

# innerSPACE

## CARE & MAINTENANCE MANUAL



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# 1 FABRIC

The information in this section is provided in good faith. Innerspace accepts no responsibility for any claim arising from the treatments proposed. If in doubt, please contact the manufacturer or supplier of the relevant fabric used on your product.

With proper care and cleaning, wool upholstery fabrics will maintain their appearance for years. Synthetics tend to hold the dirt more and may require more frequent cleaning. The general rule is the longer it's been there, the harder it is to remove. Regular light vacuuming will quickly remove dust and fluff. More intensive cleaning will be required from time to time and should be done by professional cleaners. Dry cleaning is recommended.

Stains can be treated according to the type of stain. Speed is essential for best results. Detailed information on the removal of stains is available from the website of the Woolmark Company at [www.woolfurnishings.com](http://www.woolfurnishings.com).

The Commercial Textiles Association provides aftercare labels that are affixed to most upholstered fabrics and provide guidelines for the care, spot cleaning and cleaning of fabric for upholstered furniture. The following general guidelines are supplied by the CTA in their booklet, Standard Aftercare Labels for upholstered furniture. We do not endorse these as environmentally preferable maintenance solutions but do recommend you use professional cleaners experienced in cleaning textile products with environmentally friendly product.

## General method of cleaning upholstery

While routine care can minimise the need to clean upholstered furniture, and spot cleaning can restore locally soiled areas, at some time it will be necessary to clean the entire piece of furniture. The methods of cleaning non-removable covers include:

- SHAMPOO CLEANING
- HOT WATER EXTRACTION
- ON-SITE DRYCLEANING
- SOIL RESIST TREATED FABRICS

## Shampoo Cleaning

This method of cleaning is generally a hand process, which uses a foaming detergent solution to effect the cleaning. Despite its simplicity, shampoo cleaning requires considerable skill if it is to be successful. Shampoos may be purchased in aerosol cans, which provide a shampoo foam, and they are also available as a concentrated detergent, which is diluted with water.

In this case, the detergent solution is applied to the upholstery by means of a clean cloth or sponge. It is essential that only upholstery shampoos be used. Detergents formulated for other purposes (e.g. dishwashing) often produce sticky residues, which may lead to acceleration of soiling.

Of equal importance is the technique for applying the shampoo to the fabric. Excess water must be avoided, otherwise the interior of the furniture will become wet. This causes excess drying times, mildew and odours and may lift soil from the interior of the furniture to stain the surface of the fabric. Finally, scrubbing can produce a hairy surface.

## Hot Water Extraction

Hot water extraction is commonly referred to as 'steam cleaning' and is a machine process. The hot water extraction machine applies a hot detergent solution to the fabric and then extracts it before it penetrates the filling. This process does not apply steam to the fabric, as the common expression would apply.

Hot water extraction is possibly most familiar as a carpet cleaning process. In fact, many carpet cleaners have expanded their services to include upholstery cleaning.

Hot water extraction machines are also available for hire by consumers.

This relatively simple process has several potential dangers for the inexperienced user. Of chief concern is the risk of overwetting.

For this reason alone, consumers may be well advised to have this process performed by an experienced tradesperson.

## On-site Drycleaning

On-site drycleaning is a method of cleaning which is relatively new to Australia and New Zealand. Essentially, the process is similar to hot water extraction and uses very similar machinery.

The on-site drycleaning machine sprays a solvent onto the fabric and then extracts it by means of a vacuum extractor. The solvent is at room temperature and is not heated.

When it is sprayed onto the fabric, it flushes off any loose soil particles and dissolves oily soils.

The dirty solvent is directed into a waste container and may be reclaimed for cleaning and further use. The solvent is generally based on 1,1,1 trichloroethane and may contain special additives designed to enhance the cleaning performance. Any such solvent additives are generally proprietary secrets. Typically the solvents are non-flammable but are toxic.

The machine exhausts vapour to the outside of the building by means of a flexible hose. Unless this is done, the solvents' vapours could present a health hazard. For this reason, it is essential that the machine operator be properly trained and that they ensure that the solvent residues in the fabric are minimised.

On-site drycleaning must be done in a well ventilated room, and ventilation must be maintained until the furniture is dry from solvents. Because many stains are water soluble and not solvent-soluble, it is often necessary to pre-spot fabrics with special water-based cleaning agents.

This is similar to the general procedure used by drycleaners when dealing with clothing.

## Soil Resist Treated Fabrics

Many fabrics are treated by the textile manufacturer with special chemicals to impart a soil resistance quality to the fabric. These chemicals are also often available for the treatment of finished items of furniture.

Furniture may be treated by the furniture manufacturer, the retailer, or by independent applicators.

The presence of a soil resist treatment will generally require a modification of the care instructions to be applied to a fabric. The CTA (Commercial Textile Association) labels 3 and 4 cover fabrics treated with soil resistant finishes.

## 2 LEATHER

The information in this section is provided in good faith. Innerspace accepts no responsibility for any claim arising from the treatments proposed. If in doubt, please contact the manufacturer or supplier of the relevant leather used on your product.

With proper care and cleaning, leathers will maintain their appearance for years. It is also very important to consider the use of Aftercare Cleaning products, many of which are available from Innerspace.

### Finished Leather

- Keep away from direct sunlight, heating source & weather.
- Dust on a regular basis with clean, dry lint-free duster or cloth.

### Regular Cleaning

1. Gently remove all spills immediately with clean dry cloth.
2. Do not scrub or rub hard.
3. Do not use shoe polish, saddle soap or unidentified leather cleaners, pastes or abrasives or any other cleaning products other than proprietary leather cleaners.
4. Use proprietary leather cleaners only in strict accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
5. Regularly clean contact areas such as arms & head rests to avoid build up of perspiration & body oils.
6. Dust before cleaning, if vacuuming use soft attachment.
7. Use proprietary leather conditioner regularly in strict accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
8. Dry in shade away from heat.

### Spot Cleaning

1. Clean as above.
2. Professional cleaning may be required for persistent stains.

### Aniline or Nubuck Leather

- Keep away from direct sunlight, heating source & weather.
- Dust on a regular basis with clean, dry lint-free duster or cloth.

### Regular Cleaning

1. Gently remove all spills immediately with clean dry cloth.
2. Do not scrub or rub hard.
3. Do not use a damp cloth.
4. Do not use leather conditioners or creams on nubuck leather
5. Do not use shoe polish, saddle soap or unidentified leather cleaners, pastes or abrasives or any other cleaning products other than proprietary leather cleaners.
6. Use proprietary leather cleaners only in strict accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
7. Regularly clean contact areas such as arms & head rests to avoid build up of perspiration & body oils.
8. Dust before cleaning, if vacuuming use soft attachment.
9. Use proprietary leather conditioner regularly in strict accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
10. Dry in shade away from heat.

### Spot Cleaning

1. Clean as above.
2. Professional cleaning may be required for persistent stains.

A full range of Aftercare and Cleaning products for all types of leathers is available from Innerspace. Please contact us for more details and pricing.

### 3 VINYL

The information in this section is provided in good faith. Innerspace accepts no responsibility for any claim arising from the treatments proposed. If in doubt, please contact the manufacturer or supplier of the relevant vinyl used on your product.

With proper care and cleaning, the life of the vinyl upholstery can be greatly increased. Regular cleaning with soap and warm water is important to remove perspiration and oil to ensure the lifespan of the vinyl fabric. To remove difficult stains, wipe the affected area with an alcohol based solution (e.g., isopropyl alcohol). After cleaning affected area, rinse with warm water and dry with a soft clean cloth.

The Commercial Textiles Association provides aftercare labels that are affixed to most upholstered vinyls and provide guidelines for the care, spot cleaning and cleaning of vinyl for upholstered furniture. The information contained on CTA aftercare label 5 provides general information for most types of vinyl or polyurethane based upholstery.

We also recommend contacting the manufacturer of the specific upholstery for further information.

## 4 METAL

The information in this section is provided in good faith. Innerspace accepts no responsibility for any claim arising from the treatments proposed.

With proper care and cleaning, the metal finishes on your Innerspace products should keep their appearance.

### Polished Aluminium

1. For routine cleaning we recommend the use of Kenco 'Bright Shine' cotton wadding polish to remove tarnish and dirt build-up. Polish dry with a soft, lint-free cloth. This product is available from good automotive parts retailers.
2. A routine application of a soft wax paste such as NXT Generation Metal Polish can help prevent tarnish. In humid conditions or near salt water this should be applied once a month.

### Powdercoated Metal

1. For normal cleaning, wash surfaces with a soft lint-free cloth in mild detergent and luke warm water. Rinse thoroughly and gently dry with a clean lint-free cloth.
2. Scuff marks may be easily removed with an automotive soft waste wax such as NXT Generation Metal Polish while always paying attention to the manufacturers instructions.

### Chrome

1. For routine cleaning we recommend the use of Kenco 'Bright Shine' cotton wadding polish to remove tarnish and dirt build-up. Polish dry with a soft, lint-free cloth. This product is available from good automotive parts retailers.

### Stainless Steel

1. For routine cleaning we recommend the use of Kenco 'Bright Shine' cotton wadding polish to remove tarnish and dirt build-up. Polish dry with a soft, lint-free cloth. This product is available from good automotive parts retailers.

## 5 TIMBER / LAMINATE

The information in this section is provided in good faith. Innerspace accepts no responsibility for any claim arising from the treatments proposed. If in doubt, please contact the manufacturer or supplier of the relevant timber or laminate used on your product.

With proper care and cleaning, the timber or laminate surfaces on your Innerspace products should remain looking great for years to come.

### Timber

Regular dusting with a soft cloth or a light feather duster will avoid a build-up of grime, which will dull the surface finish.

Occasionally gently buff the surface in the direction of the wood grain with a soft lint-free cloth. A light application of a non-silicone polish such as Mirotone Spray Glow is recommended from time to time.

All spillages should be removed immediately. Water or any moisture should never be allowed to remain on a timber veneer surface as it may cause the veneer to lift.

Do not place tables in a position of exposure to direct sunlight, near radiators, air conditioning vents, humidifiers or a fireplace.

Under no circumstance should an abrasive cleaner be used.

To protect the natural timber finish use coasters under cold, hot or damp objects.

Avoid direct alcohol or beverage contact with the surface. Glasses or bottles left directly on the table may cause permanent damage to the timber surface.

Placemats or anything left permanently on the surface will leave a darker shadow, as both natural and artificial lighting can tend to lighten exposed timber surfaces over a period of time.

To prevent scratching to the timber surface avoid placing objects with hard or sharp edges/corners.

### Laminate/Melamine

For general cleaning wash the laminate with a soft, lint-free cloth in a mixture of warm water and diluted mild detergent. For heavier removal of food oils or finger marks use a mixture of warm water and diluted mild detergent with a soft bristle brush using a light circular motion. Rinse thoroughly and dry by gently buffing with a soft lint-free cloth in a light, circular motion.

When cleaning surfaces with water care should be taken to not allow the water to pool on a laminate or timber edge as this may degrade the bond and cause swelling.

Under no circumstances should steel wool, hot water, solvent or an abrasive cleaner be used. Use of polishes or sealers is not recommended, as these will over a period of time cause a buildup of residue.



## 6 PLASTIC / POLYPROPYLENE

The information in this section is provided in good faith. Innerspace accepts no responsibility for any claim arising from the treatments proposed.

With proper care and cleaning, the plastic finishes on your Innerspace products should remain looking great for many years.

1. For general cleaning wash the plastic with a soft, lint-free cloth in a mixture of warm water and diluted mild detergent.
2. The use of a protector such as Armorall is highly recommended on components such as chair bases, outer backs and seat shells. Always follow manufacturer's recommendations and if unsure, test a small area first.

## 7 GLASS / MARBLE

The information in this section is provided in good faith. Innerspace accepts no responsibility for any claim arising from the treatments proposed. If in doubt, please contact the manufacturer or supplier of the relevant glass or marble used on your product.

With proper care and cleaning, the glass or marble surfaces on your Innerspace products should remain looking great for years to come.

### Glass

Dust regularly with a soft, lint-free cloth or a light feather duster.

Clean with a recognised glass cleaner (such as Windex) taking care to always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Frosted, sandblasted or glass with a film are susceptible to finger grease residue when touched. Extra cleaning may be required on these surfaces to remove traces of grease or oil from the porous surface. If the glass is inlaid into the surface, take care not to damage any surrounding timber or metal surfaces.

### Marble

Wash regularly with clear, lukewarm water. Buff dry with soft, lint-free cloth.



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