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With their soft, smooth texture and cool-to-the-touch feel, silk pillowcases can create a more luxurious sleep environment. Silk pillowcases boast a wide range of benefits that include healthier skin and hair, excellent temperature regulation, and fewer wrinkles.

Though silk pillowcases can be pricey, they can also be a worthwhile investment for instantly improved sleep quality. Silk pillowcases are less likely to stain than other types of materials, and they absorb less moisture, meaning they'll likely last longer than cotton or linen pillowcases. Before you purchase a new silk pillowcase, consider our top choices, including Lilysilk's 25 Momme Terse Envelope Luxury Pillowcase, which is our best overall pick.

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#### **Best Overall**

## Lilysilk 25 Momme Terse Envelope Luxury Pillo...



PROS:

Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex and Global Organic CONS:

X Hand-wash only

- ✓ 100-night sleep trial
- Monogramming available

Lilysilk's 25 Momme Terse Envelope Luxury Pillowcase is responsibly made from silk charmeuse using a unique weave method that delivers a glossy finish on one side and a matte finish on the other. The brand is "renowned for their top-tier quality, comfort, and durability," says Isabelle Abbott, textiles and fashion designer and co-founder of Litchi World. This Lilysilk pillowcase holds Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex and GOTS certifications. Lilysilk recommends hand-washing each pillowcase in cold water and line-drying, as they're made from pure grade 6A mulberry silk. The 25-momme (mm) silk is soft but high density and breathable.

The pillowcase is available in three sizes and nine mostly muted colors. People looking for a bright, boldly colored silk pillowcase may prefer to shop elsewhere. The terse style – no flange, which is a decorative trim – has a simple design and a side-opening envelope closure, though the brand also makes a version with a flange. Lilysilk offers optional monogramming for \$25, and the pillowcase comes with a 100-night sleep trial. The first order from each household is eligible for free returns.

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## **Specs**

List Price: \$59 (Standard)

**Type:** Grade 6A mulberry silk

Momme 25

Weight:

Closure: Envelope

Day From Amazon "

#### **Best Budget**

### Zimasilk 19 Momme Silk Pillowcase »



#### PROS:

- ✓ Budget-friendly
- ✓ Wide range of colors
- Oeko-Tex certified

#### CONS:

- No envelope closure option
- Not eligible for returns once used

**Buy From Amazon** 

Zimasilk's 19 Momme Silk Pillowcase is an affordable choice for a silk pillowcase without compromising quality. Zimasilk's pillowcases are made from grade 6A mulberry silk and are Oeko-Tex certified. The pillowcase is

pillowcases "strike a balance between affordability and decent quality," says Abbott.

The pillowcases utilize a zipper closure, which helps keep the pillowcase secure on the pillow, though the metal hardware may be uncomfortable for some sleepers. Zimasilk offers free shipping within the United States, and unused pillowcases are eligible for returns within 60 days. The manufacturer recommends hand-washing these silk pillowcases at home using lukewarm water and a neutral detergent, then laying them flat to dry. It's also advised that you avoid exposing the pillowcase to direct sunlight.

### **Specs**

**List Price:** Starting at \$27.99 (Standard)

**Type:** Grade 6A mulberry silk

Momme 19

Weight:

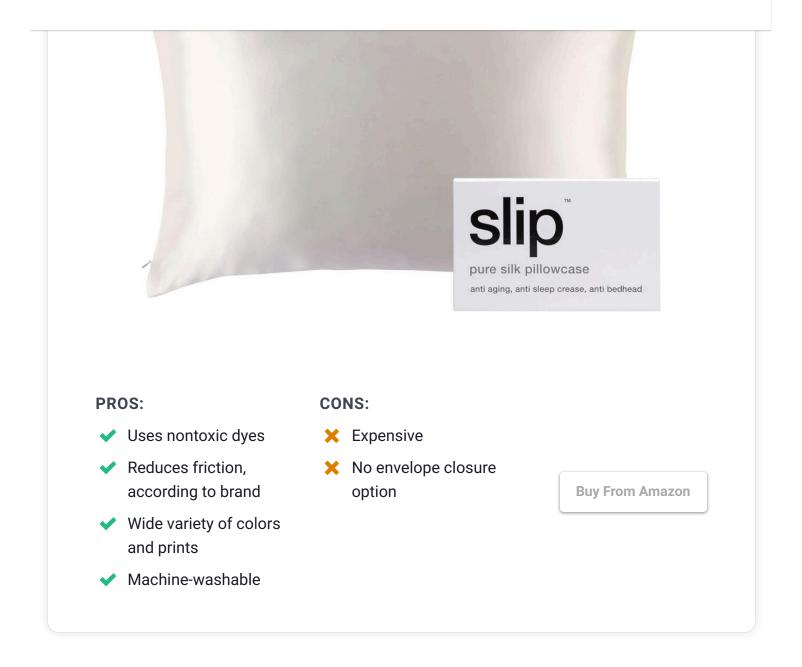
Closure: Zipper

**EXPAND LIST** 

Buy From Amazon »

**Best for Your Hair** 

## Slip Zippered Pillowcase »



Because of its "hair-friendly qualities, reducing breakage, split ends, and frizz," Abbott says Slip pillowcases are a good choice for your hair. They come in both standard and king sizes and a wide range of colors and vibrant prints. (However, not all colors and prints are available in king size.) Slip's pillowcases are made from 22-momme pure mulberry silk and dyed with nontoxic dyes. Slip boasts that its silk has been independently tested to demonstrate its ability to reduce friction while sleeping and absorb less face cream than standard cotton pillowcases.

either hand-washing or machine-washing its pillowcases using cold water and a pH-neutral liquid detergent, though notes that hand-washing will prolong the lifespan of the pillowcase. Slip pillowcases are only available with zipper closures, which may be uncomfortable for some sleepers, but this closure type helps more securely hold the pillow and keep the silk fabric taut. With a taut pillowcase, there are fewer wrinkles, which minimizes the likelihood of wrinkles on your skin.

### **Specs**

**List Price:** Starting at \$85 (Queen/international standard)

**Type:** Grade 6A mulberry silk

Momme 22

Weight:

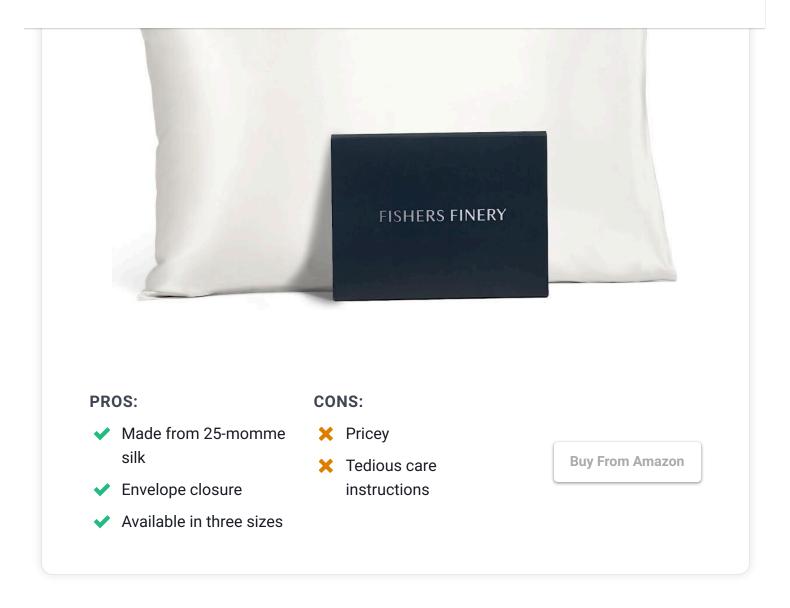
Closure: Zipper

**EXPAND LIST** ~

Buy From Amazon »

**Best for Your Skin** 

Fishers Finery 25 Momme 100% Pure Mulberry ...



"Praised for their skin-friendly qualities, retaining moisture, and potentially reducing facial creases and wrinkles for improved skin health," Fishers Finery is one of Abbott's preferred choices for the best silk pillowcase for your skin. Fishers Finery uses grade 6A mulberry silk that's woven into a 25-momme charmeuse. Customers laud the 25 Momme 100% Pure Mulberry Silk Pillowcase for leaving their skin softer and smoother.

The pillowcase is Oeko-Tex certified and available in 11 colors, two patterns, and three sizes. The natural white and striped natural white color options use undyed silk, and all pillowcases can be hand- or machine-washed using lukewarm water and mild detergents. Fishers Finery offers free returns within 30 days of receipt, though items must be unwashed and unused, meaning

## **Specs**

List Price: Starting at \$55.99 (Standard)

**Type:** Grade 6A mulberry silk

Momme 25

Weight:

Closure: Envelope

EXPAND LIST >

Buy From Amazon »

## **Best Luxury**

## Parachute Silk Pillowcase »



✓ Made of 25-momme silk
 ✓ Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex certified
 ✓ Envelope closure with hidden flap

Parachute's Silk Pillowcase is made from 25-momme pure mulberry silk, offering great temperature regulation without compromising on softness, and has a luxurious, smooth feel. It comes in two neutral colors – white and light grey – that match nearly any home decor style and in both standard and king sizes. Though the pillowcase is pricey, it's effective at keeping sleepers warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

Parachute offers free carbon-neutral shipping within all 50 states, and its pillowcases are eligible for returns within 60 days. Parachute's silk pillowcase is Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex certified and can be hand- or machine-washed in a mesh bag in cold water with mild detergent and then laid flat to dry. Though white and gray are popular colors, they may not suit shoppers who prefer bolder, brighter, or more varied color options.

## **Specs**

List Price:	\$99 (Standard)
Type:	Mulberry silk (grade not listed)
Momme Weight:	25
Closure:	Envelope
EXPAND LIST >	

#### **Best Eco-Friendly**

## The Ethical Silk Company Mulberry Silk Pillowc...



#### PROS:

- Company uses ecofriendly production practices
- Free of dyes and chemicals
- Made using fair trade tailoring practices

#### CONS:

- Only available in one color
- \$15 shipping to the U.S.

**Buy From Ethical Silk Co** 

The Ethical Silk Company is "known for their eco-friendly focus, emphasizing sustainable sourcing and ethical manufacturing practices, which include responsibly produced silk," says Abbott. The brand's silk pillowcases are

making practices. Unlike glossy, dyed silks, The Ethical Silk Company's undyed, chemical-free pillowcases have a texture more akin to high-quality linen with a matte finish and soft feel. All of the silk products from The Ethical Silk Company use 19-momme silk, and the pillowcases feature an envelope closure on the side. All of the company's tailoring is done in a fair trade tailoring unit in India, ensuring ethical production.

The Ethical Silk Company offers flat-rate shipping based on the shipping destination, and unused products in the original packaging can be returned within 28 days of purchase. The manufacturer recommends machine- or hand-washing with mild detergent, though the pillowcase can be dry-cleaned.

### Specs

**List Price:** \$70 (Queen size/standard)

**Type:** Mulberry silk (grade not listed)

Momme 19

Weight:

Closure: Envelope

EXPAND LIST >

Buy From Ethical Silk Co »

#### The Bottom Line

Silk pillowcases are as functional as they are luxurious, providing potential beauty benefits in addition to excellent temperature regulation. We chose Lilysilk's 25 Momme Terse Envelope Luxury Pillowcase as the best overall silk pillowcase

While you should expect to pay a premium price for a high-quality pillowcase made from pure mulberry silk, you don't have to break the bank. Look for pillowcases with a momme weight that falls between 19 and 25, as these weights strike an ideal balance of softness and durability. Pay close attention to the care instructions provided by the manufacturer to maintain the integrity of your silk pillowcase and prolong its lifespan.

## Things to Consider When Buying Silk Pillowcases

**Type of Silk:** Of the four types of natural silk produced around the world, mulberry is the most common and constitutes up to 90% of silk used in production. Mulberry silk is made from the cocoons of a specific breed of silkworm that eats the leaves of mulberry plants exclusively. Mulberry silkworms are bred indoors and have been entirely domesticated over thousands of years. "Mulberry silk stands out for its superior smoothness," says Abbott. If you own products made from silk, chances are they're made from mulberry silk.

The three other types of natural silk are produced by wild silkworms and are known for being a little bit stiffer than mulberry silk. Wild silk doesn't take dye as easily as mulberry silk, so even though it's produced far less frequently than mulberry silk, it's cheaper. Types of wild silk include eri silk, or "peace silk," which is produced from cocoons of silk moths without harming the pupa, as well as tussar silk and muga silk.

Momme Weight: Momme weight is a term of Japanese origin that "measures the density and quality of silk fabric, indicating its durability and thickness," says Abbott. Momme, abbreviated as "mm," refers to the weight of a piece of fabric that measures 45 inches by 100 yards. Silk with a higher momme is thicker, denser, and more durable than silk with a lower momme, as its silk fibers are thicker and more tightly woven. Where the weave of cotton bedding is often quantified by measuring thread count, silk bedding uses momme.

typically made from charmeuse, which has a momme that falls anywhere between 12 and 30. Fabrics with a momme less than 20 are considered lightweight, whereas anything more than 28 would be considered heavy. "For pillowcases, a momme weight ranging between 19 and 25 signifies a good quality and sturdy fabric," says Abbott.

**Beauty Benefits:** "Sleeping on a silk pillowcase offers various health and beauty benefits, including retaining skin moisture, reducing hair breakage, preventing bed head, and potentially minimizing wrinkles and facial creases," says Abbott.

Unlike other types of bedding materials, silk doesn't absorb very much moisture. Sleeping on a silk pillowcase helps the skin retain its natural moisture and helps keep skincare products from being absorbed by your pillowcase.

Frizz, hair damage, and creasing of the skin can in part be attributed to the friction caused by moving throughout the night, tugging on the hair and skin. Silk's smooth and slippery texture reduces that friction, minimizing damage to hair and skin.

It's important to be mindful of some popular misconceptions when it comes to the beauty benefits of sleeping on a silk pillowcase. Claims that silk is anti-aging or can help reduce acne are unverified, as are claims that sleeping on silk pillowcases will prevent split ends or that the amino acids in silk can improve your skin. Some purport to reduce face wrinkles, when in actuality they can only lessen the likelihood of the pillowcase creasing and leaving an impression on your face. This is the purpose of zipper closures which allow the pillowcase to fit taut against the pillow.

Certifications: "Common certifications for silk pillowcases typically include Oeko-tex Standard 100, ensuring the fabric is free from harmful substances," says Abbott. A Standard 100 by Oeko-Tex certification indicates that textiles have been tested for a wide range of potentially harmful chemicals, including heavy metals, pesticides, formaldehyde, solvents, and colorants – among others – in independent labs. Products must meet all of the test criteria in order to receive an Oeko-Tex designation.

"Some brands may also hold organic or ethical sourcing certifications, reflecting their commitment to sustainability and ethical practices," Abbott explains. Global Organic

the environment. GOTS-certified products are made from at least 70% organic fibers and aren't treated with toxic substances like formaldehyde.

While Oeko-Tex and GOTS certifications both mean that the silk you're purchasing is free from harmful chemicals, Oeko-Tex applies to textiles both organic and nonorganic, whereas GOTS only applies to organic materials.

**Type of Closure:** Silk pillowcases typically come with one of two types of closures: an envelope closure or a zipper closure. Envelope closures are the more prevalent of the two and use overlapping pieces of silk to form a pocket that securely wraps around the pillow without the use of metal hardware. Envelope closures are a popular choice because of their simple, clean design, which suits nearly any home decor style. The lack of metal closures eliminates any potential discomfort while sleeping, which is even more essential for people with sensory issues or sensitive skin.

Zipper closures typically feature a hidden zipper for the sake of aesthetics and to minimize the likelihood of being poked throughout the night with metal hardware. The main benefit of a zipper closure is a perfectly secure fit, which keeps the silk fabric snug and smooth across the pillow. For people who move frequently throughout the night, zipper closures are a great option to help ensure your silk pillowcase doesn't slide off while you sleep. Ultimately, the choice between the two comes down to personal preference.

Care Instructions: Silk pillowcases require special care to ensure they last a long time and remain in good condition. While many people like to have their silk bedding dry-cleaned, it's not always mandatory to do so, though it's certainly a valid option. Most silk pillowcases can be washed at home using cold water either by hand or on the delicate cycle in your washing machine.

If your silk pillowcase has stains, you can pre-treat those with a very small amount of mild laundry detergent and allow it to sit for several minutes before washing. Be careful to avoid harsh, abrasive stain removers or detergents, as they can damage the silk or cause it to turn yellow.

removed from heat sources, including direct sunlight.

Be sure to carefully read and follow the manufacturer's care instructions before washing and drying your silk pillowcase, as best practices vary from one manufacturer to the next.

#### How We Chose the Best Silk Pillowcases

To create this guide to the best silk pillowcases, we methodically researched and reviewed a wide range of silk pillowcases, focusing our search on quality, durability, price, and variety of color and size options. We consulted with Isabelle Abbott, textiles and fashion designer and co-founder of Litchi World, to pare down our list based on the type of silk and sourcing practices, ensuring that our selections are representative of our high standards. All of the silk pillowcases on this list exemplify quality and cater to a wide range of budgets. Ultimately, we found that silk pillowcases make for a more luxurious sleep experience, and you don't have to break the bank to sleep on a silk pillowcase.

#### WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

At U.S. News, our contributors and editors have years of experience reviewing, researching, and testing a multitude of home and sleep products that include silk pillowcases and various types of bedding. Nina Derwin, the author of this piece, has written extensively about not only bedding but mattresses, couches, and other home furnishings. She has consulted with interior design professionals, textile designers, and home furnishings experts and has contributed reviews, product roundups, and informative guides to publications that include The Kitchn, Martha Stewart, and Digital Trends. Both home goods editors at 360 Reviews, Marlo Jappen Porto and Kayla Randolph edited this piece.



How do silk pillowcases promote healthier skin and hair?

+

How do the long-term benefits of silk pillowcases justify their cost + compared to other options?

#### **About Our Team**



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Nina Derwin is a Brooklyn-based writer with a passion for home decor, cleaning and organization, and food. In addition to contributing to publications including The Kitchn, Reader's Digest, Beyondish, and U.S. News 360 Reviews, Nina has written several episodes of scripted television for networks including Starz and Fox.

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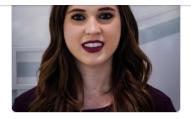


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