

# PADS & NAPKINS

## from raw materials to your supermarket shelf

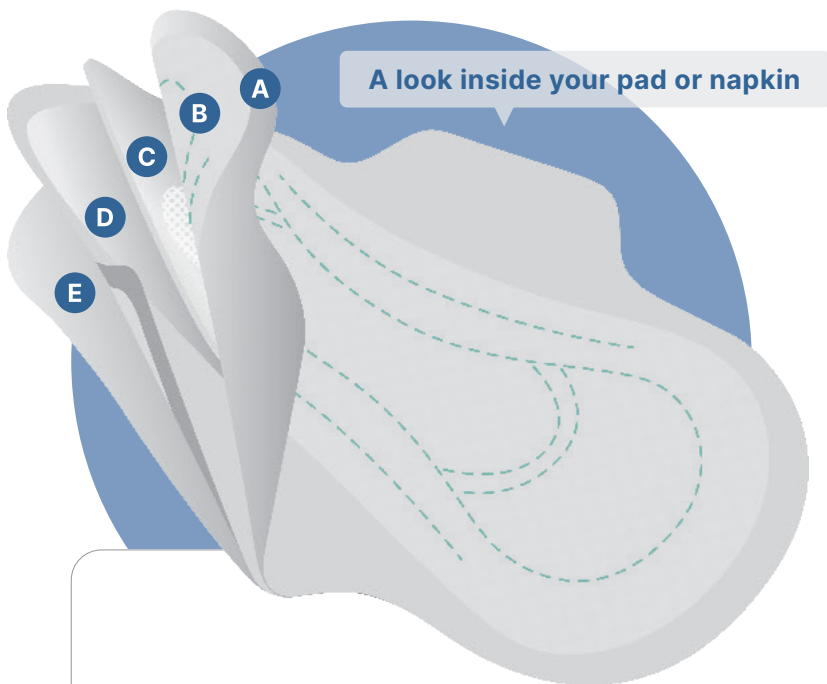


### How are they made?

While each brand of sanitary pads and napkins will be different, they are generally manufactured by the steps below.

### A brief history of the pad or napkin

Today pads and napkins are thinner, lighter and more effective than ever. It's amazing to think that this product goes back to the 10<sup>th</sup> century. Early versions of the modern single-use pads were introduced in the 1920s, with adhesive strips first placed on their back in the 1980s, later followed by wings and other improvements. Today pads and napkins come in different shapes and sizes to suit the needs of all women. A woman typically uses between 10-20 pads per menstrual cycle.



A look inside your pad or napkin

- A TOP SHEET**  
A soft and liquid permeable sheet which is comfortable against the skin
- B ACQUISITION LAYER & CHANNELS**  
Draws and directs fluids into the inner core
- C INNER CORE**  
Absorb moisture or fluid (superabsorbent beads may also be integrated)
- D BACKSHEET**  
A liquid proof layer to ensure there is no leakage
- E ADHESIVE & RELEASE LAYER**  
Glue that sticks the pad to clothing, and a non-stick or wrap.



#### 1 RAW MATERIALS

The absorbent core in pads are made from cellulosic fibres and other absorbent materials. The materials are rigorously selected and subject to strict quality control and hygiene requirements.



#### 2 MAKING THE PAD

Multiple layers are used to make a pad, depending on their design or final use. Different materials, each with a specific role are layered together. Some pads may be fragranced, or may contain odour-absorbing ingredients.



#### 3 ADHESIVE AND RELEASE

Once the pad is made, adhesive is added to the back of the product, so that it stays in place during use. As a final step, non-stick paper or wrap is then put on top of the adhesive.



#### 4 TESTING

Different tests are carried out on samples during the manufacturing process, and on the final pads to ensure the products meet high quality and safety standards.



#### 5 PACKAGING

Pads are either individually folded and wrapped or flat and unwrapped and then placed in a secondary box.