

# Upholstery Maintenance and ■ Cleaning Information

## Upholstery

Proper maintenance of upholstery fabrics permits less frequent cleaning. Maintenance is routine, ongoing care that reduces the build-up of soil on the fabric's surface and treats spots and stains. Vacuuming with a proper upholstery attachment should be done regularly and thoroughly to remove air-borne dust and lint. Promptly treat spots and stains. Cleaning periodically removes accumulated grime, helping retain a fabric's original appearance as much as possible. Loose cushions should be turned and rotated to equalize wear and soiling levels. Protective arm covers and head rests should be cleaned to minimize difference between the appearance of these items and that of other exposed areas.

Cleaning codes apply to the outercovering fabric only. It is important that the fabric not be over wet to avoid contact with filling materials.

- W** Clean only with water-based shampoo or foam upholstery cleaner. Do not over wet. Do not use dry cleaning solvents to spot clean. Pile fabrics may require brushing to restore appearance. Cushion covers should not be removed and laundered.
- S** Clean only with dry cleaning solvent. Do not saturate. Do not use water. Pile fabrics may require brushing to restore appearance. Cushion covers should not be removed and dry cleaned.
- WS** Clean with mild detergent or shampoo, foam or dry cleaning solvent as desired. Do not saturate with liquid. Pile fabrics may require brushing to restore appearance. Cushion covers should not be removed and dry cleaned or laundered.
- X** Do not clean with either water or solvent-based cleaner. Use vacuuming or light brushing only.

Water based cleaning agents\* are often classified as upholstery shampoo. They are usually commercially available as foams, concentrates and dry components.

Cleaning can be either wet or dry, though some suggest a third category, damp.

Wet cleaning equipment using water is classified into two broad types:  
Rotary or hand-applied shampoo  
Water extraction (sometimes inaccurately referred to as a steam cleaning)

Two of the damp processes with water are:  
Dry foam  
Rotary mop (bonnet)

Dry systems use a granule or powder that incorporates a cleaning solvent or a non-water chemical solvent, which allows soil to be removed by subsequent vacuuming.

Pre-test your cleaning method on an inconspicuous area of the fabric to determine if color bleeds, shrinks the fabric texture or alters the character. If there is any doubt, seek the assistance of a professional cleaning service.

\* Examples include *Glamorene, Glory, Blue Lustre and Woolite*.



# Upholstery Cleaning Information ■

## Bamboo

Bamboo Hitex® is a natural product that offers all the advantages of a natural product including minimal variation from dyelot to dyelot. During usage, the refined bamboo fiber, with its naturally lively surface, develops its own unique patina. Over the years, it will tell its own story about your life with the furniture.

All the same, adherence to a few simple rules will help your furniture upholstered with Bamboo Hitex® keep its beautiful form for a long time. Wear marks on the fabric, caused through the application of heat, moisture and pressure, can be diminished through a simple procedure using a moist cloth and a soft brush. Apply a damp cloth to the affected area, allow the moisture to penetrate the fabric and then briefly and gently brush the fabric.

The cleaning procedure for everyday care is just as easy. Using your upholstery tool and the lowest setting on your vacuum cleaner, vacuum the fabric. In addition to this, wipe the fabric with a damp, lint free cloth every once in a while. It is that easy.

No one likes a big red wine stain – this is also true for Bamboo Hitex®. The hollow fibers of bamboo that relate so beautifully to the air and the climate are equally open when it comes to absorbing spilled drinks. We recommend using caution when serving refreshments near this fabric. Throwing your slipcovers in the washing machine is also NOT recommended. Natural fibers have a tendency to shrink during the wash.

A spill should be removed as quickly as possible using a clean, dry and absorbent cloth. If a larger area is affected, wipe from out to in, and do not rub the spill into the fabric, rather draw the moisture out.

Only in the case that the stain does not come out should you then attempt to remove it using lukewarm water and a fine washable detergent. Using a soft sponge, lightly rub the foam into the fabric, then use an absorbent cloth to dab the moisture out. This process may need to be repeated. Then, allow the furniture piece to dry completely. To combat stains that have already dried into the fabric, we recommend employing the usual upholstery cleaning methods. One should spray the cleaning product, let it absorb into the stain, and then brush or vacuum the soiled area. To clean larger areas of upholstered furniture, we recommend a neutral, fine washables detergent – no chlorine or acetone-based, acidic detergents.

In the case of greasy or oily stains such as shoe polish or lipstick, we recommend gentle dry cleaning.

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## Polyurethane

For common dirt and stains, use a soft cloth with mild soap or mild household detergent and water. Rinse the surface with clear water after cleaning. For stubborn stains, use a mild solvent such as Naphtha, 70% isopropyl/water solution, or 5:1 water/bleach solution. Rinse the surface with clear water after cleaning.

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## Crypton



For some specific healthcare concerns, such as C Difficile, a spore that requires bleach cleaning, the CDC (Center for Disease Control) instructions require a 10 percent bleach, 90 percent water mixture to effectively kill the growth. Any 100% polyester Crypton will safely withstand such cleaning, and there will not be any color loss after allowing the mixture to remain on the surface for the required 10-minute dwell time. Simply rinse the solution after cleaning using standard extraction equipment. Bleach cleaning, or bleach accidents will never affect the Crypton barrier, but some fibers that are cellulosic like rayon can encounter color loss quickly when they come into contact with bleach. <http://www.cryptoncare.com/bleachcleanable>.

# Upholstery Cleaning Information ■

## **Cubicles**

### Regular Maintenance

Machine wash with mild soap or detergent, on a synthetic setting with high water levels and mild agitation, temperature should not exceed 160°F. Do not use bleach or fabric softener. Wash with like materials. Extract gently.

Air, Cabinet, or tumble dry on a synthetic cycle at a low temperature. Do not exceed 140°F for more than 3-5 minutes.

Hang or fold immediately after drying.

If necessary, press as follows:

Hand Iron: Iron at low setting (275°F) with a damp press cloth or steam iron with a dry press cloth.

Grid Head Press: Press for short intervals and with minimum steam. Do not lock head.

Flat Bed Press: Press dampened drapery using a cloth covering.

Avoid prolonged contact with heat.

Healthcare facilities should follow safety protocols for biological hazards and/or anti-viral treatments during the cleaning process.

