

# Blue Jeans The Golden Solution Answer Key

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Nonfiction: Problem & Solution – Q3:7 Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

## Blue Jeans: The Golden Solution

Digging and panning for gold during the California Gold Rush was hard work. Gold miners were rough on their clothes. They spent long days crouching or kneeling in river mud as they panned for gold. Their pants wore out quickly. Miners carried their tools and rock samples in their pants' pockets. The weight of these items caused the pockets to rip at the seams. The miners needed tougher, stronger clothes.

A man named Jacob Davis worked as a tailor in Reno, Nevada. He sewed men's clothes. He also made horse blankets and tents from a heavy-duty cotton canvas. In 1870, a miner's wife hired Davis to make a pair of workpants for her husband. She wanted his pants to be sturdy and last a long time.

Davis made the pants out of the same **durable** fabric he used for tents. He decided the pockets needed more than thread to keep them from ripping off. He hammered little metal fasteners called rivets into the edges of the pockets to help them last longer. The rivets were made of copper.

His riveted pants were a success. Soon, other miners wanted Davis's durable pants, too. Miners could fill their pockets and squat at the river all day long panning for gold without their pants ripping. The seams on the pockets didn't come loose.

Davis thought someone might steal his idea of adding copper rivets to clothes. He wanted to apply for a patent to protect his invention. With a patent, no one could use copper rivets on their pants without his permission. However, Davis didn't have the money to pay for a patent. Also, so many people wanted to buy his pants that he could no longer handle making them all on his own. Davis needed a business partner.

Davis contacted the man he bought his cloth from. That man was named Levi Strauss. Davis asked Strauss to help him apply for the patent. He invited Strauss to go into business with him to make the pants. Strauss agreed.

The cloth was changed from cotton canvas to blue denim. Denim was as strong as canvas, but more comfortable to wear. Davis and Strauss wanted their pants to stand out from those of their competitors. So, they sewed the seams with orange thread. They also used orange thread to make a pattern on the back pockets. Levi's jeans are still sewn with orange thread today.



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**Blue jeans the golden solution answer key** has become a popular topic of discussion among fashion enthusiasts, educators, and students alike. The phrase evokes images of timeless style, comfort, and versatility, all encapsulated in one wardrobe staple. This article delves into the history, cultural significance, practical applications, and the ongoing evolution of blue jeans, providing a comprehensive understanding of why they are often regarded as a "golden solution" in the realm of fashion.

## The Historical Context of Blue Jeans

The story of blue jeans begins in the mid-19th century, specifically during the California Gold Rush. As miners sought fortune, they needed durable clothing that could withstand the rigors of their labor.

# **The Birth of Denim**

- Origin: Denim fabric originated in Nîmes, France, where it was called "serge de Nîmes."
- Early Usage: Initially, denim was used for various work garments before it became popular in casual wear.

## **Levi Strauss and the First Blue Jeans**

In 1873, Levi Strauss, a German immigrant, and tailor Jacob Davis patented the design of work pants reinforced with copper rivets. This innovation not only made the pants more durable but also set the stage for the iconic blue jeans we know today.

## **Cultural Significance of Blue Jeans**

Blue jeans have transcended their origins as workwear to become a symbol of various cultural movements.

## **Fashion Iconography**

- Hollywood Influence: Stars like James Dean and Marilyn Monroe popularized jeans in the 1950s, associating them with youth rebellion and a new, laid-back lifestyle.
- Counterculture Movements: In the 1960s and 1970s, jeans became a symbol of counterculture, worn by activists and musicians who sought to challenge societal norms.

## **Globalization of Blue Jeans**

As blue jeans gained popularity, they became a global phenomenon. Today, jeans are worn across different cultures and are available in various styles, colors, and fits, highlighting their adaptability.

## **The Versatility of Blue Jeans**

One of the main reasons blue jeans are considered a "golden solution" is their versatility. They can be styled in countless ways, making them suitable for various occasions.