

Sheepskin is very easy to look after. The unique structure of wool gives it a natural durability and robustness. The thin waxy coating of a wool fibre, contains fatty acids that inhibit the growth of bacteria, resists soiling and releases dirt easily.

It is important however, to take care of your sheepskin products to preserve the individual character of each piece. Your sheepskin products will retain their good looks and last longer if you follow the recommended care routine.

### General Care

Regular vacuuming with a plain suction vacuum cleaner will help to maintain wool fibres. Longer wool rugs benefit from occasional brushing with a wire pet brush (pet slicker pad). Small spills can be sponged off with a damp cloth. Avoid exposure to strong direct sunlight as UV will damage the natural fibres and may fade or discolour dyed sheepskins. Do not store in damp or wet conditions as the natural leather pelt may deteriorate.

Follow these few care instructions and you will extend the lasting beauty of our products.

### The five golden rules of sheepskin care:

1. Avoid direct sunlight. This stops UV damage or fading of darker shaded products.
2. Shake rugs, cushions, bean bags regularly, if it can handle a shake, liven it up!
3. Dry vacuum rugs regularly with a plain suction unit. No revolving/ rotating/ turbo/ beater bar attachments.
4. Blot up spills and stains as promptly as possible, do not rub the wool pile.
5. Dyed product should be dry-cleaned only.

### Washing Instructions

Hand or machine wash in warm water, gentle washing cycle. Use a mild liquid detergent that is suitable for hand washing dishes.

- Note: 40°C is equivalent to 104°F
- Do not bleach
- Dry flat or on a line
- Do not tumble dry
- Do not iron
- Dry cleaning is recommended

### Washing

Dogs, pets and children all love sheepskin, but rest assured small stains and light soiling can be spot cleaned easily with a damp cloth and mild detergent. For a more thorough clean, and to gain the best result, dry-cleaning is recommended. Wilson & Dorset natural sheepskins can be hand or machine-washed in warm water (40°C/104°F) using a mild liquid detergent that is suitable for hand washing dishes, on a 'gentle' wash cycle. Please note that machine or hand washing may affect the appearance of the natural wool fibers and the leather pelt. Products with suede or other backing material are generally not suitable for machine or hand washing. Dry cleaning is recommended for any products with backing materials. It is best to dry clean dyed products as colours may bleed.

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### Drying

Air-dry your sheepskin by hanging it on a line or laying it out flat – not in direct sunlight. It is important to stretch sheepskin during the drying process, this helps to retain the shape and prevent excessive shrinkage. Do not tumble dry, iron or bleach your sheepskin product.

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### Brushing

Brushing is effective on unshorn, long wool products only. After washing, the wool fibers will likely revert back to their natural curly state. Brushing with a wire wool comb when wet will help restore the fluffy appearance and natural "loft" of the fibers if desired.

### Wet Stain Remover

As with all spills, the first step is to 'contain the stain' so it doesn't spread any further, BEFORE applying any stain treatment. Use a clean dry towel or paper towels to firmly blot up the excess liquid prior to using the wet stain remover. If the stain covers a very large area, we recommend putting a towel down and standing on it to quickly blot up the excess. It is important to take up all the liquid you can in this first step as this will ensure you need to use less of the stain remover product and will also give you the best result. It is tempting when you are in a panic to throw water or other liquids directly onto a stain, but that will only spread the stain further and can damage the woolskin backing.

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### Dry Stain Remover

Designed to work on most food, drink, oil and grease-based stains and is suitable for woolskin rugs. Is effective on almost any dry stain that has not caused a chemical reaction with the wool fibres. Rubbing a wet woolskin is an absolute no-no (it damages the fibres) so a dry stain remover is designed to be lightly applied as a spray and then the resulting powder vacuumed up using a fine nozzle. You should also check the manufacturer's advice for your specific brand of vacuum cleaner as some more modern vacuums can be sensitive to fine powder and lose their suction.

To avoid permanent damage, accidental spills and stains should be dealt with immediately. Before using any stain treatment, make sure you have 'contained the stain' by blotting up liquids immediately using a paper towel or clean cloth. This will stop it spreading further. There are a number of cleaning treatments that can be used, depending on the type of stain. Here is the recommended clean up procedure for each specific stain:

**Beer & Spirits:** Option 1) Use a Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or option 2) use one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water.

**Bleach:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or Option 2) seek assistance from a professional cleaner.

**Blood:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or Option 2) one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water.

**Butter:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Dry Stains, or Option 2) One teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water.

**Candle wax:** Option 1) Place absorbent paper (such as a brown grocery bag) over wax and apply hot iron to paper. Wax will melt and be absorbed by paper. Or, Option 2) Stain Remover for Dry Stains.

**Chewing gum:** Option 1) chill with ice cubes in a plastic bag, and then pick or scrape off solids, or Option 2) Stain Remover for Dry Stains.

**Chocolate:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Dry Stains, or Option 2) Stain Remover for Wet Stains.

**Coffee:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or Option 2) mix 1/3 cup of white vinegar with 2/3 cup of water.

**Cola & soft drinks:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or Option 2) one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water.

**Cooking oil:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Dry Stains, or Option 2) one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water.

**Cream:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or Option 2) stain Remover for Dry Stains.

**Faeces:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or Option 2) clear household disinfectant, or option 3) seek assistance from a professional cleaner.

**Fruit juice:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or Option 2) one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water.

**Furniture polish:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Dry Stains, or Option 2) Stain Remover for Wet Stains.

**Ballpoint Ink:** Option 1) Surgical alcohol, or Option 2) Stain Remover for Wet Stains.

**Felt Tip Ink:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Dry Stains, or option 2) Stain Remover for Wet Stains.

**Lipstick:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Dry Stains, or Option 2) one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water

**Milk:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or Option 2) Stain Remover for Dry Stains.

**Mud (when dry):** Option 1) Vacuum clean, or Option 2) Stain Remover for Dry Stains.

**Nail polish:** Option 1) Nail polish remover without lanolin, or Option 2) Stain Remover for Dry Stains.

**Oil & grease:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Dry Stains, or Option 2) one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water.

**Paint (oil based):** Stain Remover for Dry Stains.

**Paint (acrylic):** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or Option 2) one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water.

**Red Wine:** Option 1) Stain remover for wet stain. The most important thing is to firmly blot up as much of the red wine as you can, then apply the wet stain remover. Follow wet stain remover manufacturers instructions. If you still notice some discoloration after the stain has dried, repeat application to pull more of the stain out of your sheepskin or option 2) mix 1/3 cup of white vinegar with 2/3 cup of water.

**Rust:** Option 1) Mix 1/3 cup of white vinegar with 2/3 cup of water, or Option 2) seek assistance from a professional cleaner.

**Shoe polish:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Dry Stains, or Option 2) one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water.

**Soot:** Option 1) Vacuum clean, or Option 2) Stain Remover for Dry Stains.

**Tar:** Option 1) Mineral turpentine, or Option 2) Stain Remover for Dry Stains.

**Tea:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or Option 2) mix 1/3 cup of white vinegar with 2/3 cup of water.

**Tomato sauce:** Option 1) nail polish remover without lanolin, or Option 2) one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water.

**Urine (fresh):** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, Option 2) one teaspoon of wool detergent with one teaspoon of white vinegar in one litre of warm water, or Option 3) clear household disinfectant.

**Urine (old stain):** Seek assistance from a professional cleaner.

**Vomit:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, Option 2) clear household disinfectant, or Option 3) mix 1/3 cup of white vinegar with 2/3 cup of water.

**Wine:** Option 1) Stain Remover for Wet Stains, or option 2) mix 1/3 cup of white vinegar with 2/3 cup of water.