C L E A R
F A S H I O N

Clear Fashion: Presentation of the scoring system

The main purpose of the Clear Fashion app is to inform consumers about the Human, Environmental, Health and Animal impact of clothing brands and products.

The information is provided for information purposes only. We hope that it will enable users to make informed purchases and motivates the industry to move towards greater transparency.

All the brands can be referenced on the application: we integrate them continuously, starting with the brands most requested by the users and those that make the process of referencing themselves, via the online form.

We would like to address a special thank you to Anne Perwuelz, Grégoire Jacob, Isabelle Robert, Majdouline Sbai and Thomas Radal, who help us by sharing their expertise within the committee of experts.

C L E A R
F A S H I O N

1. The scoring main principles

Principle 1: OVERALL VISION

Make synthetic leather to limit animal impact, but use oil? Extend the lifespan by making a garment stain resistant to chemicals that are potentially toxic to health?

Here are some examples that show that one cannot consider an impact by neglecting others: for Clear Fashion, assessing the level of responsibility of brands and clothing requires taking into account a set of criteria. The aim is to provide consumers with a holistic vision of the impacts linked to the manufacture of a garment, which impacts are on: Humans, Health, Animals and the Environment.

The criteria on which we evaluate the impact of clothing have been designed to provide consumers with the best possible information: we constantly consult consumers to take into account their feedback on their concerns; in parallel, we work with experts in the sector to ensure that our reference system leads brands towards an ideal in terms of impact on Humans, Health, Animals and the Environment.

Each user is free to use our information according to his or her sensitivity to different impacts.

Principle 2: NO INFORMATION = ONE INFORMATION

When a brand is in high demand by consumers, we collect information on its practices, evaluate it and integrate it on the app. If we do not find information on one of the elements of the grid (e.g. presence of certain toxic substances), we contact the brand to learn more about its practices.

Most brands respond to us. When a brand does not wish to respond to consumer demand, we consider that there is a risk: Why does the brand not wish to answer our questions? Lack of information? Devaluing practices (e.g. use of toxic substances)? If it's a matter of lack of time, be aware that the brand can come back to Clear Fashion at any time in order to respond to consumer demand.

This is why at Clear Fashion, we also communicate to consumers about the lack of information: it represents a potential risk, which cannot allow us to validate the points.

Principle 3: INDEPENDENCE

Independence of our evaluation system: The evaluation method is built by Clear Fashion with the help of our expert committee, in which we do not accept the presence of any brand. This way, we make sure that we respond well to the sector challenges, by surrounding ourselves with independent experts who have been working in the sector for years and who are aware of its limits and areas for improvement, without being biased by self-interest.

Independence of scores: Brands are not informed of their scores prior to their publication on the application. They have no influence and no right of decision on the way their score is constructed.
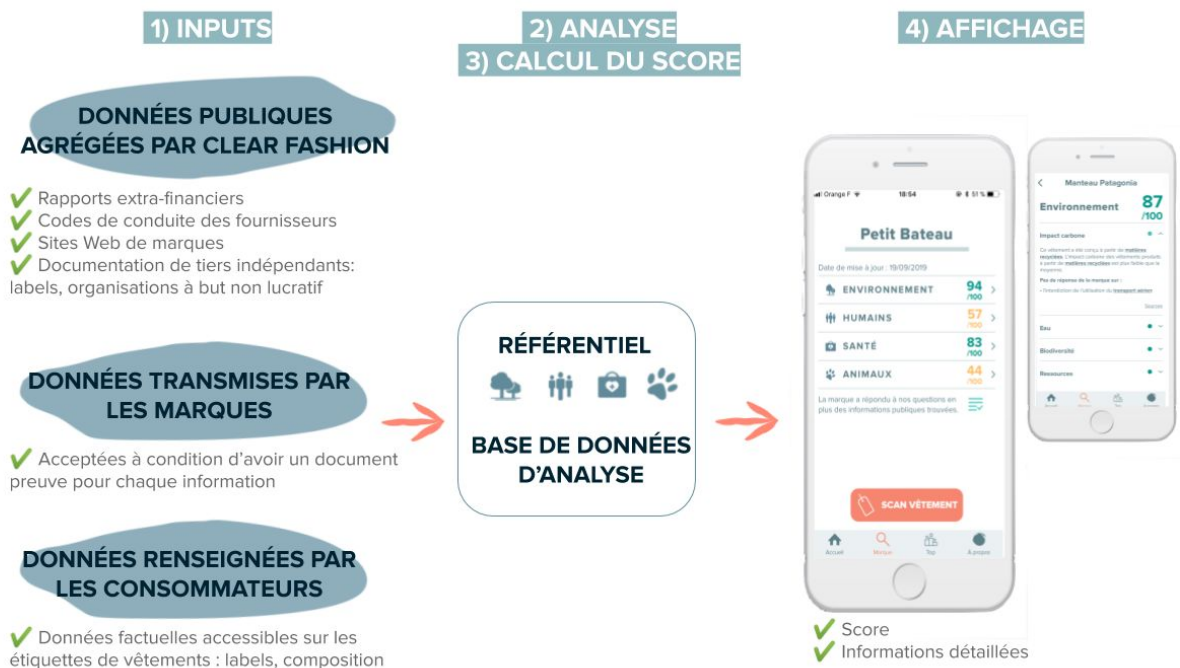
For each brand evaluated, the rating is the result of :

- filling in the brand form. The grid is based on elements as factual as possible, presented on this methodology document;
- then an automatic score is calculated, according to the rules also presented in this methodology document

This transparency on our methods is a guarantee of the independence of our operation, which applies equally to any brand. Moreover, any brand can be evaluated freely, at its request or users.

2. The evaluation system

Below is a diagram showing the overall functioning of the evaluation system: the inputs, or incoming data, are analysed by our repository and our analysis databases (e.g. label qualification database), before being displayed in the form of a score with detailed information on the application.

In the following paragraphs, we are going to introduce you to each of the elements : the inputs, the analysis grid and score calculation and finally the information's display on the app.

2.1. The inputs, analysed data

2.1.1 The nature and source of the data analysed

The application offers a scoring system based on the analysis of three types of data:

A) **Public information on brands, researched by Clear Fashion**: on the labels' websites, on the brands' websites, on their CSR reports, on their charts of conduct with suppliers or from any other document published by the brands.

B) **Information transmitted by the brands to Clear Fashion**: non-confidential information supported by documents transmitted by the brands, as well as declarations on the honour of the brands when they have not yet given us documents that are provable, sometimes difficult to obtain.

C) **Information provided by the user**: composition or labels present on the garment

These data concern :
- **The brand's commitments and practices** (e.g. no use of air freight);
- **Its collections** (e.g. 10% of references in recycled materials);
- **Its suppliers**, for each stage of the supply chain (e.g. location of suppliers of clothing, weaving, knitting, finishing, spinning, raw materials) **and their practices** (e.g. actions to limit water consumption)

Only information about current practices, policies and collections is included. Commitments made for the future (e.g. a 30% reduction in carbon emissions by 2025) are only taken into account by the actions they have triggered, which must already be in place at the time of the assessment (e.g. the elimination of air freight use from January 2020).

Moreover, in order to promote the brands that improve their practices and to be as up to date as possible on these developments, we are constantly listening to any brand feedback.

2.1.2 Data accuracy

We consider information supported by a document to be a more reliable source than a simple brand statement. Furthermore, when the document is a "frozen" document such as a CSR report or supplier code of conduct (as opposed to a website, which is evolving), or when it is drawn up by an independent third party, we consider it to be even more reliable.

Therefore, here are the different levels of reliability that we distinguish
- CSR report, supplier code of conduct, label documentation, or other document fixed or validated by a third party. The "Very good level of reliability";
- Brand website : "Good level of reliability";
- Brand statement: "Acceptable level of reliability";
- When we have not yet received the proof: "Awaiting proof".

These different levels of reliability are given as an indication to the user, but have no impact on the score.

2.2 The evaluation grid

The data collected is analysed using an objective, fact-based grid and reviewed every six months.

2.2.1 The four themes of the evaluation

Based on consumer research, we have identified the need for information on the following four themes:
- The environment: practices to limit the environmental impact of clothing;
- Humans: relations with partners and practices to limit social risks in the workplace;
- Health: commitments and practices concerning the use of chemical substances potentially toxic for the final consumer;
- Animals: materials used and practices set up to limit the risks of abuse.

2.2.2 The grid and evaluation criteria

An evaluation grid has been constructed, on each of the four previous themes, based on the analysis of existing work or the knowledge of our experts.

A) Elements of the evaluation grid at the brand level

For brands, the method is based on the analysis of the practices implemented by the brand.

ENVIRONMENT		
Waste	Actions implemented by the whole supply chain to limit waste	
	Material use	Reduction of production scraps
		Use of recycled/upcycled materials
	Reasoned production model	Reduction and management of unsold stock
		Frequency of collection renewal
Water	Water consumption	Actions set up along the supply chain
		No sandblasting technique
	Water pollution	Actions set up along the supply chain
		Use of biological materials or materials requiring pesticides
		Tanning type
		Natural dyes
Global warming	Measurable results	Reduction of CO_2 emissions

		Offsetting of remaining emissions
	Actions to limit the carbon impact implemented by suppliers throughout the supply chain	
	Actions implemented by the brand	No air freight transport of goods
		Recycled or upcycled materials
		Use of renewable energy
Fossil resources	Raw materials used	Use of materials from renewable or non-renewable resources.
In addition to this	*Services extending the use*	*Location*
		Second hand
	Services related to the product quality	*Guarantee, repair*
	Reduction in the use of accessories or use of limited impact accessories	
	Risk mapping	*Deforestation risks*
		Risks on water supplies

HUMANS (workers)		
Risk management	Social audits	Brands or third party audits set up along the supply chain
		Publication of audit results
	Implementation of an alert system throughout the supply chain	
Relation with partners	Knowledge of suppliers	Publication of the suppliers' list
		Knowledge of suppliers in the sector
	Direct work along the supply chain	
	Possession of factories along the supply chain	
Taking into account the workers' life	Wages and salaries throughout the process	The brand makes sure that the "living wage" or the "minimum wage" are respected throughout the supply chain.
In addition to this	*Production chain in low-risk countries*	
	Fairtrade	
	Label guaranteeing compliance with ILO conventions	
	Mapping social risks	

HEALTH	
Controls on the garment	Control of chemical substances present during production
	Controls of chemical substances present after production

Substances used	Forbidden substances	Alkylphenols
		Perfluorocarbon Compounds
		Phtalates
	Publication of the list of prohibited substances	
	Use of natural dyes	
Practices' audit check	Audits throughout the process	
	Publication of audit results	

ANIMALS	
Controversial markets	Use of materials not derived from food co-products: fur, exotic leather
Animal death	Use of materials requiring the death of the animal: fur, leather, down, feathers, etc.
Limitation of suffering	Audits and verification of practices to limit the risk of animal suffering.

B) Element of the evaluation grid at the product level

For products, the method is based on the analysis of the composition, labels, and practices implemented by the brand impacting the product level.

ENVIRONMENT		
Waste	Recyclability	Monomaterial clothing
	Use of materials	Recycled or upcycled materials
	Actions along the chain	
Water	Water consumption	Materials with low (hemp, linen, viscose) or high (cotton, silk) water consumption
		No sandblasting technique
		Actions along the chain
	Water pollution	Low (hemp, flax) or high (cotton, animal materials) water pollution
		Type of tanning
		Actions along the chain
Global warming	Materials contributing slightly or strongly (cotton, animal materials, synthetics) to the carbon impact	
	No air transport	
	Actions along the chain	
Fossil resources	Raw materials used	Use of materials from non-recycled fossil resources
In addition	*Natural dyes*	

C L E A R
F A S H I O N

HUMANS (workers)	
Risk management	Social audits conducted by the brand or by an independent third party, throughout the supply chain.
Relation with partners	Knowledge of suppliers
	Direct work along the chain
	Possession of factories along the chain
Taking into account the workers' life	Materials with a high impact on workers' health
	Tanning
	Sandblasting
In addition	*Production chain in low-risk countries*
	Fairtrade
	Label guaranteeing compliance with ILO conventions

HEALTH		
Controls of the garment	Control of chemical substances present during production	
	Control of chemical substances present after production	
Substances used	Forbidden substances	Alkylphenols
		Perfluorocarbon compounds
		Phtalates
Practices' checks	Audits along the chain	
In addition	*Use of natural dyes*	

ANIMALS	
Controversial markets	Use of materials not derived from food co-products: fur, exotic leather
Animal death	Use of materials requiring the death of the animal: fur, leather, down, feathers, etc.
Limitation of suffering	Audits and verification of practices to limit the risk of animal suffering.

2.2.3 The different answers possible to those criterias

Those criterias are evaluated as questions in our evaluation form. There are different types of questions, with different possible answers:

- Questions with a **binary answer** like "yes" / "no" / "don't know"
- Questions with a **nuanced binary answer** like "yes" / "yes but not 100%" / "no" / "don't know"

FASHION

CLEAR
F A S H I O N

- Questions to be **answered as a percentage** of type "x%" (x taking numerical values between 0 and 100) / "yes but unknown percentage" / "don't know"

For all questions, the points awarded and the information displayed on the application are determined by the answer selected.

2.2.4 The case of labels and partnerships

Labels and partnerships are not evaluation "criteria" in their own right, but are used to trigger responses to our evaluation criteria.

Indeed, we have studied their specifications and we have contacted each of the labels analysed, in order to be able to translate the labels into concrete actions and elements of our grid.

Case of the labels:

The labels taken into account are those most present in the textile industry sector, those recommended by the Ademe, or those whose specifications confirm at least one item of information in our reference system. This list may change over time: we are constantly monitoring new labels and listening to any feedback on the integrated labels.

Here are the labels currently analysed in our grid:

AVSF - Sustainable Cashmere Industry of Mongolia
Better Cotton Initiative - BCI
Bioré
Bluesign
Cradle to Cradle BRONZE
Cradle to Cradle GOLD
Cradle to Cradle PLATINUM
Cradle to Cradle SILVER
Demeter
EU Ecolabel
European flax
Fair Trade - Max Haavelar
Fair Trade Certified
Forest Sustainable Council - FSC
France terre textile
Global Organic Textil Standard - GOTS
Global Recycled Standard
Global Traceable Down Standard

Leather Standard by OEKO-TEX®
Master of Linen
Naturleder
Naturtextil Best
Nordic Ecolabel
OEKO-TEX® CONFIANCE Textile / STEP
OEKO-TEX® MADE IN GREEN
OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100
Organic 100 Content Standard
Organic Blended Content standard
Origine France Garantie
Recycle Claim Standard
Recycle Claim Standard 100
Responsible Down Standard

Leather Standard by OEKO-TEX®, Naturleder, Cradle to Cradle BRONZE, SILVER, GOLD et PLATINIUM have been added on the last update of the referential.

Case of partnerships:

In the same way, we have identified partnerships set up with brands that enable us to validate at least one item of information in our reference system. This list is subject to change.

The information elements triggered by partnerships come from the study of their **charts**.

Here are the partnerships currently analysed in our grid:

1% for the planet
Accord on Fire and Building safety Bangladesh
Action Collaboration Transformation - ACT
AFIRM Group
Better work
Canopy style initiative
CEO Water Mandate
Cotton Campaign
Ethical Trading Initiative respect for workers worldwide - ETI
Fair Labor Association - FLA
Fair Wear Foundation - FWF
Fur free retailers
Partnership for Cleaner Textiles - PaCT
RE 100
Sustainable Apparel Coalition - SAC

| Sustainable Clothing Action Plan-SCAP |
| Textile Exchange |
| UN Global Compact |
| Worn Again |
| Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals - ZDHC |

When we last updated the referential, we did not add new partnerships.

2.3. The score calculation

2.3.1 The weighting of the four themes: Equi-weighting at the product level

Each of the 4 themes (Environment, Humans, Animals, Health) are evaluated on 100 points, to which bonus points are added.

In the case of an evaluation at the brand level: We do not generate an overall score according to the themes' scores. Indeed, we do not want to "categorize" brands, and we believe that a real difference can be made at the product level.

In the case of an evaluation at the garment level: At the users' request, we generate an overall score, based on the aggregation of the themes' scores. We do not take a stand on the respective importance of the different themes: they are therefore equally weighted: each theme has the same weight in the final score.

Finally, thanks to the access to the notes of each theme on the application, users can direct their purchases according to their own sensitivities.

2.3.2 Weighting of the different impacts or themes within a theme: equi-weighting

Both at the brands and products' levels: Each theme is broken down into impacts or themes. Example of the Environment theme: Waste, Water, Global Warming, Energy, as specified in 2.2.2.

Within a theme, we do not wish to give more importance to one theme over another hence they are equally weighted. Thus, in the example of the Environment theme (100 points), each of the four impacts are evaluated on 25 points: Waste (25 points), Water (25 points), Global Warming (25 points) and Energy (25 points).

2.3.3 Weighting of the different criteria within the themes

On the basis of existing work and discussion with our experts, we have given weight ranging from 1 to 3 to the different criteria within a theme. Thus, we have determined the points on which the different criteria are evaluated within a theme.

This choice of assigning different weights to the criteria is explained by the fact that they will have more or less impact on the theme being evaluated.

Some criteria are "bonus" criteria, i.e. it is not necessary to validate the criterion in order to get 100.

To protect our system from misuse, the scale is not made public.

2.3.4 Calculating the score based on the answers to the questions

The points awarded to a given brand or product are determined by the answers to the questions on the evaluation form, as well as by the labels and composition in the case of a product: these different elements make it possible to validate the criteria in the grid presented in 2.2.2.

    A) Calculation of points by criteria

As explained in 2.3.3, each criterion has a number of points. Depending on the response reached, a certain percentage of the points on which the criterion is assessed are triggered:

Case of binary questions:

- "YES": all the points of the criterion are awarded;
- "YES but not 100%": one third of the points of the criterion are awarded;

In the case of percentage questions:

- YES x%" (with x number between 0 and 100): x percent of the points of the criterion are awarded;
- "YES, but unknown percentage": one tenth of the points in the criterion are awarded;

Case of all questions:

- "NO": No criterion points awarded;
- "Don't know": No criterion points awarded. Indeed, without information after the brand's consultation, we cannot assume that the commitments are there.

    B) Calculation of points by theme and then by topic

The score of a theme is calculated by summing the scores of the criteria that compose it. The score for one of the four main themes is then calculated by adding up all the theme notes that compose it.

C L E A R
F A S H I O N

2.4. The information display

2.4.1. An overview of the global score

In the case of both brands and products, Clear Fashion provides access to the evaluation on the four themes: environment, people, health, animals, with one score per theme.

At the product level, there is also an overall score, which is the average of the four themes.

The scores follow a colour scheme according to five levels of commitment:
- Score between 80 and 100 : Very high (dark green colour)
- Score between 60 and 80 : High (green colour)
- Score between 40 and 60 : Moderate (yellow colour)
- Score between 20 and 40 : Weak (orange colour)
- Score between 0 et 20 : Very weak (red colour)

2.4.2 A breakdown of the score by theme

Clear Fashion also gives access to detailed scores on the themes. For each theme, the user has access to an overview of the level on each of the themes, thanks to a coloured dot determined according to the score. The colour code is the same as the one presented in 2.4.1.

2.4.3. An explanation of the criteria

Within each theme and topic, we present the results on the different criterias in a factual way, through symbols:

- V : yes
- % unknown: percentage unknown
- X : no
- ? : don't know

Explanations help to understand how the criterion will play on the theme.

2.4.4. Presentation of sources

For each piece of information provided, the source of that information is specified, with the link and date when available. We also display the reliability analysis presented in 2.1.2.

2.4.5. The top brands

We highlight brands whose average scores in four themes are above a certain threshold in the top brand. The threshold is currently 60.

3. The organisation of our work on the referential: continuous improvement

3.1. The referential's evolution

The evaluation system presented above is constantly being challenged, thanks to our work, thanks to the evolution of available public works, thanks to feedback from experts, or even consumers.

As soon as it seems important to us, an evolution of the evaluation system is possible: integration of new criteria, new possible answers, or even evolution of the scale of attribution of points. These developments are in line with our mission: to enlighten consumers on issues that may evolve, and with levels of requirements that may increase depending on the state of the sector. If the score of a brand or garment changes, it is important to refer to the new score.

If you have any questions about the rating system and the information displayed on the Clear Fashion application, please contact us at the following email address: hello@clear-fashion.com.

3.2. The experts' committee

We have set up a committee of experts, bringing together experts in textile engineering, supply chains and consumer expectations.

The purpose of the committee is to help us to follow Clear Fashion's objective of enlightening consumers towards the brands and clothing that are the most respectful of humans, the environment, animals and health.

In order to ensure the neutrality of the committee, no brand is part of it.

The committee meets on a monthly basis. In addition to these monthly meetings, committee members also help us with specific questions related to their expertise.

4. The sources and work used

4.1. The main works and databases

The following is a list of the main work on which Clear Fashion's rating system is based:

- Responsible Procurement for Desirable Brands, A Practical Guide - Fédération Français du Prêt à Porter Féminin, March 2019
- Base IMPACTS - Ademe
- Higg Material Sustainability Index
- Le revers de mon look - Ademe 2018
- MEASURING FASHION - Quantis, 2018

4.2. The databases specific to the social risks' analysis according to origin

We have identified the risks related to production origins based on the following criteria: Forced labour, child labour, living wage, workers' rights, political risks, occupational health and safety, environmental performance of the country, migrant employment, gender wage gap, GDP per capita, quality of life standards.

We have studied the risks of 213 countries: 195 recognised by the UN and 18 present in the indexes (see sources below). The risk level of 165 countries out of 213 was calculated. The risk level of 48 countries could not be calculated due to a partial or total lack of available information. Our study is based on the following sources:

Source name	Organisation/person	Date
The global slavery index 2018	The Walk free foundation	2018
Rankings by Country of Average Monthly Net Salary (After Tax) (Salaries And Financing)	Numbeo	2019
2018 ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDEX	Yale University	2018
Child labour global databases	UNICEF	2017
2018 ITUC GLOBAL RIGHTS INDEX The World's Worst Countries for Workers	International Trade Union Confederation	2018
Country Risk Classification	Amfori BSCI	2019
UI Safety Index / International Labour Organization's Global Database on Occupational Safety and Health Legislation (LEGOSH).	UI safety Index	consulté le 06/08/2019
Global Wage Report 2018/19 What lies behind gender pay gaps	International Labour Organization	2018
Quality of life in a country comparison	WorldData	consulté le 21/08/2019
Methodology of the global estimates of child labour	International Labour Organization	2017
The global slavery index 2018	The Walk free foundation	2018
The Global Gender Gap Report 2018	World Economic Forum	2018
Global Wage Report 2018/19 What lies behind gender pay gaps	International Labour Organization	2018

C L E A R
F A S H I O N

Wages and Working Hours in the Textiles, Clothing, Leather and Footwear Industries	International Labour Organization	2014
Fertilizer and Pesticides	Our World in Data : by Max Roser and Hannah Ritchie	2017
ILO Global Estimates on International Migrant Workers	International Labour Organization	2018
Global Estimates of Modern Slavery : forced labour and forced marriage	International Labour Organization	2017