Parasol fabrics compared

Canopies are available in a choice of fabric:

ShadeArt Recacril®, Spuncrylic® and Polyester.

Each fabric type will have different characteristics, as shown below.

Material characteristics

	ShadeArt Recacril®	Spuncrylic®	Polyester
Fabric warranty	5 years	3 years	1 year
Ageing resistance	Excellent	Excellent	Good
Colour-fastness to light (AATCC16, option 3, water cooled, xeno-arc lamp, AATCC scale)	1500 hours Grade 4-5	1500 hours Grade 3-4	80 - 100 hours Grade 3 - 4
Fabric weight	300g/m2	240g/m2	240g/m2
Material	Acrylic	Polyester	Polyester
Method	Solution-dyed	Solution-dyed	Piece-dyed or yarn-dyed
Water resistance	Excellent	Good	Fair

ShadeArt Recaril®

ShadeArt Recacril® has gone through a process called solution-dying, which gives it very high resistance to fading due to sunlight. Both the surface and the inside of the fabric are protected against dirt build-up and the adverse effects of a wide variety of atmospheric agents. There is a choice of over 30 colours.

Spuncrylic®

Spuncrylic® is a polyester fabric which has gone through the solution-dying process to give very high resistance to fading from sunlight. Spuncrylic® fabric has Ultraviolet Protection Factor (UPF) of at least 50, is water repellent, and offers good stain resistance. This material has a similar performance to acrylic but at a more affordable price. Please contact us for more information on the full range of colours available.

Polyester

Polyester is a reasonably strong fabric, resistant to creasing and good at staying in shape. However, it is not solution-dyed, so will not hold colour as well as Spuncrylic® or Premium ShadeArt Recacril®. Polyester may fade over time, and is a thinner, lighter weight fabric than ShadeArt Recacril®.

We therefore do not offer polyester canopies other than in Spunacrylic® polyester for some of our volume commercial parasols.