

A Guide to Caravan and Holiday Home Fabric Care

This care guide is designed to help you care for the fabric and upholstery in your caravan, holiday home or motorhome so you can retain the look for many years to come.

General Facts on Fabric Upholstery

- ❖ You may find that seat comfort is a little firm at first – this is perfectly normal and your seats will soften gradually during initial use to give you longer lasting durability. All foam can lose up to 20% of its volume during the first few months of use. This is quite normal and is not a fault.
- ❖ Many pile fabrics may appear darker or shaded in different areas of the furniture. This is due to the way the direction of the pile reflects light, especially when the pile is crushed during use. This is not a fault but a normal characteristic of some types of fabric. Gentle, regular brushing with a soft brush can help raise the flattened pile and reduce the effect of pile crush.
- ❖ Fabric will stretch and develop creases during use especially on seats, these ‘comfort wrinkles’ are to be expected and are completely normal wear and tear.
- ❖ Please be aware that some fabrics have inherent characteristics that are part of their charm.
- ❖ Most upholstery fabrics will show wear due to friction from use. Pilling, the formation of little balls of fuzz on the surface of your fabric can occur with normal use. The occurrence of pilling depends on several factors, including the type of fibre, the weave, the construction of the fabric itself and the type of use the fabric receives. Pilling is a natural occurrence in certain upholstered fabrics, and is not considered a defect.

Care of Fabric and Upholstery

- ❖ It is **essential** that all cushions are ‘dressed’ regularly. Vigorous plumping by shaking and squeezing will redistribute the fillings, put air back into the fibres and ensure the cushions fill the cover to the correct shape.
- ❖ If this dressing is not carried out, the fillings can cause a mass giving the cushion a flat or lumpy appearance and/or making the covers appear baggy. This is not considered a defect.
- ❖ Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight and heat can damage your fabric and cause them to fade and potentially fray. Protect by placing your furniture away from prolonged direct sunlight or by drawing curtains or blinds.
- ❖ Vacuuming helps to eliminate dirt before it becomes embedded in the fibres.

- ❖ Dust can be removed by pre-brushing gently with a very soft brush.
- ❖ Loose threads can be trimmed off neatly with sharp scissors.
- ❖ Curtains are dry clean only and should never be laundered in a washing machine.

Spillages and Stains

Due to the variety of fabrics used, these instructions are for general guidance only. Professional cleaning advice should always be sought.

Soiling can occur from the clothing you wear when using your upholstery and some fabrics, for example denim can transfer dye onto your covering.

Newspaper ink from your hands or direct from the paper will stain very readily.

Food and drinks can soil and stain the material and any accidents should be dealt with straight away. Liquids need to be soaked up quickly.

Please see the below guidance on removal of spillages and stains:

- Do not soak or allow fabric to become wet.
- Never rub or scrub with a wet cloth to remove spills or stains as this will damage the fabric and can remove colour.
- Do not use washing liquid, detergents or bleach to remove spills or stains.
- Liquid spills: Blot or soak up immediately using a dry, soft colour absorbent cloth using a dabbing action.
- Solid Spills (food and mud): Removed excess gently before dabbing to clean stains
- Water based stains: Dab using a specialist upholstery shampoo sparingly. Do no soak.
- Pen, Ink, Fruit or Blood: Use a specialist cleaner.
- Oil based stains (butter, margarine, cream etc): Use a spot remover containing dry cleaning fluid which can be obtained from most supermarkets or hardware stores. Follow manufacturer's instructions, testing product on a hidden area first to ensure it does not damage fabric or affect colours.
- For stubborn spots and stains we recommend professional cleaning by a specialist service.
- Specialist cleaning on a regular basis prevents excessive build-up of dirt. A nationwide 'in house' cleaning service is provided by:

SERVICE MASTER 0800 021 3073

Service Master are an independent company and we therefore cannot be held responsible for any issues arising from their use.

Please note, the manufacturer is not liable for any defects or occurrences caused by misuse, negligence, non-compliance with the above or specialist treatments applied by the retailer or owner. If in doubt, please seek professional advice