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Australian designed and made

GUIDE TO FABRIC MAINTENANCE



Our Guide to Care & Cleaning

The following guide outlines various recommendations for fabric cleaning and maintenance for all the fabrics in our range.

With proper care and cleaning, wool upholstery fabrics will maintain their appearance for many years.

Wool is a natural biodegradable fibre, shedding of excess fibres in the first weeks of use has no effect on the life of the fabric or its long-term appearance. To remove any excess wool fibre simply brush with a soft clothing brush in one direction using short strokes.

The beauty of using wool is that it is naturally anti-static. Static is known to attract lint, dirt, and dust so its anti-static properties keep it much cleaner for longer. Wool is also hypoallergenic, naturally resistant to bacteria, mould and mildew.

Synthetics tend to hold the dirt more and may require more frequent cleaning. The general rule is the longer it's been there the harder it is to remove.

We recommend using a GECA certified or otherwise environmentally accredited cleaning product or service to minimise the environmental impact while caring for your fabric.

Regular vacuuming on low suction with an upholstery attachment, quickly removes dust and fluff, reducing the need for professional dry cleaning.

However, for more intensive cleaning which will be required from time to time, dry cleaning is recommended.

This guide outlines care labels for screen fabrics, upholstery fabrics as well as treated fabrics with soil resist.

Our fabrics come with a 12 year warranty, details of which are also included in this guide.

FABRIC TREATMENTS

The treated fabric care label refers to both our GREENSEAL commercial treatment as well as our ULTIMATE treatment. These treatments contain extra protection against spilling and soiling and should be cared for according to the care label 3.

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Cleaning Methods

While routine care can minimise the need to clean upholstered furniture, at some time it will be necessary to clean the entire piece of furniture. Sustainability goes beyond the initial purchase of fabric and is an important factor to consider when selecting the best option to clean our fabrics.

We always suggest choosing your local GECA certified or otherwise environmentally accredited cleaning product or service. You no longer have to rely on harsh chemicals to maintain and look and cleanliness of your upholstered piece.

Shampoo Cleaning

Shampoo cleaning can generally be a DIY hand process. Shampoos may be purchased as spray bottle or are available as a concentrated detergent, which is diluted with water.

In this case, the detergent solution is applied to the upholstery by means of a clean cloth or sponge. It is essential that only upholstery shampoos be used. Non-alkaline upholstery shampoos are ideal for wool fabrics. Biodegradable products are preferable. Always follow the instructions listed on the product label.

Detergents formulated for other purposes (e.g. dishwashing) often produce sticky residues, which may lead to acceleration of soiling. Excess water must be avoided, otherwise the interior of the furniture will become wet.

This causes excess drying times, mildew and odours and may lift soil from the interior of the furniture to stain the surface of the fabric. Finally, heavy scrubbing should be avoided as it can change the look and feel of the fabric.

Hot/Cold Water Extraction

One of the many benefits of hot water extraction is that it can effectively clean without using a lot of detergent. Heavy use of detergents can actually cause re-soiling more quickly.

This is also a more environmentally friendly option as the cleaning process is centered around the use of hot water not excess chemicals.

There is also the option for lower energy consumption cold water extraction if that is more suitable for your needs.

Hot water extraction machines are also available for hire by consumers. However, this relatively simple process has several potential pitfalls for inexperienced users.

Of chief concern is the risk of over wetting. For this reason alone, consumers may be well advised to have this process performed by an experienced tradesperson.

On Site Dry-cleaning

On-site dry-cleaning is generally the most common option and many local businesses now offer environmentally conscious dry cleaning. Please take the time to research sustainable options to ensure you're making the right choice.

It is essential that the machine operator be properly trained and that they ensure that the any residues in the fabric are minimised.

Because many stains are water soluble, it is often necessary to pre spot fabrics with special water-based cleaning agents. This is similar to the general procedure used by dry-cleaners when dealing with clothing.



General Method of Upholstery Cleaning

The following guideline refers to Sustainable Living Fabrics. It is to be used as a guideline only.

AFTERCARE LABEL 1

Use this label for Sustainable Living upholstery fabrics unless they have been soil resist treated.

Product type: textile fabric, non-pile

Upholstery type: Non-removable covers

Regular care:

- Protect from direct sunlight
- Vacuum regularly using low suction
- Rotate reversible cushions regularly

Spot cleaning:

- Treat spills and stains as soon as possible
- Gently scrape any soil or mop any liquid from the surface of the fabric. Do not scrub
- Apply cleaning agents strictly according to instructions to remove the residue of the spill
- Do not saturate the fabric or interior with water or other cleaning liquids
- May be spot cleaned with drycleaning solvent.

HOT/COLD EXTRACTION CLEANING:

- Do not remove cushion covers for separate cleaning, even though they do have zippers
- Clean with hot extraction machine
- Professional cleaning recommended
- Do not use dishwashing or laundry detergents
- Use only upholstery detergent
- Do not wet filling
- Dry in shade away from direct heat and sunlight
- Allow to dry thoroughly before re-use

ON-SITE DRY CLEANING:

- Clean with an on-site drycleaning machine (P)
- Extract solvent thoroughly after application
- Wipe gently, do not rub
- CAUTION - exhaust solvent vapour outside building
- Provide adequate ventilation during cleaning and drying
- Allow to dry thoroughly before re-use
- Avoid use of room during drying period

SHAMPOO CLEANING:

- May be shampoo cleaned using upholstery shampoo
- Do not use dishwashing or laundry detergents
- Do not wet filling
- Wipe gently, do not rub
- Dry in shade away from direct heat or sunlight
- Allow to dry thoroughly before re-use.

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Screen And Partitioning Cleaning

The following guideline refers to Sustainable Living screen and partitioning fabric. It is to be used as a guideline only.

AFTERCARE FOR SCREENS

Use this label for Sustainable Living screen fabrics unless they have been soil resist treated

Product type: textile fabric, non-pile

Upholstery type: Non removable screen/ partition fabric

WARNING: Below are the appropriate care instructions for screen fabrics. Care must be taken when cleaning upholstered screens and panels as these instructions apply to the fabric only and the possible effect of the cleaning regime on underlying foam, glue or backing board must be considered. For the reasons it is strongly suggested spot cleaning only is used and be carried out by a professional cleaner.

Regular care: Protect from direct sunlight

CLEANING:

- Refer to warning above
- Professional cleaning recommended
- Treat spills and stains as soon as possible
- Gently wipe any soil or liquid from the surface of the fabric with a clean soft cloth
- May be shampoo cleaned using upholstery shampoo. Apply strictly according to manufacturers instructions.
- May be spot cleaned with drycleaning solvent CAUTION: Ensure adequate ventilation during use.
- Test any cleaning products on an inconspicuous area prior to commencing cleaning
- Do not scrub or use brush of any type
- Do not use dishwashing or laundry detergents
- Do not saturate fabric and importantly do not wet foam or backing board
- Dry away from direct heat and sunlight



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Treated Fabric Cleaning

The following guideline refers to Sustainable Living treated fabric. It is to be used as a guideline only.

AFTERCARE LABEL 3

Use this label for all our upholstery fabrics with Soil Resist Treatments

Product type: textile fabric, non-pile soil-resist treated

Upholstery type: Non removable covers

Regular care: Protect from direct sunlight, vacuum regularly.

SPOT CLEANING:

- Treat spills and stains as soon as possible
- Gently scrape any soil or mop any liquid from the surface of the fabric
- Apply cleaning agents strictly according to instructions to remove residue of the spill
- Do not saturate the fabric or interior with water or other cleaning liquids
- May be spot cleaned with drycleaning solvent

HOT/COLD EXTRACTION CLEANING:

- Do not remove cushion covers for separate cleaning, even though they do have zippers
- Clean with hot extraction machine
- Professional cleaning recommended
- Do not use dishwashing or laundry detergents
- Use only upholstery detergent
- Do not wet filling
- Dry in shade away from direct heat and sunlight
- Allow to dry thoroughly before re-use

ON-SITE DRY CLEANING:

- Clean with an on-site dry cleaning machine (P)
- Professional cleaning recommended
- Extract solvent thoroughly after application
- Wipe gently, do not rub
- CAUTION - exhaust solvent vapour outside building
- Provide adequate ventilation during cleaning and drying
- Allow to dry thoroughly before re-use
- Avoid use of room during drying period
- Re-application of soil-resist treatment may be necessary



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12 Year Fabric Warranty

Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd warrants its fabrics for a period of up to twelve (12) years or the warranted life of the furniture, whichever is the lesser, from date of invoice, against faulty manufacture and wear-through in normal indoor commercial seating and workstation use by the original end-use customer.

For the purpose of this warranty, “wear-through” is defined as “a hole caused by disintegration of the fabric structure in a particular area as a result of normal abrasive wear.”

Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd accepts no responsibility for damage, disintegration or loss arising from abuse, misuse, vandalism, burns, cuts, punctures, incorrect or inappropriate upholstery, installation or maintenance.

Including but not limited to:

- Use of glues or adhesives
- Use of cleaning agents or equipment
- Soiling
- Application of any treatment, finish or process after shipment from Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd
- Defects in design or manufacture of seating or furniture
- Inadequate or faulty padding, abrasion from other seating components or furniture
- Snagging, pilling, fading, use in any application other than normal indoor seating or workstation
- Damage from sunlight
- Damage from clothing
- Damage from use subsequent to ownership by the original end-use customer.

This warranty does not apply to fabric to which any additional treatment or finish, including any backing process, has been applied including any applied by specific order prior to shipment by Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd.

In addition, Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd accepts no responsibility for changes in any way to the goods arising from any after treatments or finishes or processes whatsoever. This warranty does not extend to use other than that by the original end-use customer.

Where Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd is in breach of this warranty, Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd will repair or, at its discretion replace, the affected fabric at its expense, including reasonable reupholstery costs if it is applicable but excluding incidental or consequential cost, subject to its receipt of a prompt written notice including a copy of the purchase invoice and the furniture warranty, within the warranty period.

Except as expressly provided herein, Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd does not make any representations or warranties, express or implied, including without limitation, any warranty of merchantability or fitness of its fabric for any particular purpose and Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd hereby disclaims the same.

The remedies set forth herein are exclusive. Liability of Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd is limited to the actual repair or replacement of the defective fabric and does not include incidental or consequential damage.

Sustainable Living Fabrics Pty Ltd reserves the right to alter the Terms and Conditions of this Warranty at any time without notice.

*Please note that treated fabrics carry a 5 year warranty instead of 12 year. This refers to both GREENSEAL commercial and ULTIMATE treatments.



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Sustainable Living Fabrics are proudly Australian designed and made. Our entire range is stocked locally.

Contact your local rep for a sample or if you have any questions.

- The information in this manual is provided in good faith. Sustainable Living Fabrics accepts no responsibility for any claims arising from the cleaning treatments proposed.
- Please consider the environment before printing this document.
- Sources for all project images used can be found on our website.

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