymers	0.5	1	-	-
Triethanol amine	0	0.5	3	1
perfume	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.4
fluorescer	0.05	0.1	0.15	0.2
Protease	0.005	0.01	-	0.005
Amylase	0.001	0.003	-	-
lipase	-	0.003	-	-
Fluorescer	0.1	0.15	0.05	0.3
Direct Violet 9	0.0006	0.0008		0.0004
Direct Violet 99	-	-	0.0002	-
Solvent Violet 13	-	0.02	0	0.01
Water/impurities/minors	remainde r	remainde r	remainde r	remainde r

Enzyme levels are given as percent pure enzyme. Levels of direct violet 9, direct violet 99, solvent violet 13 and Sulfonated Zn Pthalocyanine photobleach are given as pure dye. NI(7EO) refers to $R-(OCH_2CH_2)_nOH$, where R is an alkyl chain of C12 to C15, and n is 7.

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The formulations are prepared by adding direct violet 9, direct violet 99 and the Sulfonated pigment violet 23 into the slurry which is then spray dried. Alternatively, the dyes may be added via post-dosed MgSO_4 granules.

5

The solvent violet 13 was dissolved in non-ionic surfactant (7E0) and granulated onto zeolite, to give a granule containing 0.2wt% dye. This was post-dosed to the formulation.

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It is of course to be understood that the invention is not intended to be restricted to the details of the above embodiment which are described by way of example only.

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Claims

1. A fabric colour guide comprising at least one colour or range of colours.

5

2. A fabric colour guide according to claim 1 where in the range of $L^*_{\max}$, $a^*_{\max}$, $b^*_{\max}$ (UV-included) are:

$L^*_{\max}$ is in the range 1-30, preferably 5-15

$a^*_{\max}$ is in the range -8 to +8, preferably -4.0 to + 4.0

10 $b^*_{\max}$ is in the range +10 to -15, preferably 0 to -10.

3. A fabric colour guide according to any preceding claim wherein the guide is configured for measurement of one particular colour whereby a^* and/or b^* values vary and L^*
15 are maintained constant.

4. A method of consumer-measurement of the colour of fabric, including the step of comparing the fabric with a colour guide according to any preceding claim.

20

5. A method according to claim 5 including the step of comparing is repeated before and/or after multiple washing operations.

25 6. A package containing a laundry composition in combination with a fabric colour guide of any of claims 1-3 and preferably together with instructions for use of said fabric colour guide to measure the colour of a fabric according to the method of claims 4-5.

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7. A combination according to claim 6 wherein the laundry composition comprises an agent for improving, rejuvenating or maintaining colour.

5 8. A combination according to claim 7 wherein the laundry composition comprises one or more dyes for increasing the perceived colour.

9. A combination according to claim 8 wherein said dye/dyes
10 has/have a peak absorption wavelength on the substrate fabric of 540nm to 650 nm.

10. A combination according to claim 7 wherein said dye/dyes has/have a peak absorption wavelength on the
15 substrate fabric of 570nm to 630 nm.

11. A combination according to any of claims 7-10 wherein the colour/s of the guide correspond with the colour/s of the dye/s.

1/1

Fig.1.

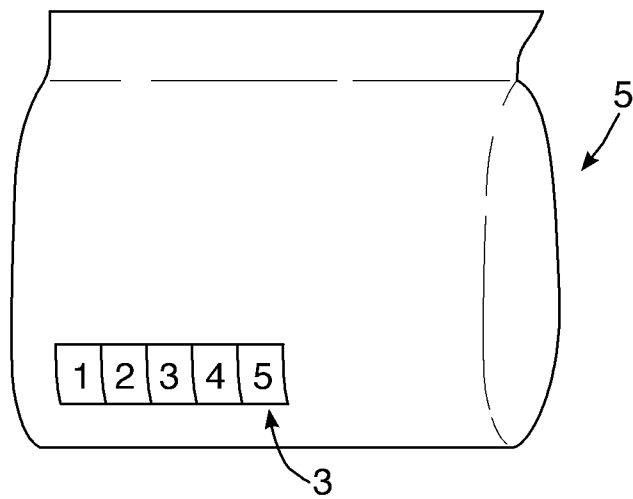
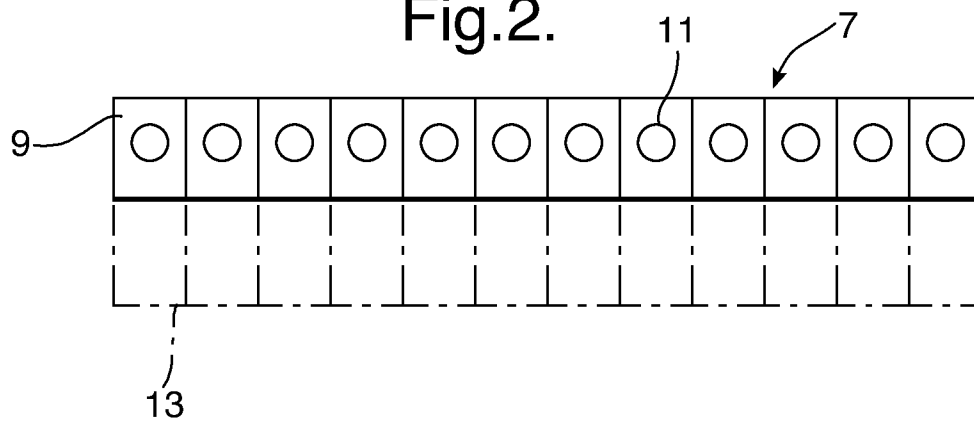


Fig.2.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2008/063439

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. G01N33/36 G01N21/29 D06H3/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

G01N D06H G01J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	CH 679 338 A5 (ALBERT KAMBER) 31 January 1992 (1992-01-31)	1
Y	the whole document	4,6
Y	----- EP 0 927 787 A (DU PONT [US]) 7 July 1999 (1999-07-07) page 7, paragraph 27 - paragraph 28	4,6
X	----- US 2 785 958 A (COPENHEFER JOHN B ET AL) 19 March 1957 (1957-03-19) the whole document	1
A	----- US 6 416 612 B1 (LERNER STANLEY I [US] ET AL) 9 July 2002 (2002-07-09) the whole document	1,4,6
A	----- GB 2 358 404 A (UNILEVER PLC [GB]) 25 July 2001 (2001-07-25) the whole document	8,9

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

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