

# Non-wovens

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## Introduction

**Nonwoven** textiles are those which are neither woven nor knit, for example felt. General use hyphenates the word, but industrial use spells it as one word. Non-wovens are typically not strong (unless reinforced by a backing or densified). In the recent years non-woven material has become an alternative to polyurethane foam.

**Non-woven** fabric is typically manufactured by putting small fibers together in the form of a sheet (web) and then binding them either mechanically (as in the case of felt, by interlocking them with serrated needles such that the inter-fiber friction results in a stronger fabric), with an adhesive, or thermally (by applying binder in the form of powder, paste, or polymer melt) and melting the binder onto the web by increasing temperature).

## Raw material

Non-woven materials are nowadays mainly produced from man-made fibers. Two synthetic polymers dominate the market: polypropylene and polyesters (mainly PET). Nonwovens are often application-designated as either durable or disposable. Nonwoven used as a housewrap to prevent water infiltration is a durable nonwoven. Nonwoven used as a facing on a baby diaper is a disposable or single-use nonwoven.

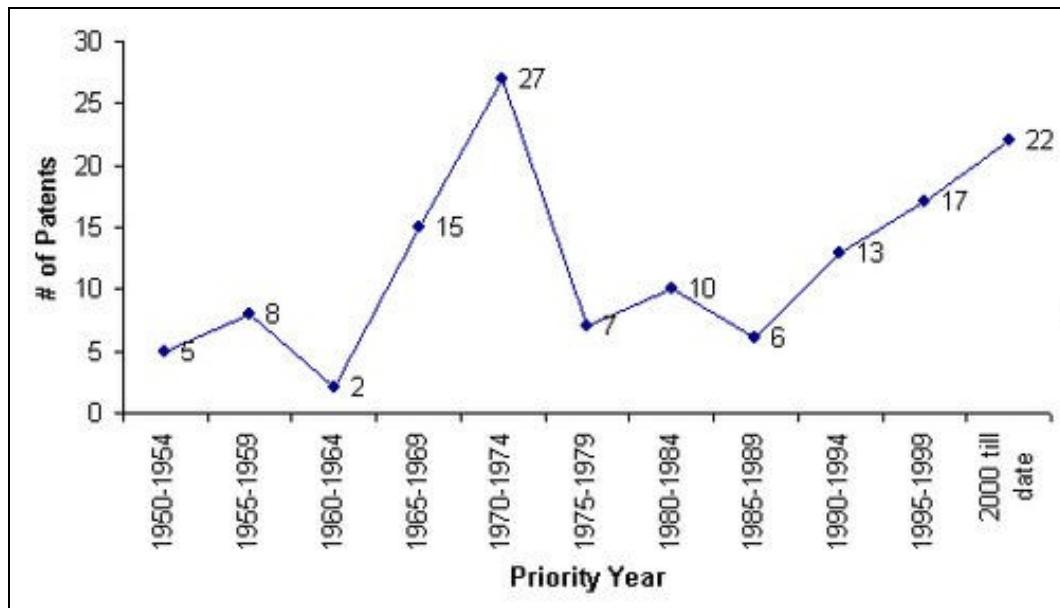
## Application

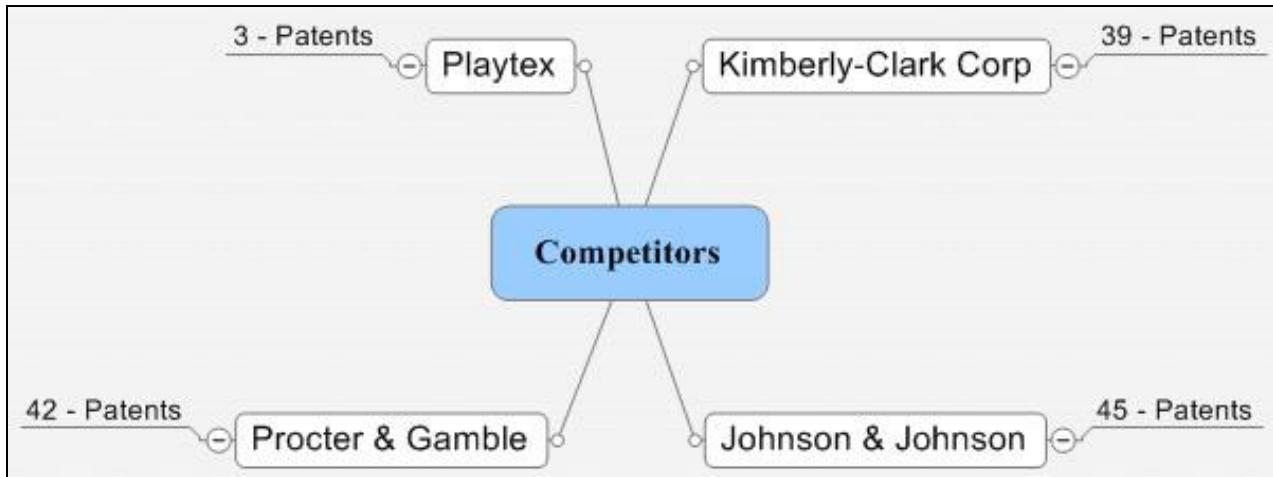
### Sample IP analysis

- **Area:** Baby diapers and Feminine hygiene.
- **Search:** Based on title, abstract and claims for some major companies in this field.

### Year wise IP activity

- Based on title, abstract and claims for some major companies in this field. The graph is based on the patents of Kimberly-Clark Corp, Johnson & Johnson, Procter & Gamble, and Playtex from 1836 to 2006.

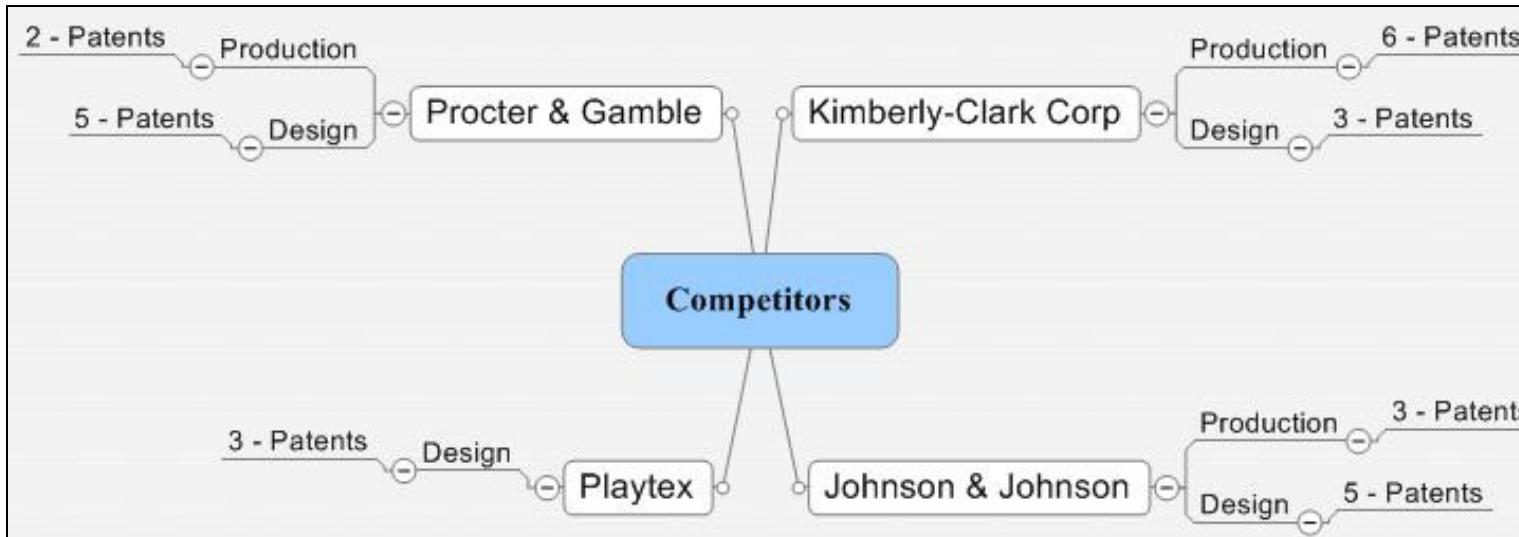




Competitive analysis

#### Sample analysis of some patents

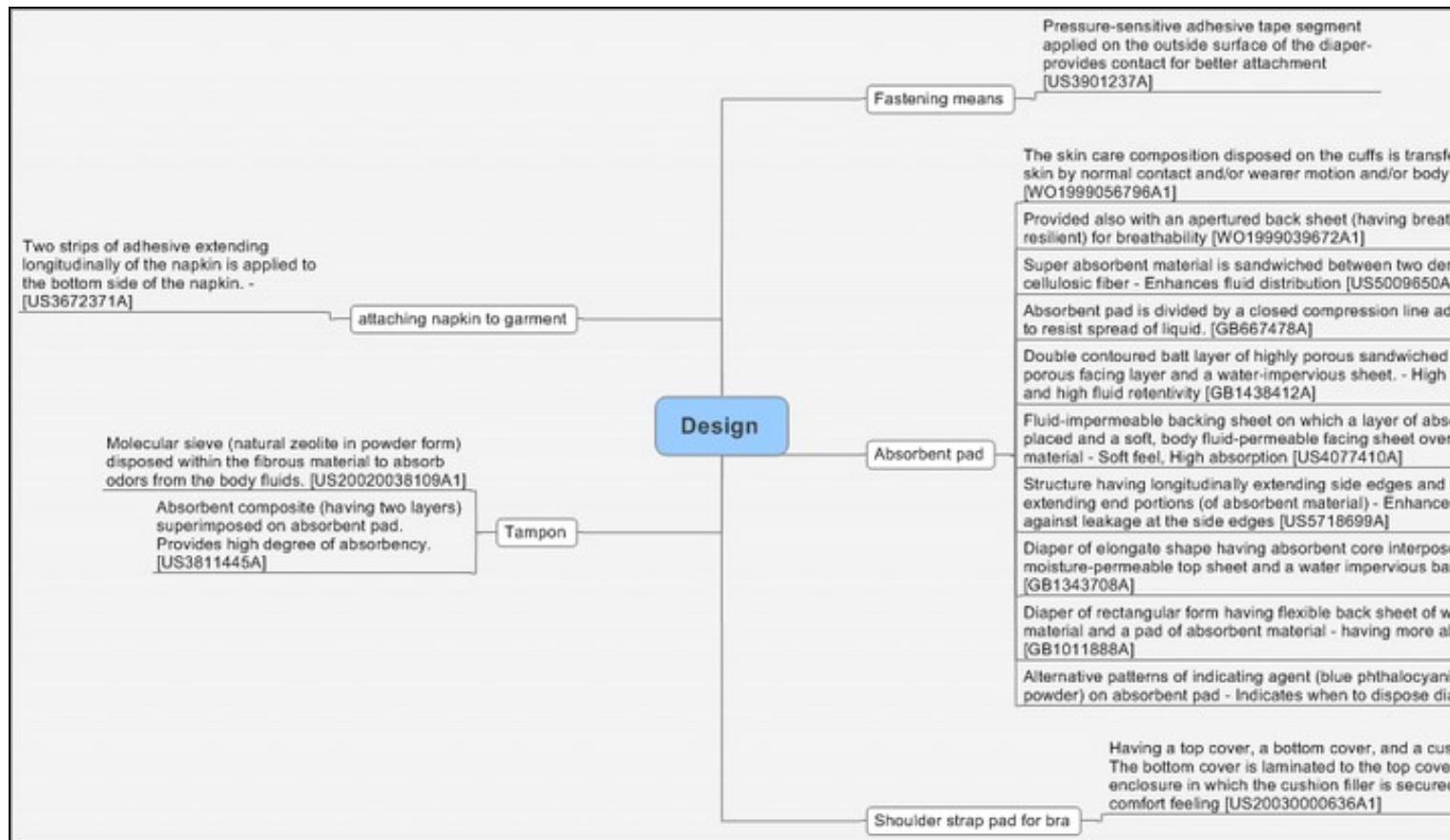
- This information is according to analysis of 27 patents.



Sample analysis  
Design patents

- Classification of Design patents

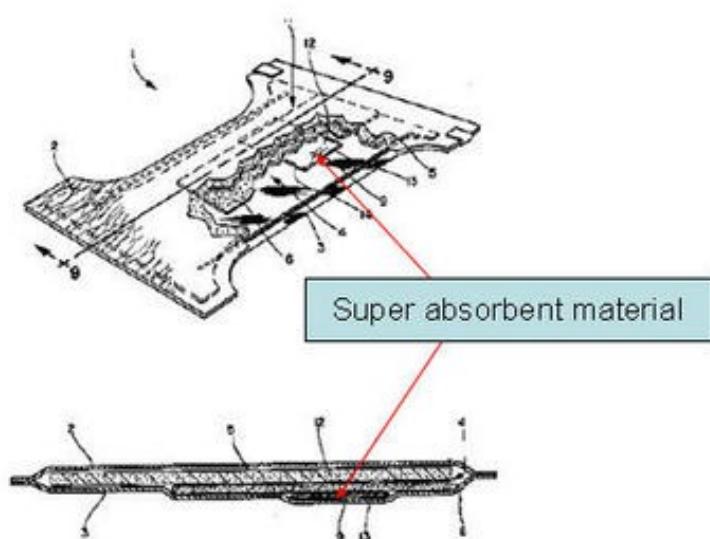
Design	Total records	Kimberly Clark	Procter & Gamble	Johnson & Johnson	Playtex
Absorbent pad	11	2	5	4	0
Attaching napkin to garment	1	1	0	0	0
Fastening means	1	0	0	1	0
Shoulder strap pad for bra	1	0	0	0	1
Tampon	2	0	0	0	2



Design patents

## Pictorial analysis

### Absorbent pad

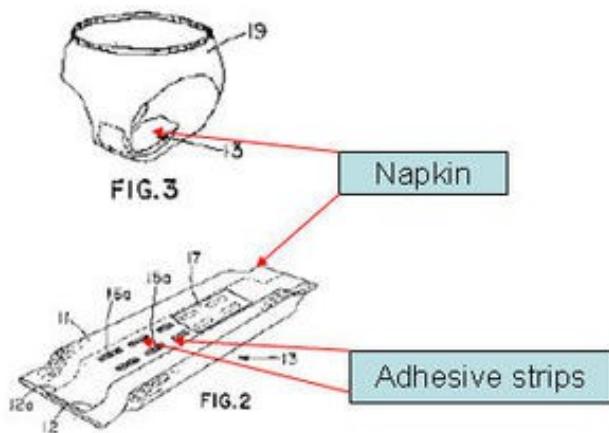


Cross sectional view

Super absorbent material (hydrocolloid materials) is sandwiched between two densified layers of cellulosic fiber - Enhances fluid distribution



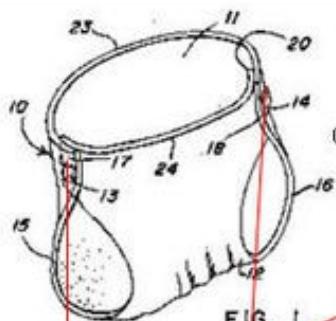
Attaching napkin to garment



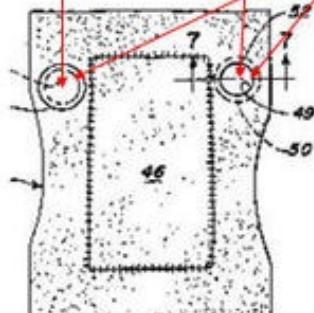
Two strips of adhesive extending longitudinally of the napkin is applied to the bottom side of the napkin. – For better attachment of napkin to garment



Fastening means



Closed view of diaper



Open view of diaper

Pressure sensitive adhesive tape

Pressure-sensitive adhesive tape segment applied on the outside surface of the diaper. - contact for proper attachment  
Adhesive surface of the fastening means is covered with a release sheet means which is readily removable upon use and preferably is permanently attached to the diaper – Adhesive material is not in contact with skin



Shoulder strap pad for bra

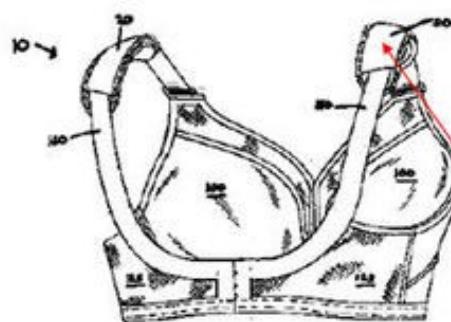


Fig. 1

Shoulder strap pad for bra

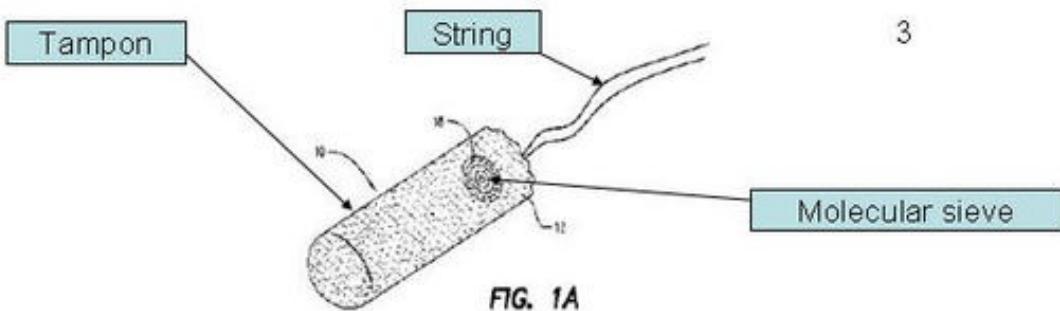


Fig. 2

Shoulder strap pad for bra having a top cover, a bottom cover, and a cushion filler. The bottom cover is laminated to the top cover to form an enclosure in which the cushion filler is secured. - For comfort feeling



Tampon



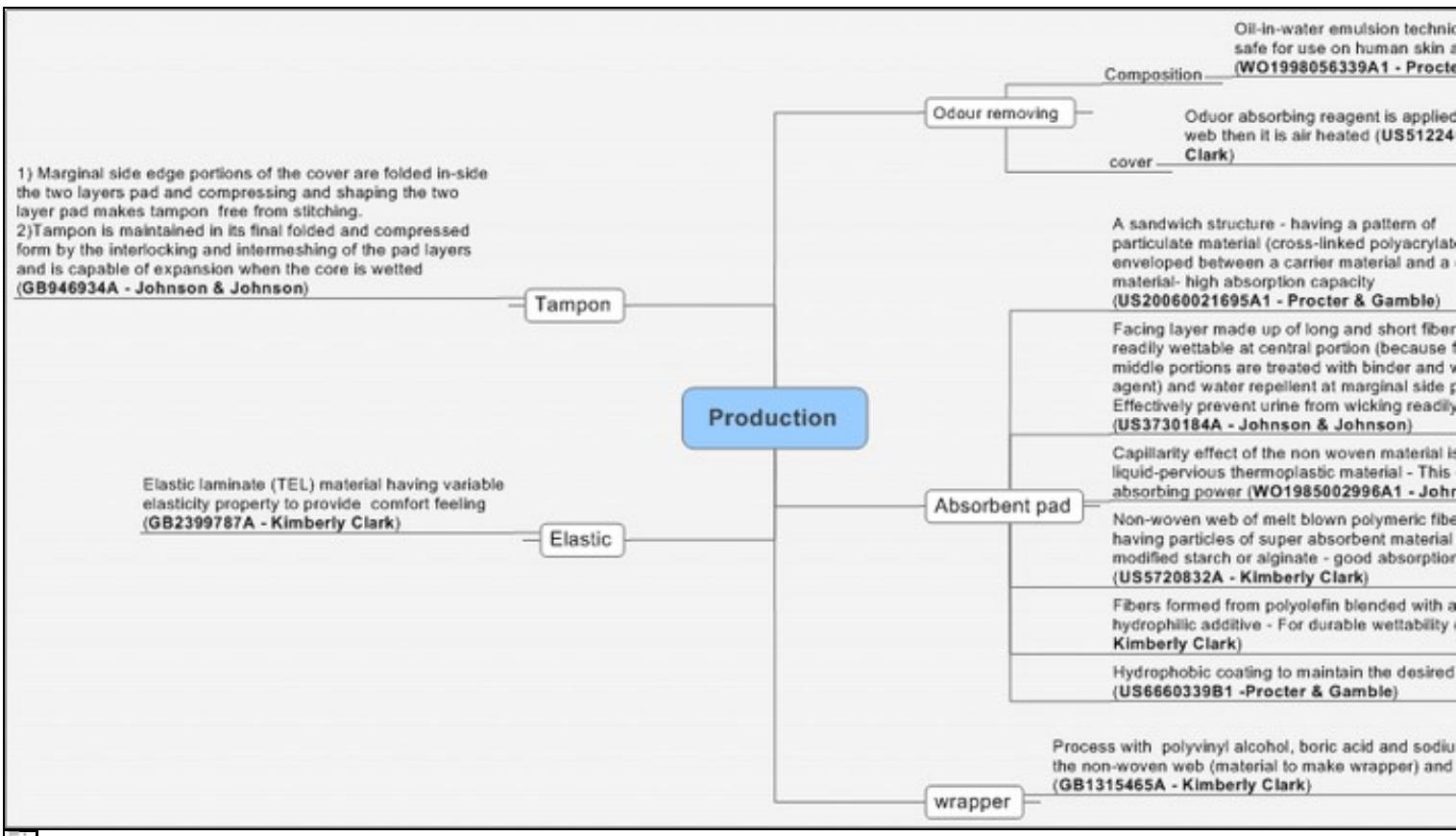
Molecular sieve (natural zeolite in powder form) disposed within the fibrous material to absorb odors from the body fluids.



#### Production patents

- Classification of Production patents

Production	Total records	Kimberly Clark	Procter & Gamble	Johnson & Johnson	Playtex
Absorbent pad	6	2	2	2	0
Odour removing composition	2	1	1	0	0
Wrapper	1	1	0	0	0
Elastic	1	1	0	0	0
Tampon	1	1	0	0	0



Production patents

## Non Wovens for Skin care wipes

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