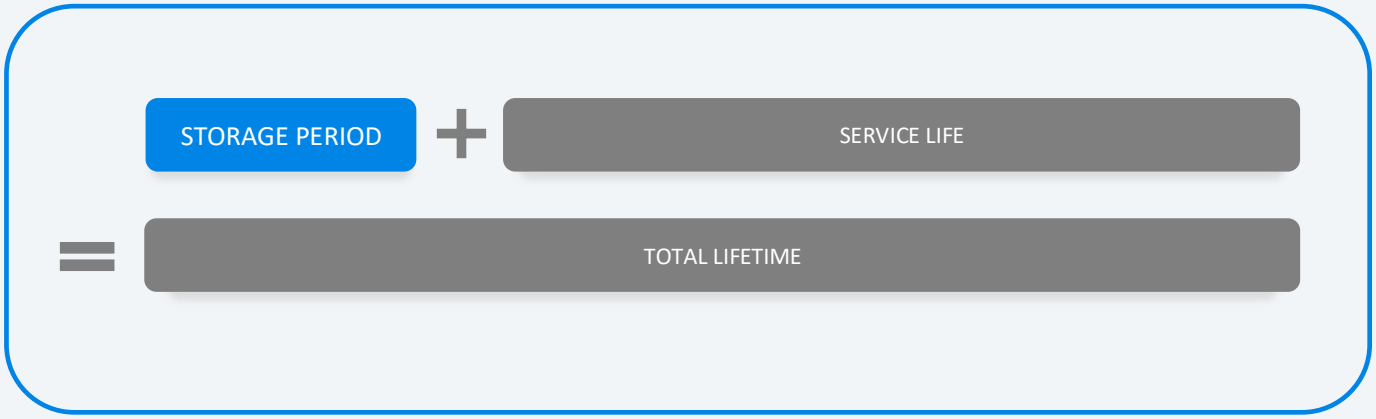
Lifespan of textile products

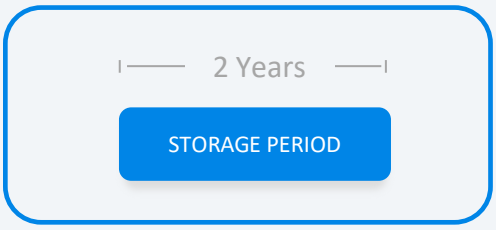
Storage period, service life, first use, guidance

To make textile products easier to manage, Mittelmann is introducing a defined storage period for all textile products manufactured from 2026 onwards.



Storage Period

The newly introduced storage period is 2 years.



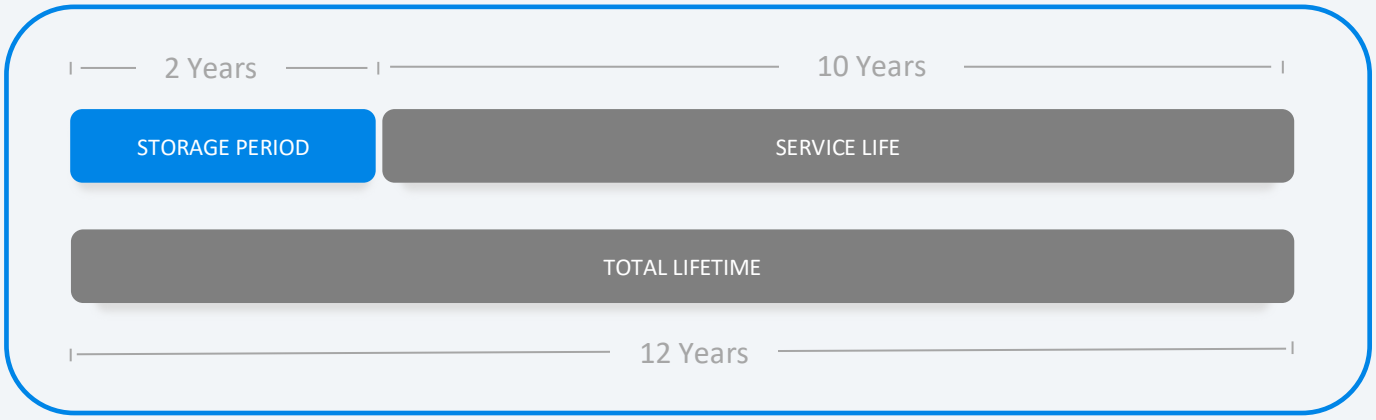
To ensure that the products function properly when first put into service, the guidelines for optimal storage must be followed.

Service Life

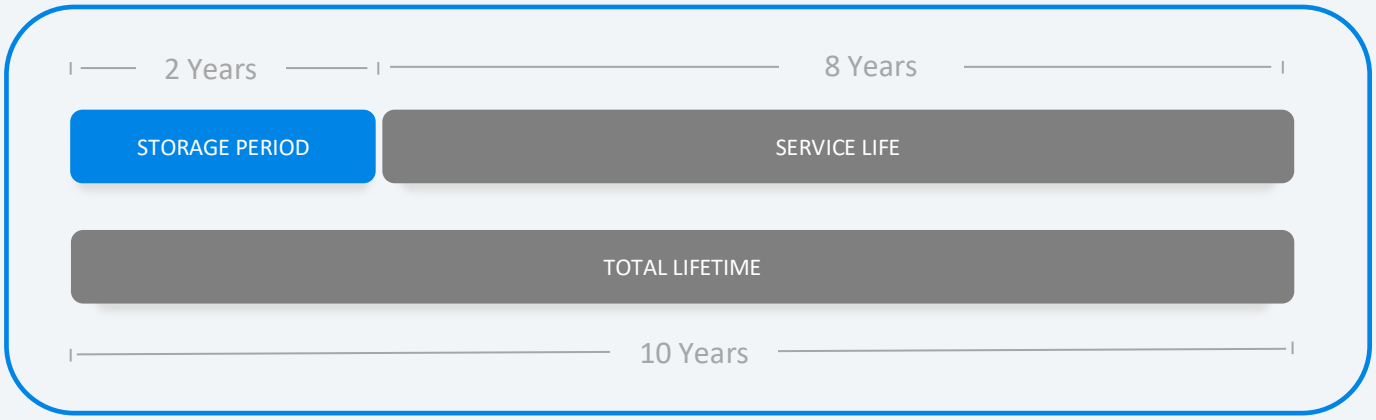
A distinction is made between harnesses and rescue stretchers on the one hand, and all other textile products on the other.

Under optimal conditions of use, the maximum service life is:

Harnesses & Rescue stretchers



All other textile products



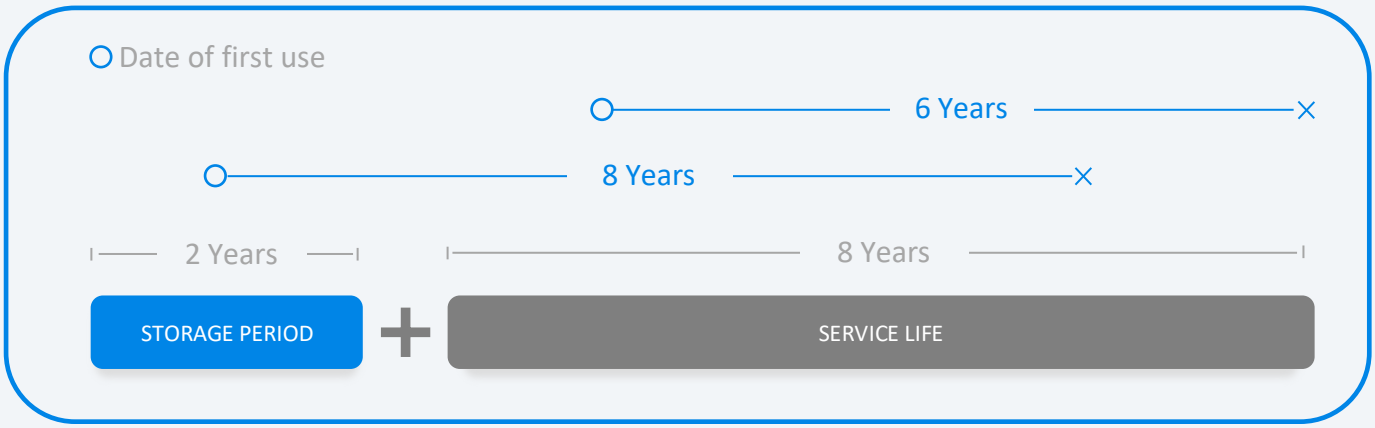
To achieve the maximum service life and ensure that the products function properly, the guidelines for optimal use must be followed.

First Use

A product may be put into service at any time. The date of first use must be documented by the user in the instruction manual.

For example, if a product is first put into service 4 years after its date of manufacture, its service life is reduced to 6 years.

Example: First Use and Service Life of a Lanyard



If the date of first use has not been properly documented and cannot be determined during an inspection, the service life begins on the date of manufacture.

Guidelines for optimal storage

The maximum lifespan of textile components can only be achieved if they are stored under optimal conditions. Deviations from these conditions can reduce their durability and load-bearing capacity.

Mittelmann therefore strongly recommends following these storage guidelines:

- Temperature range: 15 °C – 25 °C
- Relative humidity: Below 65%
- Store in a clean and dry environment
- Ensure adequate ventilation of storage areas
- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight and UV radiation
- Avoid contact with chemicals (e.g., acids, alkalis, solvents, etc.)
- Avoid exposure to gases and vapors (e.g., ozone, chlorine, etc.)
- Keep away from sparks and sources of flying sparks
- Store only in an unstressed condition, without tension or strain

Guidelines for optimal use

The maximum service life of textile components can only be achieved through proper use. Improper use can lead to premature wear, material damage or loss of the protective function. Mittelmann therefore strongly recommends following these guidelines:

Before use

- Before each use, carry out a visual and functional inspection for damage, such as cuts, abrasion, deformation or chemical exposure.
- If any defects are visible, the product must be inspected by a competent person before further use.

During use

- Use the product only for its intended purpose, as described in the instructions for use.
- Avoid contact with sharp edges, rough surfaces, abrasive materials, chemicals, oils, grease and solvents.
- Do not expose the product to open flames, sparks or high temperatures.
- Avoid mechanical overload, for example by exceeding the permitted load limit.

After use

- Clean the product and store it in accordance with the storage guidelines.
- Unauthorized alterations, repairs or modifications are not permitted.
- Have the product inspected regularly by a competent person in accordance with legal requirements.
- After exceptional loading, the product must be inspected by a competent person.