

# Sample-to-Bulk Risk Checklist

A pre-production checklist for the gap between an approved sample and bulk output — the stage where most denim surprises happen.

## Who this is for

Brands who have an approved sample and are about to commit to bulk. An approved sample proves the style can be made once; bulk proves it can be made consistently at quantity. Different fabric lots, wash loads, and operators introduce risk. This checklist surfaces it before the PO.

## How to use this template

- Run this after sample approval and before releasing bulk.
- Focus on what changes between one sample and a full production run.
- Each unresolved box is a question to put to your denim product team before bulk starts.
- Keep with the order file alongside the approved sample reference.

# 1 Order Reference

Field	Detail
Style name & number	
Approved sample ref. & date	
Bulk quantity	
Approved tech pack revision	
Checklist run by / date	

### Why samples and bulk differ

A sample is often made from one fabric cut, one wash load, by one skilled operator. Bulk uses multiple fabric lots, repeated wash loads, and a full line. The risk is not whether it can be made — it is whether every unit matches the one that was approved.

## 2 Fabric Risk

Risk area	Checked?	Notes / action
Bulk fabric from same mill / spec as sample		
Bulk fabric lot(s) identified; shade checked against sample		
Enough fabric secured for full quantity + wastage		
Shrinkage re-verified on bulk-lot fabric		

## 3 Wash Risk

Risk area	Checked?	Notes / action
Wash documented as a recipe, not just approved as a look		
Bulk wash load tested before full run		
Shade band agreed for acceptable variation across loads		
Hand feel consistent between sample and first bulk piece		

## 4 Fit & Construction Risk

Risk area	Checked?	Notes / action
Measurement spec + tolerances confirmed for all sizes		
Grading reviewed beyond the sampled base size		
Construction details replicable on the full line (SPI, seams)		
First bulk piece measured against approved spec		

## 5 Trims & Inspection Risk

Risk area	Checked?	Notes / action
All trims confirmed available for full quantity		
Trim lead times will not hold up production		
AQL level and inspection stage agreed		
Labels / compliance artwork finalized for the market		

## 6 Release Decision

Field	Detail
Open risks before bulk (count)	
Must-resolve items (ref.)	
Cleared to release bulk? (yes / no)	

## About the source of this template

This template reflects how SkyKingdom approaches denim in real production — as an external denim product team for creator-led, DTC, and scaling brands. It covers fabric development, wash recipe documentation, sampling, AQL-supervised production, and reorder continuity. It is shared as a working tool, not as theoretical advice.

- 20 years of denim production in Xintang, Guangzhou
- Recognized as Best Quality Supplier — two consecutive years — by a top-3 Amazon US women's apparel seller covering 190+ countries
- Network of partner factories, many founded by former SkyKingdom team members
- Covered by Xinhua News Agency and China News Service

[ photo ]

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Have a denim project to review? Send your design idea, reference images, or production question and we will look at what kind of support makes sense.

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