



CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

EXTEX fabrics are porous, not waterproof. The reason for this is two-fold. In order for the cloth to be practical, it was specifically designed to allow moisture to easily evaporate through. When sewing the cloth, the puncture holes created by the needle become channels through which water gets into the cushion. This water needs a means of escape to allow the cushion to dry out, hence the porosity of the fabric. In addition, it is this porosity that allows the fabric to be breathable, which makes sitting around on a hot and humid day all the more comfortable!

The components of EXTEX fabrics will not support mildew growth. However, mildew may grow on dirt and other foreign substances which have not been properly removed from the fabric. We recommend regular cleaning or vacuuming with a soft brush attachment to remove dust deposits and in the case of EXTEX chenilles, regular gentle brushing will help maintain the plushness of the pile.

EXTEX fabrics are treated with Teflon® fabric protector, a washable soil, stain and water repellent treatment. Teflon® forms an invisible molecular barrier around the individual fibres, guarding against oil- and water-based stains, dust and general soiling. Liquid spills or a light shower will not soak into the cloth; instead they will bead up on the surface and roll off, so all that is needed is a clean, dry cloth to absorb any residue. Dry soil can be brushed off easily.

The most important thing to remember with the care of EXTEX fabrics is that any heat and/or chemical treatments must be very carefully administered. The synthetic nature of the yarns dictates that any heat treatment be limited to a **MAXIMUM of 40°C**. The Teflon® coating also limits the type of cleansers which should be used, as any variety of harsh chemical will attack and break down the Teflon® barrier.

EXTEX fabrics can be hand or machine-washed in luke-warm water, using the delicate cycle. **40°C MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE**. Use natural or mild detergent. Do not pour the detergent directly on to the material. *Do not use bleach*. Spin and tumble-dry on a low temperature setting, or spin and hang to dry in a shady area. *Do not twist or wring*.

EXTEX fabrics can be professionally dry cleaned using perchloroethylene solvent, on a short cycle. Fixed upholstery can be cleaned with a proprietary upholstery shampoo; following the manufacturers instructions (always test the product on an inconspicuous part of the fabric first).

All Teflon® coatings partially deactivate during the cleaning process and will slightly degrade with each wash over time. The coating isn't removed, but the molecular barrier which creates the stain repellence is chemically disengaged. A gentle wash cycle and the use of non-chemical cleansers will lessen the extent of the deactivation, but it is impossible to wet-wash any Teflon®-coated fabric without causing this temporary neutralisation. To **reactivate** the stain-resist barrier, it is very important that the fabric is **gently** heated after each wash. A simple way to do this is to tumble-dry the EXTEX on a very low setting, or give it a light, cool ironing after it has dried. On fixed seating, the Teflon® can be reactivated by blowing the air from a hairdryer (on a cool-medium seating) gently and evenly over the fabric.

Over time, or after a very thorough cleaning, it may be necessary to reapply the stain-resist finish - various products are available.

For specific soiling, please contact us for detailed cleaning instructions...we'll do our best to help!

* As with all cleaning methods, spot test all cleaning products/solutions on a non-visible area of the cloth to ensure colour stability.

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