

## ABSTRACT

A nonwoven fabric (1) of the invention is a web of filament fibers (2) consolidated by bonding at fusion bonds (3). Parts of the filament fibers (2) are broken to provide fibers (21) each of which has a fixed end (20a) fixed at the fusion bond (3) with the other end (20b) being free and having an increased thickness. In the nonwoven fabric (1), the fibers (21) with a thickened free end (20b) have an increase ratio of tip diameter of 15% or more.