



Caring for your furniture

Now that you have invested in quality furniture, we have provided some helpful hints and tips on how to care for it, and this should be read in conjunction with any care information attached to your product. Good quality furniture will last for years, and a small amount of care will extend your furniture's life considerably. We also offer the Lee Longlands Total Care 5 year protection scheme that will help to protect your furniture.



Fabric Upholstery Care



The general cleaning of upholstery covers, whether loose or fitted, is best left to a specialist upholstery cleaner, and we recommend that you have your upholstery cleaned on a regular basis.

Try cleaning your upholstery at least once a week with a soft brush or by gently vacuuming to remove day to day dust and dirt. Do not use a vacuum cleaner on feather or down filled cushions as this could damage the fillings.

Loose covers – Where it specifically states that loose covers are machine washable, do not use detergents which contain bleaching agents or optical brighteners, as these will fade the fabric. Dry flat, out of direct sunlight, and do not tumble dry. Iron on a low heat whilst still damp. Please read the manufacturer's care instructions carefully, and if you need further advice, please telephone our customer service department.



It is also a good idea to use arm caps, which will protect the area where the heaviest wear occurs. (If you are not offered this option at the point of sale, please do not hesitate to contact your salesperson on the telephone number provided).

- We do not recommend any wet cleaning with soaps or detergents, as this may cause colours to bleed, staining or damage to the interior of the furniture.
- Any major spillage can be blotted, using direct pressure, with a clean tissue, kitchen paper or a clean, damp cloth to absorb the excess liquid. Do not rub the affected area as this may cause the fabric colour to lift, and seek expert advice as quickly as possible, to remove the remainder of the stain.
- We recommend wherever possible, that you take out our Lee Longlands Total Care 5 year fabric protection scheme, which will protect against everyday spills on your upholstery, and provide you with expert advice and help should you need it.

PILLING

This a term used when loose fibres work themselves out of a thread. These fibres form a fine web on the fabric's surface and will interweave or bobble. This can occur in dralon, cotton or flatweave fabric. All upholstery can develop some pilling during its lifespan and when it occurs, you can remove the pilling with an electronic de-fuzzer, which does not affect the fabric's durability.

SUNLIGHT

Sunlight fades the colour of fabric and leather, so keep upholstery out of strong sunlight. Fading can happen in a matter of hours, and prolonged exposure to strong sunlight can rot some fabrics.

HEAT

Avoid placing upholstery against or very near a radiator or source of heat, as this can cause the fibres to dry out and eventually rot the fabric.

PILE FABRICS

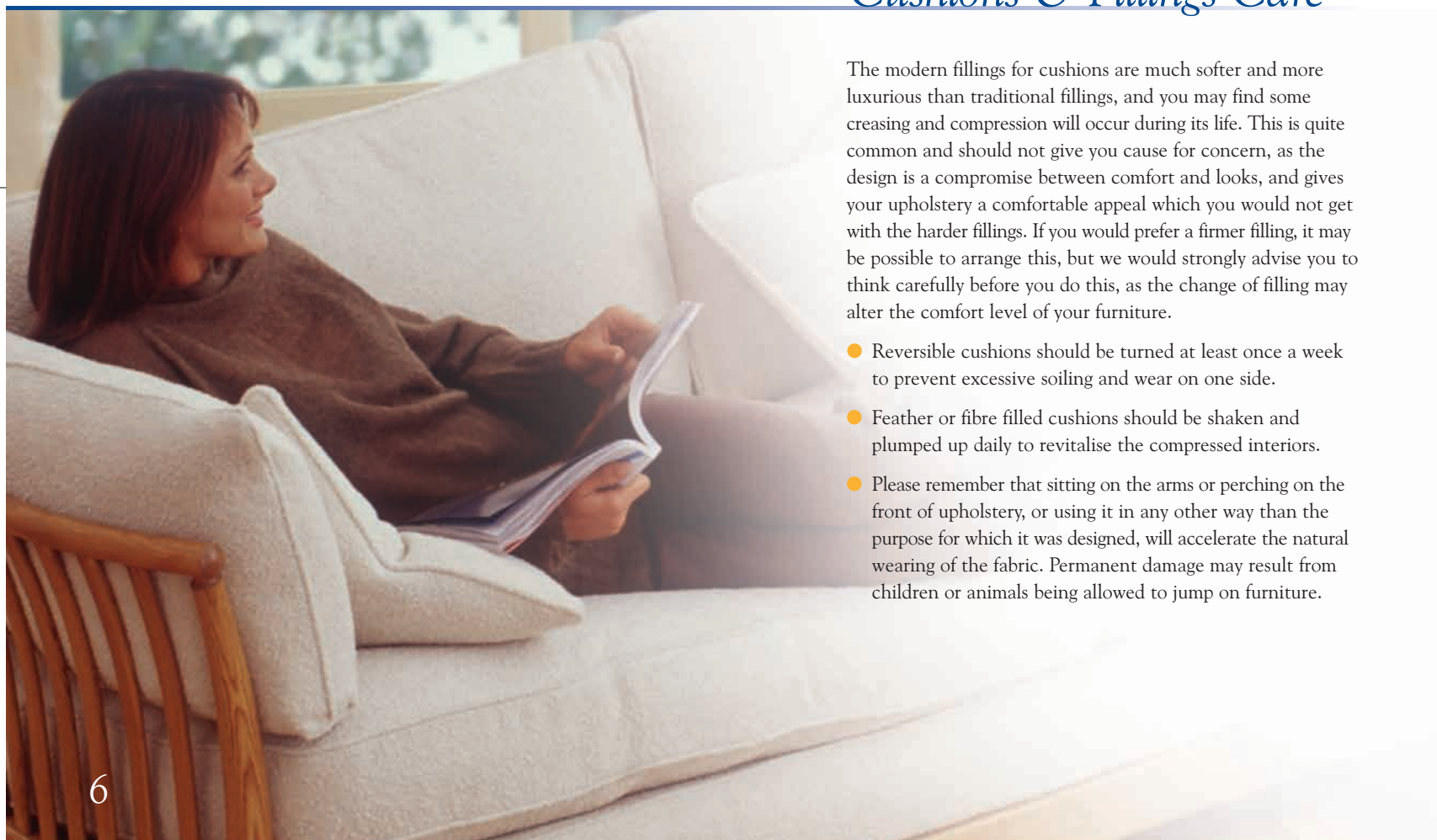
Pile fabrics such as chenilles and dralon velvets are subject to pile pressure, and the amount of light on the suite may highlight this occurrence. This does not detract from its wearing properties, and it is advisable to regularly turn the seat cushions to ease this extra creasing of the pile.

SHARP OBJECTS

Sharp objects and pets claws can snag your fabric, and if these do appear, do not pull or cut the loose thread. Use a pin or needle to push the loose thread back through to the underside of the fabric so it is not exposed to further pulling.

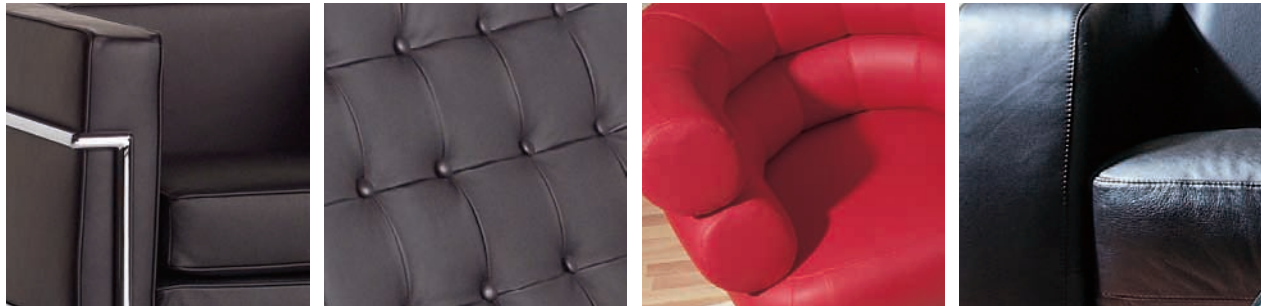


Cushions & Fillings Care



The modern fillings for cushions are much softer and more luxurious than traditional fillings, and you may find some creasing and compression will occur during its life. This is quite common and should not give you cause for concern, as the design is a compromise between comfort and looks, and gives your upholstery a comfortable appeal which you would not get with the harder fillings. If you would prefer a firmer filling, it may be possible to arrange this, but we would strongly advise you to think carefully before you do this, as the change of filling may alter the comfort level of your furniture.

- Reversible cushions should be turned at least once a week to prevent excessive soiling and wear on one side.
- Feather or fibre filled cushions should be shaken and plumped up daily to revitalise the compressed interiors.
- Please remember that sitting on the arms or perching on the front of upholstery, or using it in any other way than the purpose for which it was designed, will accelerate the natural wearing of the fabric. Permanent damage may result from children or animals being allowed to jump on furniture.



Leather Care

Leather is a natural product with its own unique characteristics - style, comfort and durability. It will have been subjected to many environments and will always bear natural scars and marks which show it is the real thing, and should not give any cause for concern. You may find the following markings – healed scars, wrinkling, stretch marks and veining, which are an integral part of the leather, and should not be viewed as faults. Although every effort is made to achieve uniformity, no two hides are the same, and it can take at least three hides to make a sofa, so you may see variations in shade and texture of the grain. This is to be expected, and are all part of the natural beauty and quality of leather.



With proper care and attention, your new leather upholstery will retain its natural beauty for years to come.

- Careful vacuuming with a soft brush will keep the pores free of dust and grime particles. An occasional wipe over with a slightly damp, clean cloth is also beneficial. Do not use detergent, spirit cleaners or furniture polish on your leather furniture.
- Please do not attempt to remove any marks or stains by rubbing the leather, as this can remove the surface colour – always consult a leather cleaning specialist. We offer a comprehensive 5 year leather protection scheme as well as leather care kits to protect your leather furniture.
- Do protect your leather furniture from strong sunlight and excessive heat, such as radiators.
- Your leather upholstery will also mark and scratch over time and use, and may stretch or crease, but this does not affect its durability.



Wood Furniture Care

The appeal of wooden furniture is that every piece is unique and cannot be replicated, as no two pieces of solid wood or veneer are the same. The item on display in our showroom is only a representation of the item you will receive, and there is no guarantee that the grain will match the one on display, as every cut of timber is unique. If you do order pieces of the same furniture range at different times, you may also find that colours may vary slightly, and again, this is due to the unique qualities of wood.

The colour, feel and overall appearance of a solid wood product gives the most “traditional” feel to cabinet furniture, and as a totally natural product will show knots, grain and colour variation, and even if kiln dried, will have a tendency to move with temperature and humidity changes. Real wood veneers are thin layers of wood with a fine or decorative finish, which can be applied to timber or man made board, and again, because the veneer is wood, there can be some movement when subjected to heat, cold, or damp atmospheres, but less movement than solid wood.

- Never place warm plates, cups or dishes directly onto a table or cabinet – they will leave marks. Always use good quality place mats and coasters.
- Wipe up spills immediately, and avoid putting wet glasses or vases directly onto a polished surface.
- Lifting is the most appropriate method of moving furniture, as pushing or pulling tables or cabinets will weaken the leg joints.
- Do not tilt dining chairs on their back legs when sitting on them.

Avoid strong sunlight and excessive heat. If parts of the furniture are in direct sunlight, move them occasionally to even the exposure, and for this reason, table leaves should be left in place if possible. All timber finishes can alter slightly when exposed to light, some such as pine, light oak, beech and maple, tend to darken over time, and others such as cherry and mahogany may lighten. This is a natural process, not a fault.

Finishes used on solid and veneered wood vary from simple waxes and oiled finishes, to lacquers capable of withstanding different levels of use. Please ask for the appropriate care instructions for the furniture you have selected, as the maintenance necessary for each type of finish varies.

We also offer a Lee Longlands 5 year Total Care for cabinet furniture, and your salesperson will be pleased to discuss the details with you.



Marble & Travertine Care Carpet Care

Marble and travertine are a natural porous stone, and to provide an even surface, any natural cavities are filled with a combination of hand placed stones and resin. This will occasionally leave a noticeable transition in colour, which can be mistaken for a crack, but does not affect the stability of the table in any way. Some marble tops are treated with a protective lacquer, which avoids spills penetrating the surface, whilst some marble is left in its natural porous state – a clear wax is available to protect the surface, and please discuss this with your sales person, so that you know which type of finish you have purchased.

Marble and travertine are not heat resistant, and we recommend that place mats and coasters are used at all times.

Avoid spillages such as red wine, coffee, tea, orange juice, as these may stain the marble or travertine and require removing with a clean damp cloth as quickly as possible.

Carpets add warmth, style and colour to every room of your home, and by looking after your carpet, you will prolong its wear and appearance. Regular vacuuming of your carpet is essential to remove any dirt and grit, which can collect at the base of the tufts and act as an abrasive, contributing to premature wear. Concentrate on the areas that are subject to most wear, in corridors, in front of chairs and on stairs.

- All newly fitted carpets will tend to shed or fluff, but this is quite normal and will diminish naturally in a few weeks. The only efficient way to deal with this is by vacuuming to remove the fluff, which would otherwise be trodden back into the carpet.
- Where carpet is fitted up to external doors, the use of a rug or mat is recommended to catch any dirt or grit.
- The use of castor cups under heavy furniture will minimise dents in the carpet's surface.
- Take prompt remedial action to clean any area affected by spillage before it dries in and always seek professional advice in the event of heavy soiling. A simple coffee or wine spill can result in a permanent stain, which will affect the overall appearance of your room. We offer Lee Longlands 5 year Total Care for carpets, which gives comprehensive protection against normal household spills.



Caring for your new bed

To ensure greater comfort for you, and a longer life for your new bed, please follow these simple care instructions, together with the manufacturers specialised instructions. We recommend the use of a mattress protector to minimise the effects of soiling or spillage and to provide additional insulation. Please ask your sales person to recommend the most suitable protector for your bed.

Pocket sprung beds – the mattress may well appear to be shorter than the divan base when delivered. This is perfectly normal and due to the springs, which are not constrained by rods, wire clips or glue, contracting during transit. Once in use, however, the mattress will gradually return to its correct size.

- During the first three months, always turn your mattress, alternating side to side and end to end once a week. This allows the fillings in the mattress to settle evenly across the length and width of the mattress. Turn once a month thereafter. Latex and one sided mattresses do not require turning.
- Do not sit on the edge of your mattress for long periods of time as this can cause distortion or damage to the springs and filling.
- Regularly brush your mattress or gently vacuum to remove dust and dust mites.
- Treat stains and spills straight away, using a dry cloth to soak up any excess liquid, and sponge gently with a clean, damp cloth. Allow the mattress to air gently away from direct heat.
- We offer a Lee Longlands Total Care 5 year Mattress Protector Scheme for your bed, (the protection is extended to the mattress and headboards purchased at the same time).

