



FURNITURE PLUS

HOW TO DEEP CLEAN YOUR UPHOLSTERY TEXTILES

Work Time: 2 to 3 hours, depending on size and condition of upholstery

Total Time: 2 to 8 hours, including drying time

Skill Level: Intermediate

After checking your furniture clean code, you may decide to deep clean your own furniture. Here is the process recommended by professional upholstery technicians. Once you get the hang of it, you may add this project to your spring cleaning lineup.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Recommended solution found on the Clean Code of your furniture label
- Plastic sheet or tarp to protect the floor from solution overspray
- Vacuum or nylon brush for dust removal
- Dough scraper or plastic card to remove encrusted debris
- Cleaning brush to apply solution
- Plenty of absorbent white cotton towels to blot moisture
- Sponge or microfiber cloth for rinsing (only recommended if fabric accepts water solutions)
- Cleaning solvent (the type recommended by your Clean Code)
- Optional anti-browning solution to prevent yellowing and reduce bleeding
- Upholstery Brush if needed to restore the pile of textured fabric

PRE-INSPECT

- Carefully inspect the furniture before you start oil stains, scuff marks, and worn areas.
- Open the cushions to check for lining, fill, or fibres that might bleed.
- Do not remove zippered cushion covers unless you purchased a slipcovered piece. Upholstery covers may lose lining and structure if removed or laundered at home.
- For marker or grease stains, place an absorbent pad underneath the fabric before cleaning.

TEST

Always test a recommended cleaning solution on an inconspicuous area of fabric. Allow the test area to dry before proceeding.



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PREP

- Move furniture away from the walls. You'll have room to move, and air circulation to help your furniture dry faster.
- Place furniture on a plastic sheet to protect your floor.
- Remove the cushions so you have access to the furniture platform.
- Use felt Furniture Pads to protect the floor and help you move the furniture.

VACUUM

- Using a vacuum or brush, remove accumulated dust and debris from the surface, crevices, seams, and trim.
- Using a dough scraper or plastic card, scrape off any encrusted debris.

CLEAN WITH SOLVENT

- Clean and dry hard surfaces first.
- Clean fabric in one direction only, using as many strokes as required for good results. Do not soak upholstery with your cleaning solution.
- Use vertical strokes to clean upholstery skirts. Any pleats will set as they dry.
- Use a dry white towel to absorb excess moisture behind buttons and around trim.
- Cleaning tools may leave a pattern in textured fabrics like microfiber or velvet. Use a clean upholstery brush to groom the pile while the upholstery is damp.

RINSE

If your upholstery can be cleaned with a water-based cleaning solution, use a sponge or microfiber cloth dipped in clean water to rinse. Dab with clean, white towels to absorb excess moisture.

This step is important, because residual cleaning solvents attract dust.

PROTECT

- Pro deep cleaners always apply an anti-browning solution that prevents yellowing, limits bleeding, and restores the "hand" or professional feel of the fabric.
- Apply per the manufacturer's instructions.
- Some upholstery fabrics tolerate stain repellent sprays, which you may lightly apply after cleaning.



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DRY

- Allow your furniture to dry completely before use. An air conditioner or oscillating fans can speed up the process.
- Use a plastic sheet or absorbent pads under furniture legs to prevent wood stain or rust transfer as the furniture dries.
- Tip cushions into an inverted V on the floor to support them as they air dry. Do not dry cushions on top of your wet furniture.

REPOSITION YOUR FURNITURE

Once your furniture is dry, remove protective pads and the plastic sheet.

Attach felt pads to the bottom of your furniture legs. The pads protect the floor and help heavy pieces glide into place.

*Sources:

Upholstery Cleaning, Care and Protection the Bane-Clene® Way, baneclean.com, 2022

Product Care and Cleaning, ashleyfurniture.com, 2022

Upholstery Cleaning Resources, thespruce.com, 2022