

## Care of Furnishings Guide: Skopos

### Why is Aftercare so important?

Like most things, if your furnishing fabric is to look good and last for years it needs looking after. Following the advice in this care guide will help your product to retain its appearance for much longer and its life cycle will be extended.

### The Nature of Soiling / Incorrect Care

Neglect or inappropriate fabric care is the most common cause of premature breakdown of any furnishing fabric / product. Dirt, dust and grit can settle on the surface of upholstery for example. If not removed the dirt and grit will eventually penetrate the structure of the fabric and with further agitation ( as the user sits on the fabric ) the dirt and grit will act as a sandpaper breaking the fibres until eventually a hole could form in the upholstery. Any spills, if not removed quickly and left in situ, can form a sticky syrup with dust and grits which are attracted to the spill. Eventually this will form an unsightly hardened and dirty looking surface where the spill occurred. Fibres will become brittle and the fabric structure will become weakened. There are many other examples. It is important also to use the correct cleaning instructions for the fabric type and fibre composition. We are all aware of the dangers of shrinking a fabric by washing at the wrong temperature however part of this guide also lists recommendations for what to do and what not to do for the best care of your furnishings. For example, it is recommended NOT to use OBA ( Optical Brightening Agents ) during washing of coloured items. This is because OBA is designed specifically for white goods. It can mask the shade and significantly alter the colour of dyed or printed fabrics. The use of Pure soaps in washing or even the build up of a dust layer due to infrequent washing can interfere with the Flame Retardant properties of the fabrics by forming a flammable layer over the fabric surface. So please take the time to read this care guide and understand how you can best care for your furnishing.

### Which care Label applies to your Furnishing fabric?

The guide below splits fabrics into groups based on the type of fabric and / or the fabric composition. The Skopos and Jamasque Price guide provides an item by item listing of which set of care symbols applies to your fabric. If you are unsure after reading the information below and / or the price guide which set of care symbols applies to your furnishing then please contact the Skopos customer service desk for assistance. Please be certain, it is important that the correct care codes are used.

Note: For made up products – please refer to the care label attached to the product, see section Made up Product.

### Are there any Specific wash care instructions for sensitive fabrics?

In addition to the above washing instructions please read the following information, specific for sensitive fabrics, which may detail additional care instructions for your fabric:

### Is there any general advice or notes of caution I should consider to give my fabric / product the best chance of looking great for longer?

- **Do** use a detergent powder in the washing process.
- **Do not** use optical brightening agents (FBAs or OBAs). These do cause colour changes on coloured items.
- **Do not** use pure soaps or Hypochlorite bleach. These products can interfere with the flame retardant properties of the fabric / product.

- **Do** wash or dry clean your fabric / product on a regular basis, at least annually. This will prevent excessive soil build up which can affect the aesthetics / appearance but also grease, dirt and other soiling material can act as a flammable film on the surface.
- **Do** avoid use or exposure to strong oxidising agents.
- **Do not** overload machines. This increases the frictions and causes an abrasive effect between fabrics. This can result in premature wear and colour loss. Skopos recommend a maximum machine load of 65%.
- **Do not**, if possible, mix synthetic fibre wash loads with cotton or other natural fibre wash loads. This will lead to premature wear and / or colour loss for the same reasons as overloading machines.
- **Do not** use an abrasive pad, abrasive cloth or abrasive cleaning agent when sponge cleaning fabrics / treating stains as these items may cause significant damage to the fabric surface. Avoid any strong rubbing action in general when caring for fabrics.
- **Do** always test any cleaning agent by applying in a small inconspicuous area of the fabric / product to ensure that it has no detrimental effect on the fabric or colour.
- **Do** vacuum ( low suction ) fixed upholstery covers regularly to remove accumulated dirt and prevent abrasive damage and colour fading.

## Stain Removal

- For best results always act quickly to remove stains.
- Dab the chosen cleaning agent onto the stained area, working in toward the centre of the stain, and if possible working from the back of the fabric.
- Place a clean cloth or absorbent tissue behind the stain to soak up the residue.
- Never use an abrasive pad, abrasive cloth or abrasive cleaning agent.
- Avoid a strong rubbing action and always test the cleaning or stain removal agent in a small, inconspicuous area of the product before general use.

For more detailed information about stain removal, a separate stain removal guide is available upon request. Please contact Skopos customer service information desk to request a copy.

## Are there any instructions specific to my 'Made up' Product?

**Important:** For made up product, please refer to the **care label attached to the product** as this is specific to the particular combination of materials that make up your product.

Also, please consider the below, if you have purchased any of the following items from Skopos:

## Curtains

Before laundering always remove all curtain hooks and un-draw the heading tapes. Washing inside out will assist to reduce wear, maintain the original colour and ultimately increase the serviceable life of the product.

## Products that contain Stiffened Fabrics such as Roller Blinds and Tie Backs.

These products cannot be washed or dry-cleaned because this will damage the stiffeners used. For best results vacuum clean or clean using a dry-foam shampoo cleaner.







## Quilted Bedspreads

These items are very heavy and very bulky when wet so it may be necessary to have a lower machine loading. Due to their bulk and size a domestic machine will not be suitable. It is important to avoid line drying because the wadding / filling inner can fall to one end of the bedspread as a result of the strain applied by the weight of the water inside. A cool tumble dry is the best method for drying such large bedding items.












## Articles with Decorative Trimming and Tassels

Please do not machine or hand-wash these types of product. These items are not colourfast and so the colour will bleed if machine or hand washed. These items should be dry-cleaned only.

## Care Instructions

|   |   |
|---|---|
|    | 40°C wash with mild action. No bleach. Can be tumble-dried at low temperature. Warm iron. Can be dry-cleaned. |
|  | Dry clean-only. Cool iron.  |
|  | 40°C wash with mild action. No bleach. Can be tumble-dried at low temperature. Cool iron. Can be dry-cleaned. |
|  | Dry clean-only. Do not iron.  |
|  | 30°C wash with mild action. No bleach. Can be tumble-dried at low temperature. Cool iron. Can be dry-cleaned. |
|  | Sponge clean only. Do not iron.   |

## Guide to the Care Symbols

| Symbol  | Description             | Symbol   | Description  |
|---|-------------------------|--|--|
|    | 30°C wash, mild process |    | Do not Iron  |
|   | 40°C wash, mild process |   | Cool temperature tumble dry                                  |
|  | Do not wash             |  | Do not Tumble dry  |
|  | Do not Bleach           |  | Dry clean, perchlorethylene and other solvents with symbol F |
|  | Cool Iron, max 110°C    |  | Do not dry clean   |
|  | Warm Iron, max 150°C    |  |  |