

# Fabric Care and Cleaning

## PROLONGING THE WEAR LIFE OF YOUR FURNITURE IS SIMPLE:

1. Ensure your furniture avoids the following conditions:



Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight



Any heat source (ie. radiator or heater)



Sharp objects (buckles, jewellery, keys, pet claws etc)



Common cleaning materials, paints, solvents, nail varnish, dyes and felt pens  
Dyed cloths (use only a colour fast cloth)  
Perspiration, grime, body oils, hair creams and gels

2. Follow these simple care instructions



Rotate reversible cushions regularly



Vacuum your furniture regularly



Shampoo using an upholstery shampoo (test on an inconspicuous area first)



Do not use common household detergents



Do not wet filling



Do not scrub with a stiff brush



Allow thorough drying before re-use



Remove any excess spills or soil from the surface of the furniture



Dry Clean Only P30

### Spot cleaning

Treat spills and stains as soon as possible. Test on hidden area to ensure fabric and colour are not removed. Gently scrape any soil or mop any liquid from the surface of the fabric. Use of soap or detergent with water should be approached with caution since overzealous rinsing to remove soap residue may result in over-wetting, water marking and possible wetting of substructure (this may create other stains or damage products).

Our spot cleaning advice is offered in good faith and should not be considered as a guarantee that all stains may be removed. For severe stains please consult a professional upholstery cleaning company.

- Ø For non oil-based stains  
Use warm water and non toilet soaps which do not contain optical brighteners (consider Velvet soap, Lux Flakes, Softly). Mix a small amount of soap and warm water solution and apply to the stain, rubbing gently. Blot dry with a clean towel. Apply cool water (preferably rain or distilled water) and blot dry again. Then with a hair dryer working out from the centre of the stain, dry quickly to prevent rings forming. It is generally preferable to clean whole panels of fabric in this way rather than trying to spot clean specific areas.

- Ø For oil-based stains  
Following the same basic guidelines as above, apply a proprietary brand solvent based cleaner and try to clean generally in panels rather than spot cleaning specific areas. A helpful industry 'secret' is for spot removal of oil based biro marks by the application of a conventional hair spray. To further enhance spot cleaning results, Wortley Group recommends Supershield Dry Chem 3 Fabric Cleaner.

### Alcoholic beverages

After the moisture has been blotted up, dab at the stain with a clean cloth dampened in rubbing alcohol. Then blot repeatedly with liquid detergent mixed with cool water. Blot dry with a towel. Dab again with clear cool water and blot dry.

### Blood

Mix one teaspoon of ammonia in a cup of cold water and apply it sparingly to the spot. Blot with a clean towel. Repeat the procedure until the spot is gone. Then dab the area with cool water and blot. Wait 15 minutes and moisten the area again with white distilled vinegar. Blot thoroughly with a dry towel.

### Chewing gum

Rub an ice cube over the gum to harden it, then scrape off the excess with a dull knife. To remove what's left, use dry cleaning fluid.

### Chocolate (and other soft candy)

This is a combination greasy/non-greasy stain. Scrape excess away, then go over the spot with cool water mixed with a liquid detergent. Blot thoroughly and then clean with dry cleaning fluid.

### Coffee and tea

Sponge with warm water. Apply warm glycerine. Leave for 30 minutes. Flush out with water and dry quickly.

### Cosmetics

Sponge with warm water. Apply warm glycerine. Leave for 30 minutes. Flush out with water and dry quickly.

### Fruit and fruit juices

After excess is blotted up or scraped away, blot the spot with cool water. If a stain remains, add liquid detergent and a drop of vinegar to the water. Dab the spot with this mixture and blot until there's no trace of a stain. Then go over the area lightly with clear water to remove traces of vinegar.

### Grease (including hair grease and oil)

Scrape away excess if necessary and then dab repeatedly at the stain with dry cleaning fluid. If any stain remains, go over the area with a lukewarm mixture of liquid detergent and water. Always make sure you use a clean portion so you don't put the stain back in the fabric. Last, go over the area with a clean cloth moistened with cool clear water.

### Ice cream

Scrape away excess and apply cool water mixed with liquid detergent, blotting frequently with a dry cloth so as not to saturate the fabric. Let dry and then go over any remaining stain with dry cleaning fluid. Blot dry.

### Ink

Moisten with warm glycerine. Leave for 10 minutes. Apply liquid detergent and brush lightly. Flush out with water and dry quickly.

### Iodine

Rub with cut lemon before sponging with warm water. Apply small quantity of detergent with clean cloth. Blot stain then remove soapy residue with cloth wrung out in warm water and white vinegar solution (1/3 vinegar to 2/3 water).

### Milk and vomit

Blot or scrape away the excess, then take a clean soft cloth and blot. Apply clear cool water to the area, blotting frequently. Then blot with a detergent solution to which you've added a small amount of ammonia. Blot dry and wait a few minutes. Go over the area with dry cleaning fluid, blot dry. Finally, blot the area lightly with a cloth moistened with rubbing alcohol.

### Soft drinks, sweets and syrups

Sponge with water, add warm glycerine and work into stain. Flush out with water and dry.

### Shoe polish

Apply liquid paraffin to loosen the stain, then sponge with dry cleaning fluid.

### Urine

It is especially important to treat this stain right away, before the urine dries. Otherwise, the urine may react with the fabric dyes and cause permanent discolouration. First, dab at the stain with a solution of white vinegar and water and blot dry. Then apply a mixture of liquid detergent and cool water, blotting frequently and with a dry cloth to avoid saturating the fabric. Finally, dab the spot with clear cool water and blot thoroughly.

### Water spots

Blot thoroughly and then dampen the entire spot with clear white vinegar. Wait a few minutes. When the area is dry, moisten it again with clear water, blotting with a dry cloth after every application of the damp cloth. If the fabric has a pile, brush in the direction of the pile when it is dry.

### Professional Fabric Servicing

Wortley Group recommend that water-based 'Fluro chemical' type fabric protectors (such as DuPont Teflon® and 3M Scotchgard®) be applied by licensed applicators only. Check your care label first to see if a mill-applied protection was incorporated during fabric manufacture. It is not necessary to apply an after-market protector over mill-applied protectors on new fabrics. Fabric protectors do not eliminate the need for vacuuming, routine cleaning or proper care. They will, however, make spot cleaning and vacuuming quicker, easier and more efficient between professional cleans and keep your fabric looking cleaner longer, as well as extending its life. Professionals applying fabric protectors must always pre test to qualify fabrics suitability.

### Warning

Do not treat velvets and pocket weaves with stain repellent treatments. Some high pile velvet and pocket weave jacquards may change in surface character if stain repellent treatments are applied. Extra care should be taken to pre-test for these fabrics.

### Professional cleaning frequency

Is determined by the furniture use, your own maintenance, upkeep and environmental conditions. As a good 'rule of thumb' overall cleaning is recommended every 12 months for most family room lounges.

### Velvet curtain care

Curtaining velvet needs care in handling and use. Window fittings coming in contact with the curtain should be avoided. Stiff brushing or strong vacuum cleaning on the reverse side of velvet can also pull at the pile. Draw cords or other methods of drawing without handling the curtain itself are recommended, as grasping, particularly with fingernails, can cause crushing and other damage. Velvet curtains should be dry cleaned.

### Movement of Curtains in Situ

When making curtains, always allow for atmospheric movement and fluctuations in length as the result of changes in temperature and humidity. Fabrics absorb moisture and this can result in stretching or shrinking. It is reasonable to expect as much as a 3% change in any curtain length. For instance, a 2.5m curtain length may move up to 8cms up or down in different conditions. Heavier fabrics, looser weaves and those with thicker yarns of natural fibres will react to changing humidity. For curtains, we recommend leaving generous hems to allow easy alteration and adjustment after hanging. We strongly recommend hanging curtains for at least 4 weeks before finishing hems. Top quality makers avoid "exact" length curtains (i.e. floor touching or to a window sill). Any adjustments remain the responsibility of the maker and cannot be accepted as a fault of the fabric.