

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT VISCOSE FABRICS

# PINDLER



*Viscose fabrics are not only known for their luxurious appearance, but also their soft hand and lustrous sheen. While viscose fabrics add a beautiful touch of sophistication to any room setting, they may not always be a fit for every lifestyle or application. Understanding the unique characteristics of viscose as well as the care and maintenance needed, ensures that the proper applications will have longevity and be enjoyed for many years.*

## DETAILS & CHARACTERISTICS

Viscose, also known as Rayon, has been a popular yarn used in both fashion and home furnishings since the early 1900s. Although viscose begins as a natural fiber, it is different from products like linen and cotton because it undergoes a manufacturing process. Viscose is made from cellulose, a natural raw material found in wood. During the manufacturing process the wood pulp is dissolved, extracted, and then spun into high-quality yarn. Because of this process, viscose is sometimes referred to as semi-synthetic and not a pure, natural fiber.

Viscose is known for its luxurious appearance, soft hand, and subtle luster. It can be engineered to resemble other natural fibers such as linen and silk. It was originally sold as an artificial silk due to its soft hand, sheen, and depth of color. Viscose yarn absorbs and holds dye well, especially when piece dyed, giving it the ability to reflect vibrant, bold colors. As a cellulose-based fiber, viscose does not retain heat as well and sometimes can be cool to the touch, similar to linen fabric. When viscose is blended with other natural or synthetic yarns its durability is improved. This is why you see many fabrics with viscose content added for a luxurious, soft hand. When viscose is woven in a velvet construction, its pile will wear with a beautiful antiquing, which should be considered an inherent characteristic of the fabric.

## CARE & CLEANING

Caring for your viscose fabric is extremely important for the longevity of your furniture or drapery applications. We only recommend that you use a professional, reputable dry cleaner that specializes in home furnishings. Dry cleaning causes almost no texture distortion, which is very important when discussing viscose fabrics. We do not recommend spot cleaning for fabrics with a high viscose content, as there is a chance they could watermark. Think of your viscose fabric the same as you do a suede shoe – you need to treat and groom the entirety of the surface to keep it consistent in texture, and allow it to dry evenly.