

Velvet Fabrics – Easy Care Tips

Congratulations on selecting a beautiful Pindler velvet! It is important to understand and remember the unique and inherent characteristics of velvet that make it one of a kind. Velvet, by virtue of being three dimensional, has inherent characteristics that make it durable yet soft and comfortable. Marking or bruising of the velvet pile after sitting is normal. Please see the information below for how to best care for your velvet.

Workroom: Velvets require special handling and application during manufacturing. Be sure to select a Workroom that specializes in velvets and understands the nuances of velvet application.

Storing Velvet: Velvet should never be stored vertically, as the weight of the fabric may cause it to slip down the roll and press on the lower end of the bolt, potentially resulting in wrinkling. Some wrinkling may occur in transit. This is normal and not considered a defect.

Caring for Velvet:

Caring for your velvet is extremely important to the longevity of your furniture. The cleaning code recommended for velvets states that you should use a reputable dry cleaner that specializes in home furnishings.

Caring for Upholstered Furniture:

Think of velvet like a fine carpet that can be cared for by occasional vacuuming, which will ensure that soil and debris is removed from the fibers. Be sure to use a special upholstery nozzle (soft bristles) that does not have a ridge or sharp edges as these could damage the fabric. Also, brush your velvet furniture regularly using a soft brush (such as a clothes brush), going with the grain. If necessary, you can also wipe your furniture in the direction of the grain with a damp (water only) chamois (light pressure). Please test it first!

Pressure and Sitting Marks:

- In some cases, pressure, heat and moisture can cause pressure marks on velvet which may be light or heavy. This also depends on the type of padding used underneath the fabric. Sitting marks of this kind – also known as usage patina – cause changes to patches of the fabric. This is typical of the product type and not a sign of inferior quality. Some slight bruises or marks may never fully disappear. This should be considered an enhancement to any furniture. The natural antiquing of velvets in fact is desirable. Like fine leather upholstery, velvet too, looks better with age.
- Most wrinkles and fold marks will recover by themselves with time and moisture. Velvets will recover faster in humid conditions. In the winter, there is little to no humidity, therefore the natural recovery will take longer. To some degree, sitting marks are typical of all woven pile fabrics. The best way to reduce them is to clean the fabric regularly and occasionally brush the pile in every direction. Pressure marks can be fixed by lightly steaming and gentle brushing in the direction of the pile. This will help to lift the pile and lessen the existence of pressure marks. If pressure marks exist, consult your workroom to determine if steam can be applied to the velvet to accelerate the natural pile recovery process. Be sure to use a professional cleaning company familiar with steaming velvets.