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The Best Silk Pillowcases, According To Rigorous Testing

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Forbes Vetted

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Silk pillowcases are so much more than a luxurious accessory for your bedroom. Silk fibers are temperature regulating, less absorbent than cotton and helpful for taming frizz and minimizing fine lines—all while feeling comfortable to sleep on. Over the course of several weeks and with the advice of three experts, I tested eight versions from top brands to find the best silk pillowcases that are supremely soft, smooth and durable. I found the [Slip Zippered Pillowcase](#) to be the best overall because of its beautiful luster, smooth texture, wide range of colors and easy upkeep. My top value pick was the [Fishers Finery 25 Momme 100% Pure Mulberry Silk Pillowcase](#), thanks to its affordable price, durability and transparency around fabrication. (For more on these winners, read my in-depth reviews of the [Slip](#) and [Fishers Finery silk pillowcases](#).)



The best silk pillowcases are gentle on skin and hair, easy to care for—and designed to stand the ...

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I've been sleeping on a silk pillowcase for the past 8 years, and I can tell the difference when I sleep on cotton; for example, my skin doesn't feel as moisturized, and my hair isn't as smooth upon waking up. Although I have been loyal to my own pillowcase (which happens to be from Slip) throughout the years, I wanted to see how it stood up to the competition. In my evaluation, I paid close attention to the feel and texture, design, performance and care (some versions require more maintenance).

These are the best silk pillowcases according to my testing. Scroll down to see more options in the **Other Silk Pillowcases I Tested** section.

- **Best Silk Pillowcase Overall:** [Slip Zippered Pillowcase](#)
- **Best Value Silk Pillowcase:** [Fishers Finery 25 Momme 100% Pure Mulberry Silk Pillowcase](#)
- **Runner-Up Best Value Silk Pillowcase:** [Brooklinen Mulberry Silk Pillowcase](#)
- **Best Luxury Silk Pillowcase:** [Cozy Earth Silk Pillowcase](#)



- **Best Silk Pillowcase For Prints:** [Hill House Home Sisi Silk Pillowcase](#)
- **Best Silk Pillowcase For Colors:** [Quince 100% Mulberry Silk Pillowcase](#)

Best Silk Pillowcase Overall

High-Quality Silk For Consistently Smooth Strands



SLIP (US)

Slip Zippered Pillowcase

\$89 At [Ulta Beauty](#)

\$89 At [Amazon](#)

Colors: 23 | **Momme:** 22 | **Sizes:** Queen, king | **Enclosure:** Zipper

Best for:



- Those who want a higher-quality silk
- A wide range of colors and patterns
- Those who prefer a zipper closure

Skip if:

- You're on a budget
- You want environmental or manufacturing certifications

The Slip Zippered Pillowcase is a high-quality option that's thick and durable, with a lustrous shine. It comes in multiple colors and prints and is recommended by several top dermatologists (including [Dr. Dendy Engelman](#) and [Dr. Michelle Henry](#)). After using the Slip pillowcase consistently, I noticed crease-free skin and minimal tangles in my hair when waking up. Despite being blessed with generally good skin, my complexion has been quite problematic lately, and I have struggled with a number of issues like perioral dermatitis and rosacea. However, my skin sensitivity has been less of an issue after using this pillowcase. I also found that it helped to maintain the style of my hair overnight; the subtle waves and texture of my hair always remained intact.





Besides being on the thicker side and durable, the Slip silk pillowcase comes highly recommended by ...
[+] JAYME CYK FOR FORBES

According to the brand, Slip pillowcases can be machine-washed—no hand-washing required. This makes it much easier to keep your bedding consistently clean (as is ideal for skin health), and my pillowcase has maintained its softness out of the dryer, with only a subtle dulling of the sheen in the fabric over time. (The brand doesn't recommend putting them in the dryer, but I haven't had a problem with it.)

One thing to consider in a silk pillowcase is its fit and enclosure. The insert should fit snugly inside the pillowcase so that it does not slide around or come out. The Slip version stayed put through the night. My only complaint is that I wish the silk were a little finer. The quality is great, but it might feel that much more luxe if it were lighter to the touch.

Best Value Silk Pillowcase

An Affordable Pick That Rivals Pricier Options





FISHERS FINERY

Fishers Finery 25 Momme 100% Pure Mulberry Silk Pillowcase

\$48 At Fishers Finery

\$48 At Amazon

Colors: 13 | **Momme:** 25 | **Sizes:** Standard, queen, king | **Enclosure:** Envelope

Best for:

- Affordability
- Those who prefer an envelope closure
- Those who want transparency when it comes to textile traceability



Skip if:

- You prefer a finer silk

Given its lower price, I was pleasantly surprised by the Fishers Finery 25 Momme 100% Pure Mulberry Silk Pillowcase. It was just as comfortable to sleep on as my best overall pick, has a 25 momme count (this refers to weight and thickness) and is more affordable than many other picks on this list.

When I laundered it in the washer and dryer, it maintained its quality and composition, which can't be said for all the pillowcases I tested. (It's best to wash and dry on the delicate setting). I did note that the fabric is a little bit stiffer than Slip's, which may be due to the higher momme number. But also with the heavier and thicker fabric, I expect it to hold up well over time.

It's worth noting that Fishers Finery has an [Oeko-Tex certification](#), which means it's been made in an environmentally friendly facility in socially responsible working conditions. It also has a Made in Green certification after being tested for harmful substances. Not many silk pillowcase brands have these seals, and it's helpful to know, especially when it comes to caring for your skin and hair.

Runner-Up Best Value Silk Pillowcase

Mulberry Silk At A Budget-Friendly Price

MOST
POPULAR





BROOKLINEN

Brooklinen Mulberry Silk Pillowcase

\$50 ~~\$59~~ **SAVE \$9 (15%)**

[Buy From Brooklinen](#)

Colors: 6 | **Momme:** 22 | **Sizes:** Standard, king | **Enclosure:** Envelope

Best for:

- Environmental or manufacturing certifications
- Ease of care
- Affordability

Skip if:

- You prefer a thicker silk construction



Brooklinen's Mulberry Silk Pillowcase has a nice luster and is soft to the touch. It has similar features as the pricier options that I tested—a smooth hand feel, beautiful sheen, 100% mulberry silk construction and easy care instructions—but at a lower price, even with an Oeko-Tex certification. It's not as limited in color options as the Cozy Earth pillowcase but has fewer than most others on this list, with four colors and two prints. Its silk texture dulled a little bit when washed, but drying it on the delicate setting helped bring it back to its initial soft quality.

Best Luxury Silk Pillowcase

A High-End Pillowcase That's Made To Last



COZY EARTH

Cozy Earth Silk Pillowcase

\$120

Buy From Cozy Earth



Colors: 3 | **Momme:** 19 | **Sizes:** Standard, king | **Enclosure:** Envelope

Best for:

- Those who want a thick, luxurious silk
- A generous 10-year warranty

Skip if:

- You want more color and pattern options
- You're on a budget

Crafted from 100% grade 6A mulberry silk (silk is graded on an A-B-C scale, with each letter referencing a different quality; 6A is the highest), the Cozy Earth Silk Pillowcase is a luxurious pick that's soft and comfortable to sleep on. Although experts generally recommend a higher momme count (this one is 19 momme), a low momme doesn't necessarily indicate lower quality if the grade of the silk is top-notch, as this one is.





Cozy Earth's silk pillowcases is sand-washed for a softer texture and treated with aloe vera, which ...

[+] JAYME CYK FOR FORBES

After testing it for several nights, I noticed how smooth and manageable it left my hair; I was able to brush through it with minimal resistance or tangles. This pillowcase is available in two sizes and three colors, and the fabric is sand-washed for a softer texture and treated with aloe vera (note: this will wash out over time), which has [antimicrobial properties](#). My one complaint is that because of this, it ideally needs to be hand-washed and air-dried to maintain the fabric, so it may not be the most low-maintenance option on this list.

Best Silk Pillowcase For Prints

An Opulent, Lightweight Pick In Pretty Floral Patterns





HILL HOUSE HOME

Hill House Home Sisi Silk Pillowcase

\$85 At Hill House Home

\$85 At Maisonette

Colors: 5 | **Momme:** 22 | **Sizes:** Standard, king | **Enclosure:** Zipper

Best for:

- Fans of the brand's feminine, floral prints
- Those who prefer a lightweight silk

Skip if:

- You prefer a thicker fabric



- You prefer an envelope closure
- You're on a budget

When Hill House Home's Sisi Silk Pillowcase arrived at my house, I was excited to open it based solely on the presentation. It was neatly packed in a drawstring sachet that matched its design. The prints, which consist of feminine, botanical patterns, mimic some of the brand's most popular styles in its cottage core-friendly clothing collection. There are five versions to choose from: four dainty floral prints and a solid white, all with piping detail and a zipper closure to keep your pillow tucked safely inside. The mulberry silk felt delicate and soft, like a vintage Hermès scarf.



The Hill House Home silk pillowcase comes neatly packed in a matching drawstring sachet. JAYME CYK FOR FORBES

The initial look and feel weren't the only promising features. After sleeping on my Sisi Silk Pillowcase, I awoke to hair and skin that were both soft and not irritated, which is a win-win for someone like me who has fairly sensitive skin.

Best Silk Pillowcase For Colors

A Variety Of Chic Color Options To Match Your Bedding



QUINCE

Quince 100% Mulberry Silk Pillowcase

\$40

[Buy From Quince](#)

Quince is known for clothing, bedding and accessories that are high quality and very reasonably priced, and at \$40, its 100% Mulberry Silk Pillowcase is no exception. Typically, pillowcases in this price range aren't made of 100% silk, but rather a blend of fabrics to create a soft, silk-like feel. This one, however, is crafted from 22 momme pure mulberry silk and has a soft, smooth surface and excellent luster.



It comes in a sophisticated array of colors, ranging from pale Champagne to a rich Terracotta. Also great: Quince offers free shipping and returns for an entire year. My single criticism is that when washed, it can get a bit stiff, so it's recommended to always turn the silk pillowcase inside out and wash it in a garment bag.

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Other Silk Pillowcases I Tested


I tested a total of eight silk pillowcases, and two didn't make the cut. Here's why.

[Blissy Pillowcase](#), \$90: This was very comfortable to sleep on, but I felt it was overpriced for the quality. The sheen was lacking, and it dulled in color and softness after its initial wash.

[Parachute Silk Pillowcase](#), \$89: As a fan of Parachute's bedding, I was disappointed that the pillowcase did not live up to my expectations. I was sent the Light Grey color, which veered more toward a less-attractive silver hue. The quality isn't bad, but it became pretty stiff after washing.

How I Tested The Best Silk Pillowcases

Silk pillowcases tend to have similar attributes, like momme (weight) and the type of silk they're made from (mulberry), but there are key factors to consider. "What you might want for a silk pillowcase or a sheet would be different than



what you'd want for a shirt. I always say the heavier the better in terms of a pillowcase because it's going to be about wearability," says [Saana Baker](#), a textile design consultant. I tested eight top-rated contenders for 3 days each, and evaluated them based on set criteria: the overall look and feel, care, durability and any noticeable benefits to my skin and hair.



Over the course of several weeks, I tested eight options from top brands to find the best silk ...

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Look And Feel: I examined the craftsmanship, seaming detail and any other design details. I also tested the softness, smoothness, coolness and weight by changing my body's position while sleeping on each of the pillowcases.

Care: I washed each pillowcase twice according to care instructions to see how it held up. I tested each one in the washer and dryer while also hand-washing and line-drying those that noted to do so. I noted whether the silk kept its luster and softness, and if the color stayed vibrant and didn't dull.



Skin And Hair Benefits: Every morning, I checked to see if there were any sleep lines visible on my face. I examined the silk pillowcase to see if any of my skincare products had noticeably left residue or absorbed into it.

I also brushed my hair to see how easy (or hard) it was to remove tangles the morning after sleeping on each. I rarely wake up with a bird's nest on the back of my head since my hair isn't curly, but I don't wake up with smooth strands, either. I also checked to see if frizz was an issue upon waking up.

How To Pick A Silk Pillowcase

It's hard to know what silk pillowcase is best suited for you when they all look fairly similar. I enlisted the help of three experts, including trichologist [Bridgette Hill](#), Los Angeles–based aesthetician [Sora Connor](#), and Baker, who spoke about pillowcase fit, recommended care instructions and longevity. Based on their input, here's what to consider when shopping for the best silk pillowcase.

Fit

It's so important to make sure your silk pillowcase fits properly on your pillow. Hill often sees pillows half out and partially exposed, which can create friction that can snag on or pull hair and rough up the cuticle, which can be detrimental over time. "Most people don't sleep like a delicate princess, so you want to do things that are going to be more protective of the scalp when you're sleeping," she says. "It's going to reduce friction and allow better circulation in the scalp."

Care

Experts tend to recommend changing out your pillowcase often—from every 3 days to weekly—for hygienic reasons. When it comes to keeping your pillowcase clean, you'll want to decide what is most convenient for you: Are you someone who is okay with hand washing your pillow every several days, or do you want the ease of using a washing machine?



Hill recommends keeping at least two or three silk pillowcases on hand to make it easier to change them out. “Your pillowcases should be changed more frequently, especially if you have conditions like dandruff or dermatitis,” she says. Yes, [silk is antimicrobial](#) and will better resist the formation of bacteria on the surface than a cotton or synthetic material, but it’s important to be diligent about washing it regularly.

Longevity

According to Baker, the heavier the weight of the silk pillowcase, the longer it will last—along with how it’s held together. “For the seams to hold up better, I would look for small stitches, especially if you’re washing it in the machine,” she says. “Silk is so slick that it does tend to pull at the seams over time.”

My Expertise

For over a decade, I’ve contributed to publications like WWD, Allure, Coveteur, Vogue.com and more. Previously, I was Violet Grey’s beauty director, where I oversaw all facets of beauty product testing and curation for the luxury beauty retailer as well as collaborated with a large roster of top industry experts. I’m also a former mass-market beauty editor at WWD, where I reported on the business of beauty.

I tried my first silk pillowcase 8 years ago after being introduced to the concept and its benefits from a beauty perspective. And I’ve been resting my head on one nightly ever since.

Why Is Silk Better For Skin And Hair?

When slept on, cotton and other non-silk fabrics are more likely to tug at the skin and hair, causing potential damage to hair cuticles and leaving creases on skin, which can lead to wrinkles. “Silk is much more gentle,” says Connor. “When I’m using a silk pillowcase, it doesn’t absorb moisture as much as cotton does. I’m



one of those people who likes to lather my skincare on at night. What's nice is the silk won't take everything off that I've put on my face."

Like skin, hair, too, can be very fragile. "Many women of color who wear protective styles or braids definitely need silk because it helps retain moisture, which leads to less frizz," says Hill.

How Often Should I Wash My Silk Pillowcase?

Hill recommends changing your pillowcase every 3 days, so having a few silk pillowcases you can alternate between is helpful for reducing how often you're doing laundry. Even if a tag says to hand-wash, Baker isn't so worried about cleaning it in the machine. "For washing silk, it's a good idea to check the manufacturer's directions for care and cleaning; however, I am comfortable washing and tumble-drying silk even if the tag reads dry clean only," she says. "The main effect of washing is that the luster will change over time, becoming more matte and having an almost suede-like feel (you can get back some of that shine if you iron it)."

Because silk is weaker when it's wet and can tear if pulled too much, Baker suggests washing the item on the delicate cycle and in a mesh bag to avoid snags. "Also, avoid using silk pillowcases in a very sunny spot. Prolonged exposure to light can cause dyes to fade more quickly and the fiber to deteriorate," she says.

What Is Momme?

Momme refers to the weight and thickness of silk fabric. A higher momme count indicates a denser weave and thicker yarn, and a momme count above 20 is generally considered high quality. In a silk pillowcase, Baker recommends heavier weights for better durability and longevity. That said, silk is graded on an A-B-C scale, with each letter referencing a different quality, and 6A being the highest. So the true measurement of a silk pillowcase's condition and texture is a combination of its momme number and its grade.



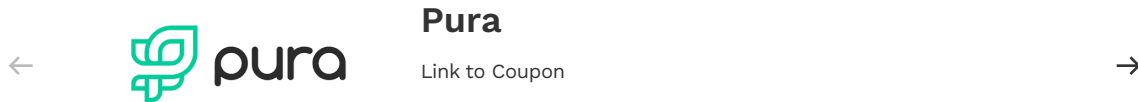
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Jayme Cyk

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