

Upholstery cleaning and disinfection



INTRODUCTION:

Cleaning and disinfection have become a priority as a result of the pandemic caused by the COVID-19 virus, at the moment, they are the most effective weapons that we have at our disposal to prevent infection. In this document we collected some tips from our fabric suppliers (Camira, Gabriel, Crevin, Kuadrat and Alonso Mercader) to disinfect upholstered products.

Keep in mind that the virus is a parasite that needs a living being to survive and multiply. However, it is not known how long it lives on an inanimate surface, although it is certain that tissues are the most effective. It lives longer on hard surfaces such as metal or glass.

Another thing to keep in mind is to differentiate cleaning, sometimes just to generally remove dirt, other times to disinfect where we eliminate bacteria and viruses that can be harmful to health.

Finally, it should be noted that the main method of prevention against COVID-19 and other viruses is extreme personal hygiene by washing hands with soap and water or hydroalcoholic gels.

Before cleaning any fabric it is important to read the manufacturer's recommendations. Form 5 has at its disposal and at the disposal of our distributors the recommendations of our manufacturers. If you wish to consult them, contact us.



Cleaning with soap and water

Most stains can be removed with a soap and water solution. In addition, the soap eliminates a large number of germs, viruses and bacteria. It is recommended to use a neutral soap.

This cleaning and disinfection method can be used on all types of fabrics. It is recommended to vacuum the surface of the fabric beforehand to remove dust.



Cleaning with water and bleach

Lye is a powerful and effective disinfectant. Its main asset, sodium hypochlorite, has the ability to break down microbial proteins in micro-organisms, and by doing this, manages to kill viruses, bacteria and fungi. However, it is a product that can damage the color of fabric. It is recommended to use a solution of 8 parts of water to 2 of bleach (common bleach) and we apply it with a cloth to wash the fabrics. It is recommended to first test on a piece of coloured tissue to see if it damages the color. Our suppliers generally recommend this type of cleaning on polyester, polypropylene and vinyl fabrics. Do not use in wool fabrics.



Cleaning with water and alcohol or ethanol

Alcohol and ethanol are very effective against bacteria, fungi, and viruses. To clean with alcohol it is recommended to dilute with water in a proportion of 75% alcohol and 25% water. Again spray test on tissues. Can be used on polyester, polypropylene and vinyl fabrics.

Some manufacturers do not recommend continued use of this type of cleaning because it can damage the fabric fiber.

RECOMMENDATIONS



Vacuum upholstered pieces regularly with a soft brush attachment.



Try not to have sharp objects in your pockets or jackets (keys, sharp buttons, zippers, etc.) that might damage the fabric.



For leather fabric, we recommend using a neutral non-oily leather care product twice a year (do not use shoe polish).



Leather like any other natural material can fade when exposed to direct sunlight over a long period of time. Therefore to minimise fading, avoid placing your furniture in direct sunlight. Also, to maintain the surface properties of the leather, we recommend that you keep a minimum distance of 30 cm between your furniture and any source of heat.



Clothes fabrics like blue jeans can cause dye transfer. This means that clothes colours can be transferred to the chair fabric, particularly in the case of light-coloured fabrics or leather. Light colour fabrics are particularly susceptible to dirt.



Before cleaning any stain, always pre-test any recommended cleaning agent on a small, unremarkable area of the fabric to make sure there are no problems with colourfastness, shrinkage or spotting.



When you specify or buy a chair make sure you know the composition of the fabric that it's been upholstered in (wool, leather, polyester or any other kind of fabric). This is because there are specific instructions for different compositions.