

MICREX®/Microcreper™
Technical Note #117
Decorative Effects

The range of possible crepe styles, as well as how easily a substrate will accept a decorative pattern depends greatly on the type of substrate and the particular “recipe” used to make it.

As a very rough generalization – textiles will accept the widest range of patterns, followed by nonwovens, less so paper, and lastly -- films.



The “crepe look” in textiles is viewed as high fashion. In Europe there are several Micrex®/Microcrepers™ producing textiles used in high end women’s shirting, bathing suits, and home furnishings.



Microcreping is also an opportunity for a single substrate to be converted into a range of products with different functional and esthetic qualities. For example, spunlace used in medical gowns and industrial wipes can be given both stretch and a range of differentiating looks through Microcreping™.

What follows are pictures of different Microcreped samples and the terms we use to describe them.

Microcrepe can be described in terms of its frequency as well as amplitude.



Paper - Coarse Microcrepe.

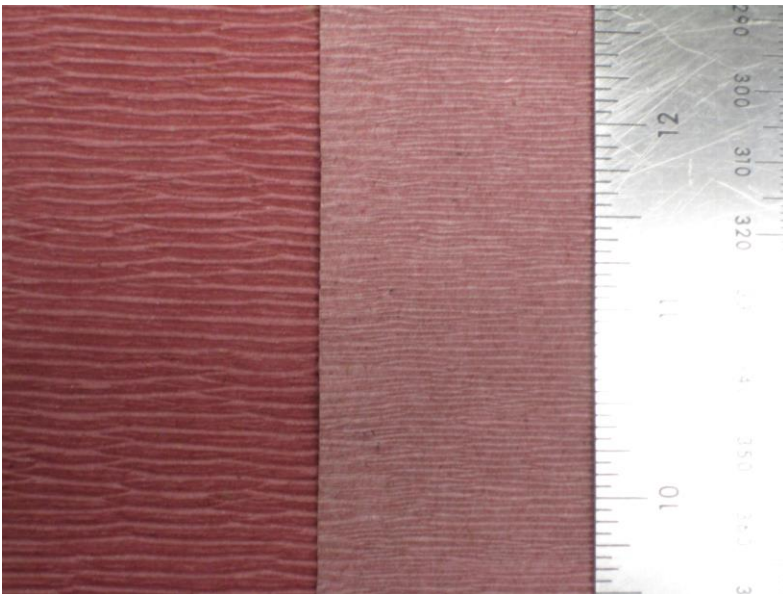


Paper - Very Fine Microcrepe.



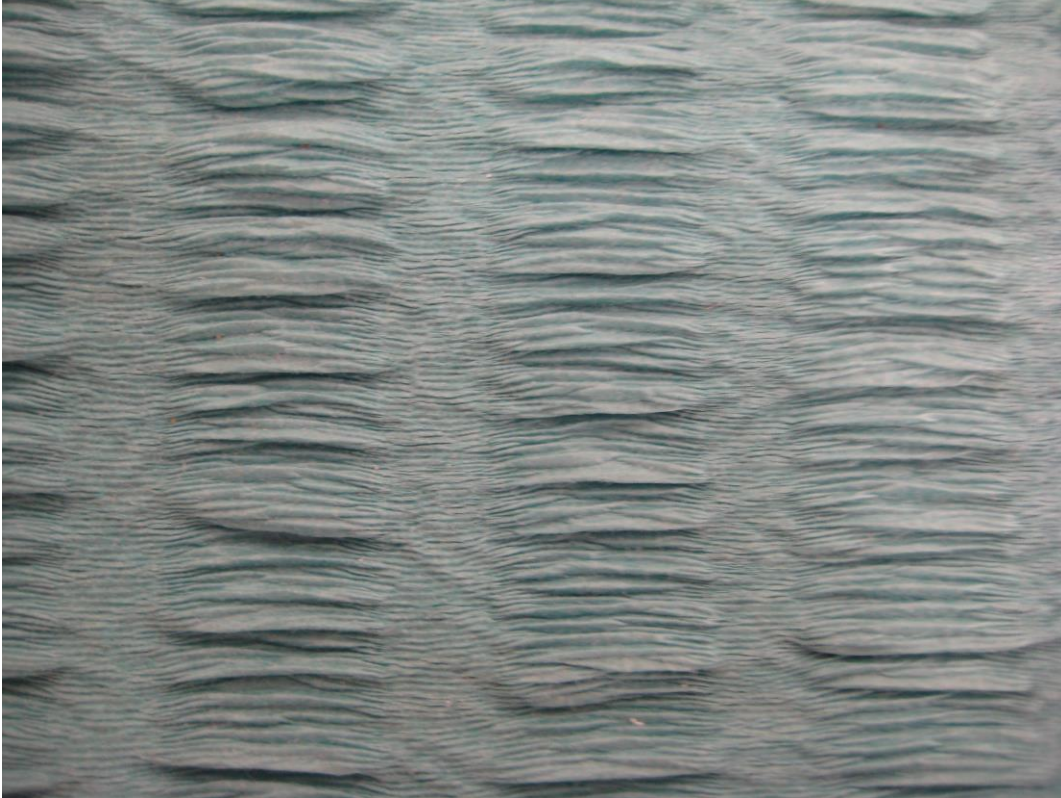
Paper – Medium Microcrepe.

Note however that as the process strives for a very fine Microcrepe, uniformity is lost. As a general rule, it is easier to produce a pattern which is coarse than one which is fine

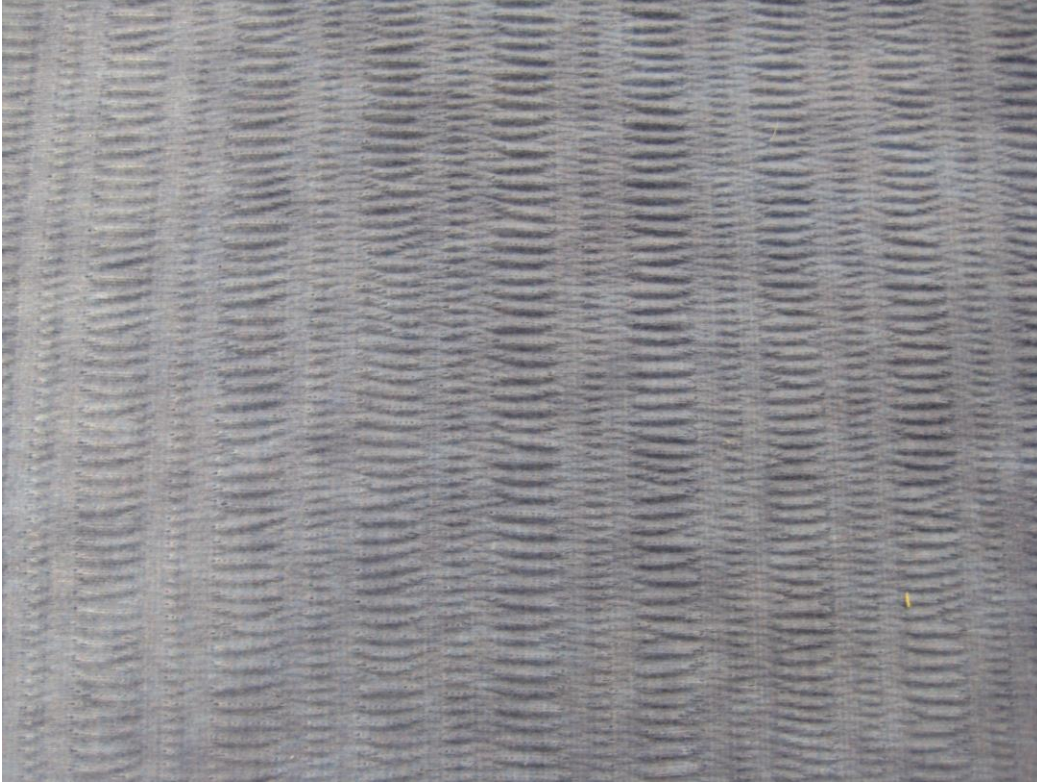


Recycled Paper - Two levels of crepe

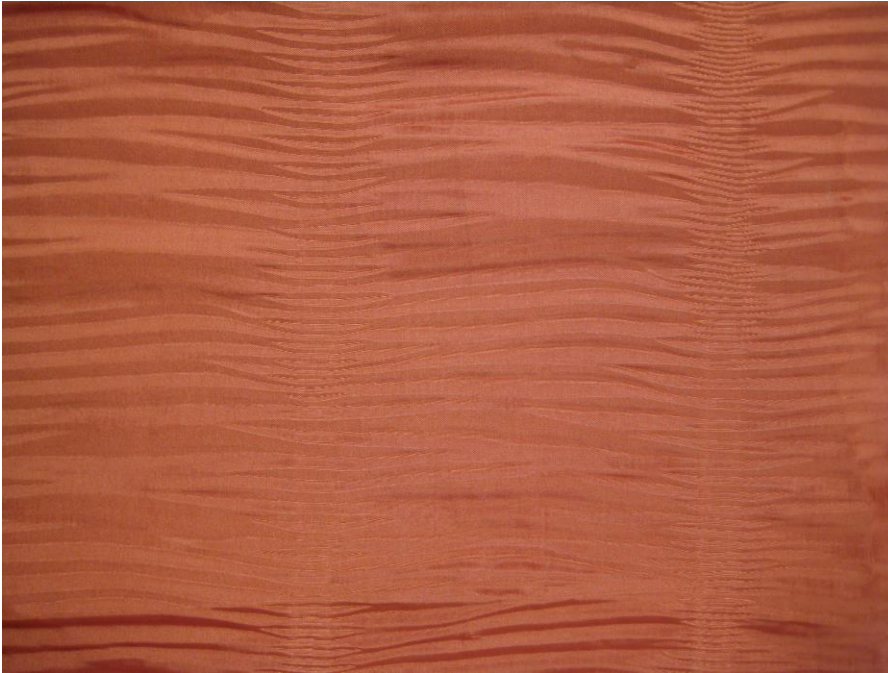
One technique used by Micrex is to Microcrepe in narrow bands. This creates a plisse effect.



Nonwoven – magnified 10d. Note that the flat portion is where the Microcreping takes place, gathering the remaining material.



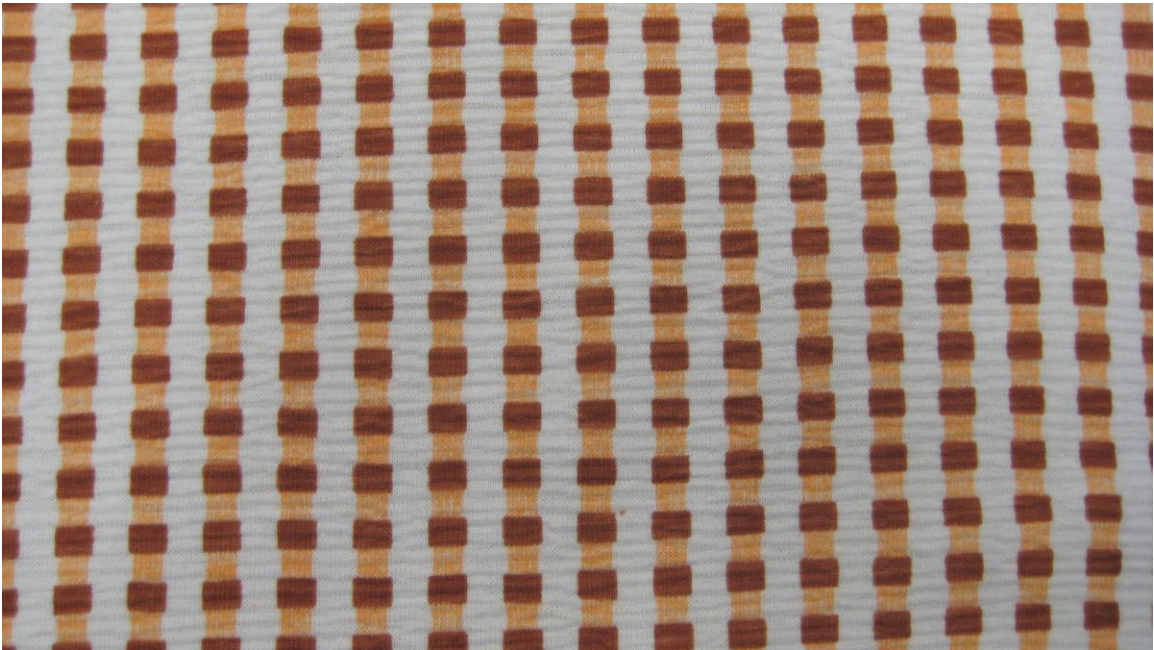
Plisse patterns can easily be modified on the machine with little or no downtime or wasted material. The pattern is cut with scissors from a piece of blue steel.



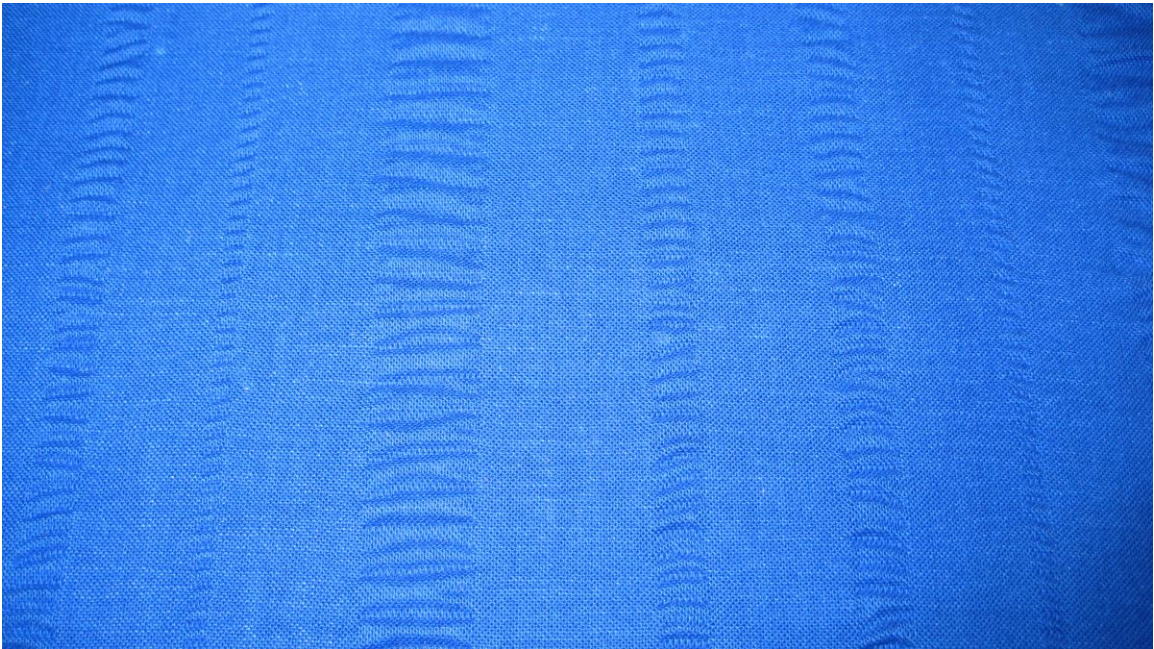
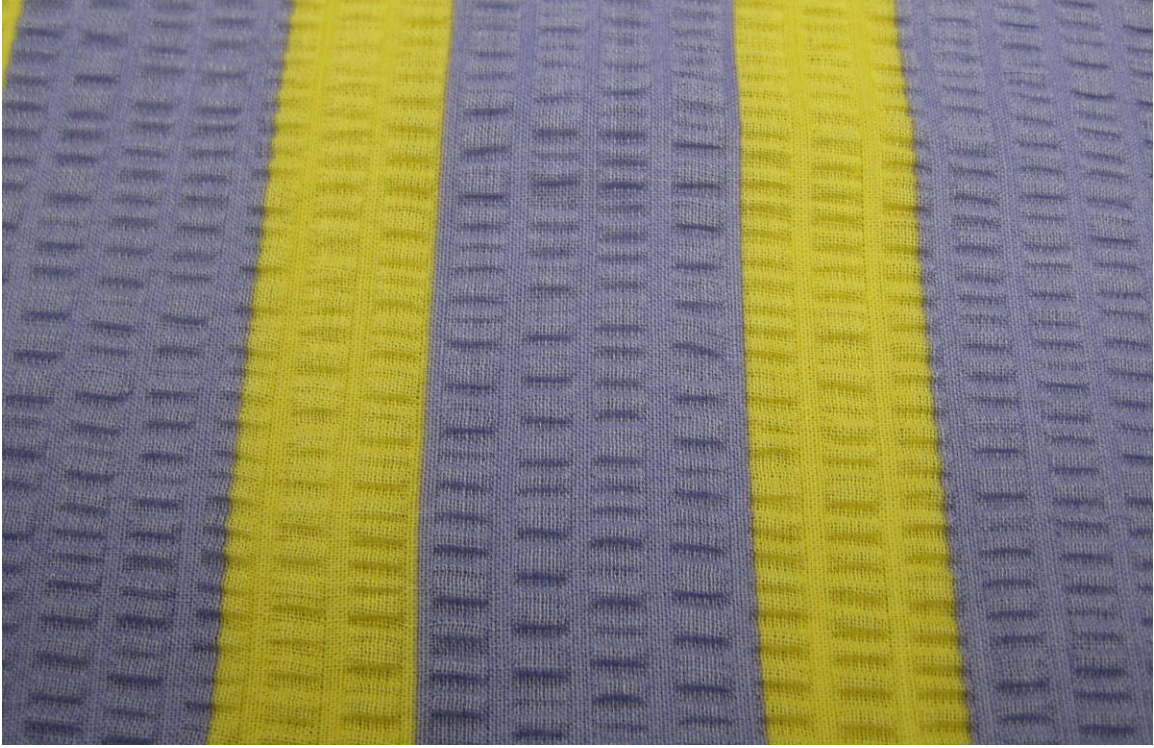
Textile – very narrow bands of Microcreping gathers the rest of the web for a rich look.



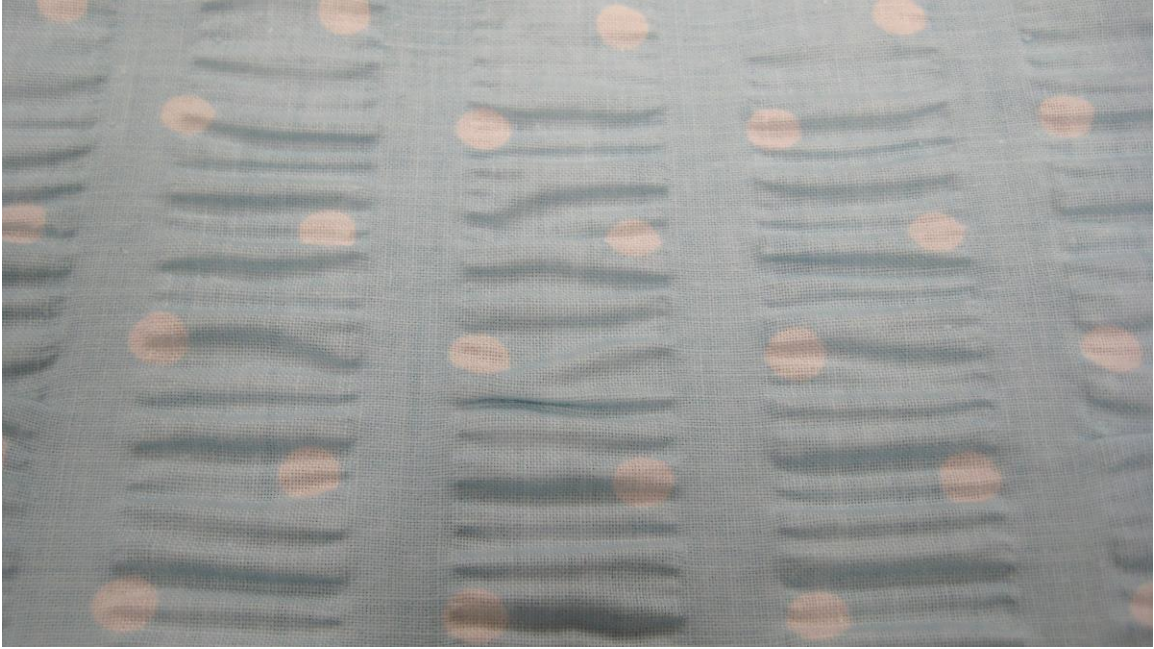
Textile - Combining a pattern and a print for a 3D effect. Note patterns can be asynchronous.



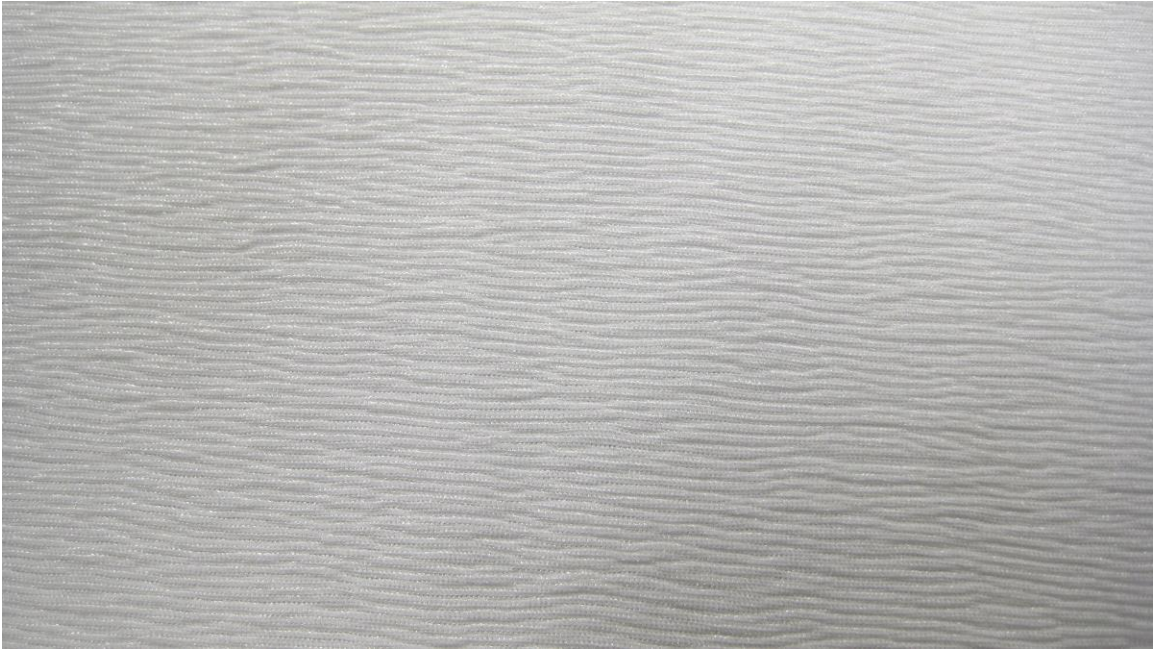
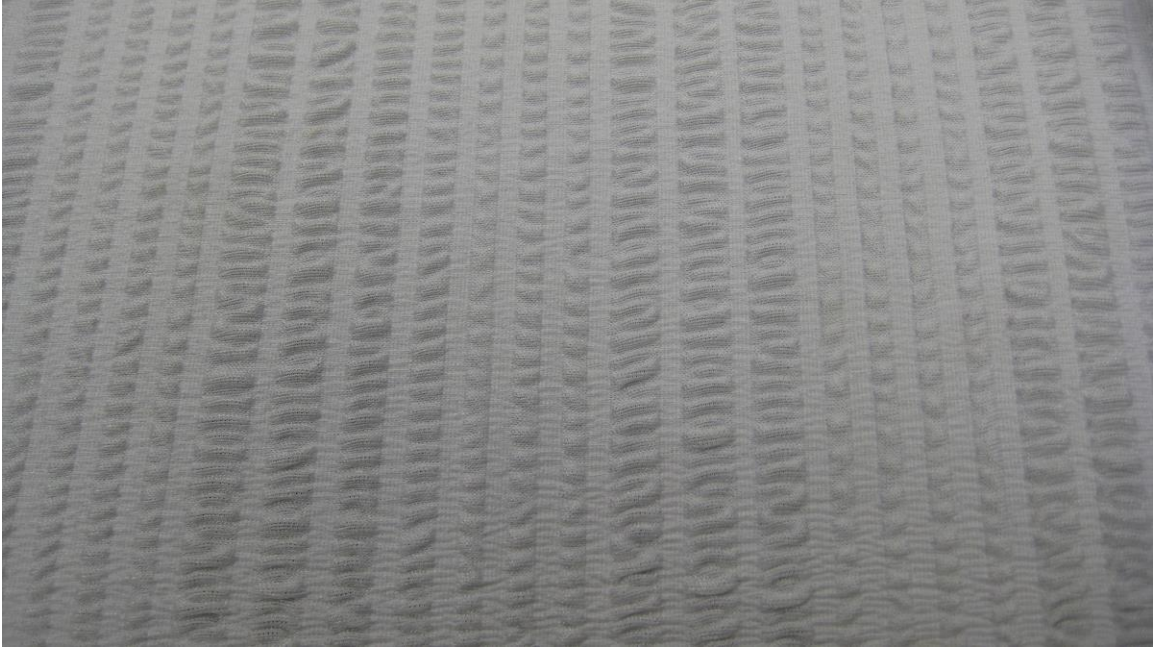
Textiles – a very fine crepe enhancing the print



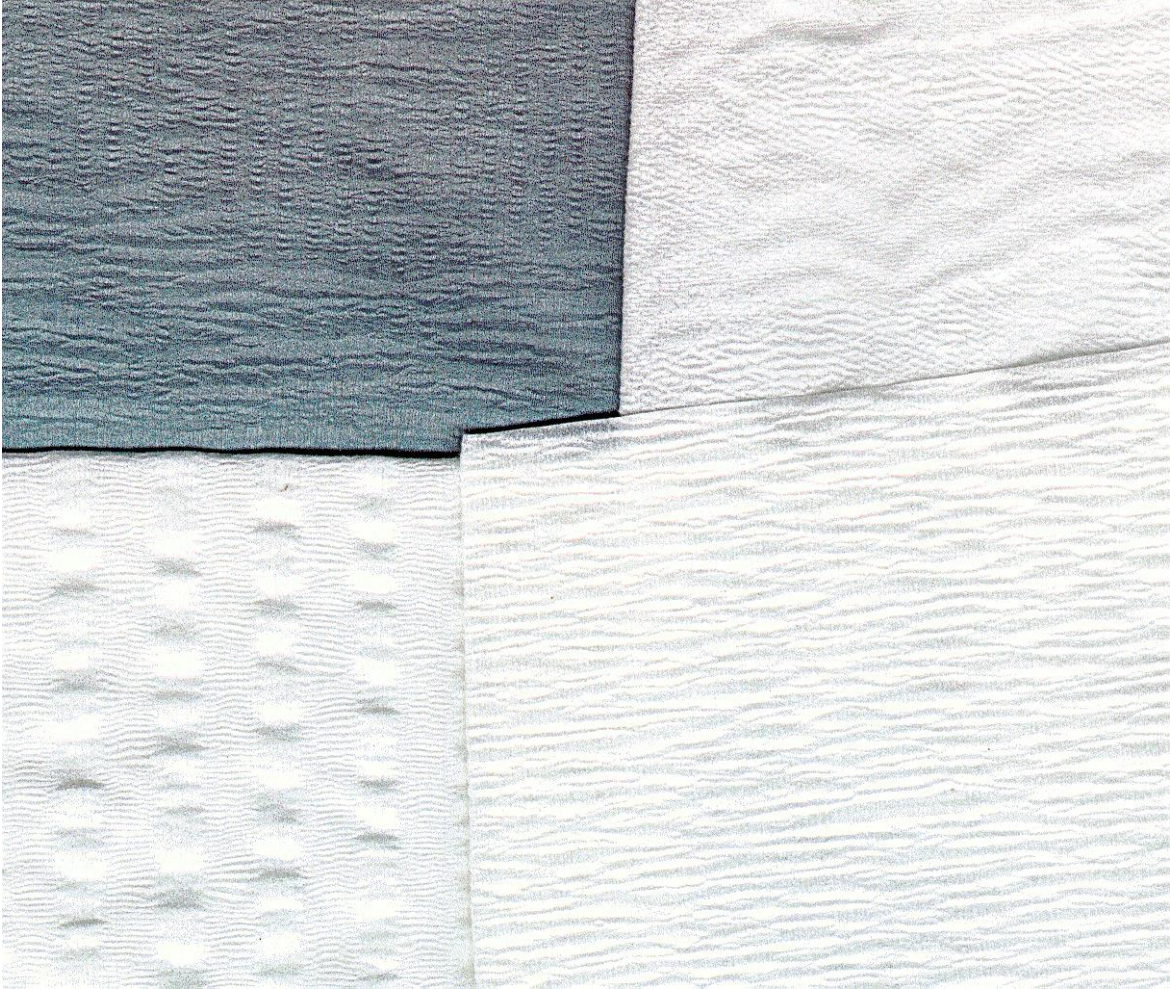
Textiles – an embossed look



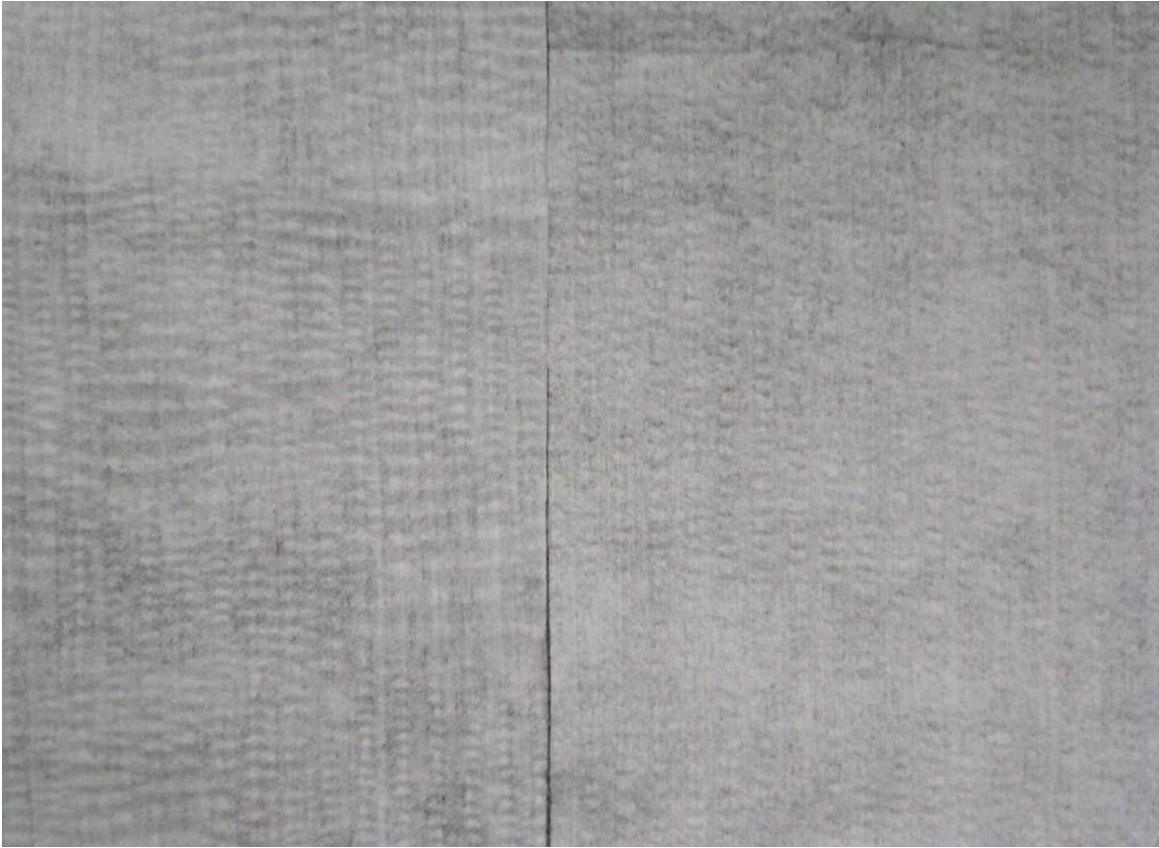
Textiles – broad plissé



Two completely different looks in a Nylon Trico



Nonwoven wipes can be differentiated by changing how they look.



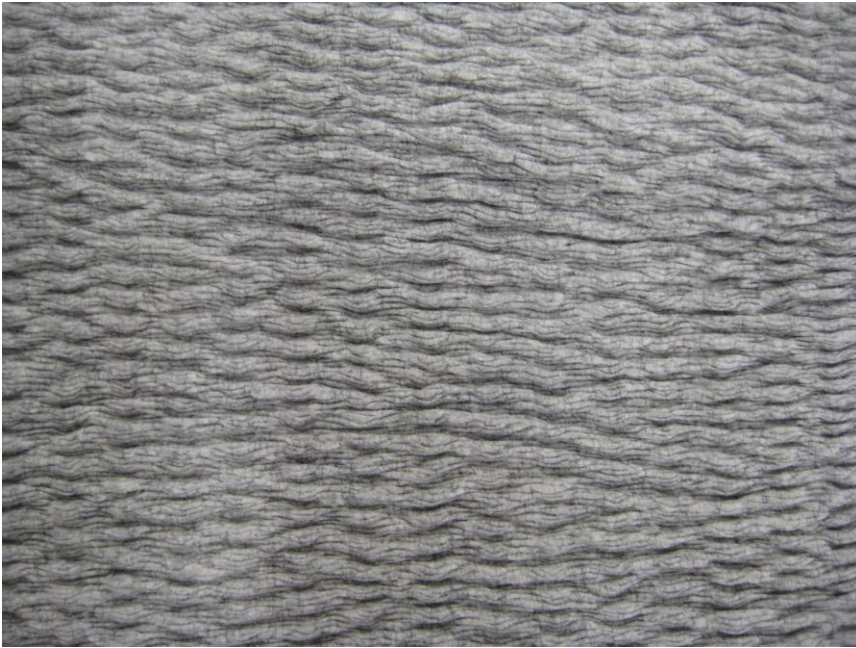
Nonwoven wipes with a “skip” pattern on the left and a “seersucker” pattern on the right



“Seersucker” on a roll.



Film – with “double crepe” meaning both fine and coarse Microcrepe.



Nonwoven - with “double crepe”.