

# **Cleaning and Maintenance of Castel Fabrics**

Castel recommends the following guidelines for fabric care.

## **General Maintenance**

Dust may affect fabric. We suggest vacuuming upholstered pieces often. The rotation of cushions will even the wear of the piece and extend the life of the fabric.

## **Cleaning**

Many of our fabrics have been tested to be washed. However, the washing tests are performed in Europe and the results may vary due to water coarseness, detergent and drying variables. We therefore recommend that dry cleaning be used to clean our fabrics.

## **Dry Cleaning**

Castel recommends dry cleaning all its fabrics. Dry cleaning should be done at regular intervals by a reputable, professional dry cleaner specializing in home furnishings. Always advise the dry cleaner of the fiber content of the fabric prior to any treatment.

## **Spot Cleaning**

Immediately blot the affected area lightly with a clean, dry cloth. We recommend consulting a professional home furnishings cleaning service, advising them of the type of stain and the fiber content of the fabric to be treated. Pre-test any cleaning agent on a small inconspicuous area to make sure there are no problems with colorfastness, shrinkage or spotting.

## **Applied finishes may help resist soil and stain**

Finishes help fabric resist spotting, but they are not necessarily the end-all to every problem. Light colors may benefit the most. A finish does not eliminate the need to properly care for a fabric. Spots should have immediate attention by a professional dry cleaner.

## **Fabric must be protected from the sun**

Draperies should be lined and interlined when fragile fabrics are used. To extend the life of your drapes, additional yardage for the turn back should be purchased at the time of the original purchase. Colors can fade by oxidation, "gas fading", if fabrics are kept in storage for too long without airing. Impurities in the air may also cause fading.

## **Fabrics wear-out**

The wear of a fabric will vary with the amount of use. It is important to choose the appropriate fabric for your application.

## **Martindale Test**

Our fabrics are tested using the Martindale rub test. This is a standard test used in Europe. This test is less abrasive than its American equivalent, the Wyzenbeek test. These tests produce results which give the breakage of yarns based on 'back and forth' movement.

## **Backing**

We suggest you consult your furniture manufacturer or your upholsterer to see if the fabric you intend to use will require any backing.

## **Multiple width draperies, wall coverings and bedspreads**

Although every effort is made to avoid "bias" when printing or weaving a fabric, a textile cannot always be perfect and some distortion may exist. If planning a multiple width application, please check BEFORE CUTTING if the pattern alignment is satisfactory.

## **Wall covering with fabric**

Check to make sure the fabric has been pre-shrunk before it is backed otherwise the fabric may have residual shrinkage. It is wise to order extra fabric for trial or error or future replacement.