

Maintenance guide



kvadrat

Upholsteries



Maintenance upholstery fabric

Regular cleaning is important in order to keep the upholstery textile looking its best and to prolong its life. Dust and dirt wear down the textile and also reduce its fire-retardant properties.

Normal cleaning

Vacuum frequently, ideally every week, at half power where appropriate. Wipe upholstery fabrics made from polyurethane with a dry or moist cloth. May also be vacuum cleaned with a soft brush.

Stain removal

If you act quickly, it is not difficult to remove spills and prevent stains from forming. However, we cannot guarantee complete stain removal.

First, scrape off any liquids or hardened residues with a spoon or a scoop before you proceed. Any loose particles must be vacuum cleaned before further cleaning.

Liquids must be soaked up with an absorbent napkin or cloth.

Remove non-greasy stains by carefully dabbing with a lintfree cloth or sponge wrung out in warm water. Edge marks can be avoided by dabbing gently in circular motions towards the centre of the stain with a clean lint-free cloth. Remove greasy stains by using appropriate detergents or solvents. In all cases, we recommend to test stain-removal agents on an inconspicuous area first, to see if there is any effect on the cover.

Make sure to dry the fabric fully before use. It may also be necessary to use a hairdryer to avoid leaving edge marks. This applies especially to microfibre textiles.

These tips are purely recommendations and cannot guarantee complete stain removal. In all cases, we recommend contacting a professional dry cleaning. In order to ensure satisfactory results, particularly for large stains, we recommend to contact a professional dry cleaner. It is important to state whether the stain has already undergone treatment.

Due to excess dye in jeans, dark jeans may leave stains on textiles; washing and cleaning may not always lead to satisfying results. Stains from jeans on polyurethane products may be removable by using a rubber.

Warning – do not rub the material hard because this could result in loss of colour or potentially damage the nap.

Be careful when using solvents; these could dissolve the upholstery materials beneath. Never use un-concentrated detergents or bleach, ammonia or soap intended for hard surfaces.

Divina family

Removing stains from textiles in the Divina family can be difficult, as the fabric is being pressed after fulling in order to achieve the felt-like surface.

Particularly on new woollen covers, the fibres will slightly rise when the fabric becomes moist. The moist area will appear as a darker stain. The textile cannot be pressed again, however, it is possible to reduce the discoloration by spraying water over the entire furniture piece. When using the furniture and at normal humidity levels, the wool fibres will rise and potential stains will become less visible.

Cleaning and impregnation

It is usually recommended that upholstered furniture with normal commercial use should be cleaned 2–3 times a year. Upholsteries in private households usually need less frequent cleaning.

Textiles made from cotton are often impregnated. However, the treatment is not permanent and can be worn off during usage or cleaning. We therefore suggest to re-impregnate the textile after cleaning.

We do not recommend impregnation of woollen upholstery fabrics, as wool itself is dirt-repellent. Impregnation of fabrics made from 100% Trevira CS should be avoided since it decreases the fabric's permanent flame-retardant attributes.

Regular maintenance and cleaning removes dirt before it settles in the fabric and damages the fibres. Appropriate maintenance and regular cleaning can prolong the textile's life cycle and reduce costs for renovation and repair, replacement and disposal.

In order to ensure satisfying cleaning results, we recommend to contact a professional cleaning institute. Employing pH-neutral carbon dioxide solutions for cleaning is recommended because this method avoids the use of soap. A professional cleaning institute may also assist in working out maintenance schedules, which ensure that the fabrics are maintained properly so that a good indoor climate and a maximum duration of the upholsteries are achieved.

Removable covers

Removable covers made from Trevira CS can be machine washed at maximum 40/60°C. Moreover, it is possible to wash certain cotton fabrics and micro-fibre textiles. More detailed information about temperature and shrinkage is available on our sample materials and on our website www.kvadrat.dk.

Use washing detergent designated for coloured textiles and obey the dosage. Wash the fabric inside-out and load only half on the machine. Spin-dry the fabric with decreased speed. The covers should be dried while suspended and mounted or applied while still slightly damp in order to ease the process.

We recommend contacting a professional dry cleaner for especially huge covers.

Removable covers made from wool cannot be washed but should be dry cleaned.

Not all covers with zippers are designed to be removable. Please ask the furniture manufacturer.

Mohair



Mohair velours maintenance

As with other articles, dust settles on upholstered furniture as well. Dirt can also be caused by contact with dirty materials. Do not allow the dirt to become too excessive, otherwise it will be more difficult to remove. The upholstery cover fabrics should be cleaned regularly to ensure prolonged life and appearance.

Regular maintenance should consist of:

Vacuuming and/or brushing
Removal of stains
An intermediate clean
A fundamental clean

The fundamental clean should be undertaken by an expert. Depending on the degree of dirt and the colour of the fabric, a fundamental clean is advisable every 4 or 5 years. Addresses of registered specialist upholstery cleaners can be obtained from the local Consumer Enquiry Office.

Regular maintenance

Mohair velours should be brushed with a hard clothes-brush and/or vacuumed with the nozzle, always in the direction of the nap.

A rejuvenating treatment for mohair is to rub it with a slightly damp leather cloth, again in the direction of the nap.

The removal of stains

Naturally, a professional upholstery cleaner has more expertise in removing stains but it is possible for you to remove minor stains by following these instructions:

A. Damp stains

These should be treated as soon as they occur with a white absorbent cloth or tissue, slightly moistened with luke warm water. It is very important not to use coloured cloths tissues as the colour may rub off and stain the fabric.

If water alone will not remove the stain, a diluted carpet upholstery shampoo can be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Never apply the cleaning solution directly onto the upholstery but onto a dampened white cloth. This should then be rubbed gently (rubbing too hard may affect the surface structure of the fabric) onto the stain, working from the edge to the middle. Any residual shampoo should be removed carefully with a damp cloth.

The last rubbing should always be in the direction of the nap. The upholstery fabric should be dried immediately before being used again (a hair dryer on a low temperature setting can be used).

B. Dry stains

These can be treated in a similar way to damp stains. If the stain remains, dab it with a white cloth dampened with soluble Benzine.

The intermediate clean

The intermediate clean is defined as the treatment of the whole surface of the upholstery cover fabric. For mohair velours it can be done in two different ways:

1. By spraying a dry shampoo onto a dampened, squeezed out sponge and rubbing onto the fabric, following the manufacturer's instructions. Use a dry shampoo that crystallises 100%.
2. By using a liquid shampoo worked into a foam with a sponge and then using only the foam.

At the end of the treatment, the whole surface should be rubbed carefully with a dry white cloth in the direction of the nap. When the upholstery cover fabric is completely dry, vacuum or brush it with a soft brush, always in the direction of the nap.

Warning – the upholstered furniture should only be used again when it is completely dry (at least 24 hours).

If mohair velours are not regularly maintained, certain well-worn areas (seats, arms) will show pile tangling and matting over a period of time. Depending on the colour, this will be seen by a change of shade. After cleaning, these parts should be treated with a damp cloth or water spray pump bottle as follows.

Treatment of marks due to wear and tear

By sitting you exert a pressure on the velours fabric forcing the nap in different directions. This, together with heat, the rising air humidity and the body moisture and the type of stuffing beneath can 'fix' this change of direction which is noticeable through a change of colour. This is a typical property of velours and it is neither a defect nor a sign of low quality*.

This effect can be removed by applying a damp (not wet) cloth overnight which will restore the mohair fibre. Again, the upholstered furniture should not be used until it is completely dry. If necessary a hair dryer can be used at low temperature.

The same result can be achieved by spraying distilled water for a few seconds, at a distance of 20 cm from the fabric and again leaving overnight. Care should be taken not to drop large quantities of water on the fabric. It is advisable to treat the whole surface in order to avoid shading. This treatment can be repeated if necessary.

After this treatment, the upholstered furniture must be completely dry before it can be used again. A hair dryer at a low temperature setting can be used.

Characteristics of mohair velours

Due to the structure of the mohair fibre, small knots may occasionally appear in spinning and weaving.

This does not affect the look or performance of velours. These effects are less visible in thicker velours.

A few single black and white hairs of the Angora goat which do not absorb colour in the dyeing process may appear in the finished fabric.

These characteristics do not in any way reflect a depreciation in quality, but emphasise the natural character and authenticity of mohair velours.

Treatment for removal of stains

Before treating, it is important to check colour fastness and compatibility in an inconspicuous area.

A. Water soluble stains

For blood, egg, excrement or urine treat with either cold water or a solution of shampoo and water, do not use warm water otherwise the albumen coagulates.

For vomit, milk and coffee, cocoa, indelible pencil, pen, lipstick, mayonnaise, milk, perfume, cream, shoe-polish, sauces, soups, ink or soot treat with a solution of shampoo and tepid water. If the stain can not be removed, wait until it is dry and then treat with white spirit or Benzine or stain remover.

For spirits, beer, coke, fruitjuices, lemonade, coffee or tea do not allow it to dry, treat immediately with a solution of tepid water and shampoo.

B. Water insoluble stains

For butter, floor wax, paint (varnish), fat, resin, carbon, indelible, pencil, lacquer, oil or tar treat with a regular household solvent like benzine, white spirit or a stain-remover.

For candle wax do not use an iron! Try to break it-into small parts if possible and remove it carefully; with velours there is the risk of surface damage and if necessary treat a few times with benzine.

For chewing-gum or plastic composition use an ice spray or solution to freeze the stain, carefully following the manufacturer's instructions; with velours there is the risk of surface damage.

For rust or dried blood dampen a white cloth with citric acid (a level spoonful in 100ml of cold water) and rub on the stain working from the edge to the middle.

C. With stains of unknown origin

First follow the method for treating Water Soluble Stains. If this is unsuccessful, clean them as Water Insoluble Stains.

** The foundation Warentest (testing products), in Berlin, explains in its Handbook for the purchase of furniture 1994 edition, page 49. Concerning velours the appearance of a mark due to the wear and tear is unavoidable and it depends neither on the height and the position of the nap or on the warmth, weight and damp of the body, but this is a typical property of this product.*

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German Association for Textiles Cleaning, Bonn
Laundry Research, Institute of Clean Technologies, Krefeld
Federal Association of Official Experts in Interiors and Furnishing, Dortmund
Central Association of German Handicraft Furnishing, Bonn

Curtains



Maintenance of Trevira CS and Polyester FR curtains

We recommend washing curtains once a year. If used heavily, a more frequent cleaning may be appropriate. All curtain fabrics by Kvadrat are supplied bearing a maintenance label.

Normal use – private interiors, hotels, institutions

Maximum 40°C, mild process, load as little as possible, lowest spinning speed.

Hang drying.

Ironing may be necessary using medium temperature.

Shrinkage is likely to be about 1% in the length provided that no other information is given on our sample material or on www.kvadrat.dk. It is possible to wash the textile at higher temperatures. However, it is not necessary with normal use.

Heavy use – healthcare sector

Maximum 60°C, mild process, load as little as possible, lowest spinning speed.

Hang drying.

Ironing will typically be necessary for fabrics washed at 60°C using medium temperature. Shrinkage is likely to be about 1% in the length provided that no other information is given on our sample material or on www.kvadrat.dk. It is possible to disinfect the fabric at 60°C by adding appropriate chemicals.

Extreme use – healthcare sector, hospitals

It is possible to wash the curtains at 60°C or higher in order to disinfect the textile. The national Serum Institute recommends the following:

10 minutes at 80°C
3 minutes at 85°C
1 minute at 90°C

We recommend doing test washings with curtains at your laundry since the processes of washing, drying and ironing can vary from laundry to laundry.

Certain designs are only washable at 30°C or 40°C.

The textile's appearance after washing depends on the washing method, temperature, amount of water used per amount of textiles, spinning and drying method.

In order to reduce the risk of allergy problems, we recommend to use washing detergents that do not contain optical bleach, perfume or colorants.

Our advice is a recommendation only. For more detailed information, we recommend contacting a professional dry cleaner and/or laundry. A professional dry cleaner may also assist in working out maintenance schedules which ensure that the fabrics are maintained properly so that a good indoor climate and maximum duration of the curtains are achieved.

Clouds



Clouds maintenance

Clouds are made of flameproof polyethylene foam pressed into shape with the selected upholstery fabric.

Regular cleaning is important to maintain the appearance and prolong the life of the material. Dust and dirt wear the material and also reduce its fire-retardant properties.

Normal cleaning

Vacuum regularly. Dust can also be removed using a soft brush.

Stains should be removed immediately. Most types of stains can be removed by carefully dabbing with a clean, lint-free cloth or sponge wrung out in warm water.

Remove greasy stains by using appropriate detergents or solvents. In all cases, we recommend to test stain-removal agents on an inconspicuous area first, to see if there are any effects on the cover.

Warning – do not rub the material hard because this could result in damage to the nap, if any.

For large stains, individual *Clouds* can be sent for professional cleaning.

One or more *Clouds* can also be replaced if cleaning is not possible.

Warning – be careful when using solvents because these could dissolve the foam beneath.

This cleaning guide is provided as a service only and should not be interpreted as a warranty.