

VFI VFT CARF INSTRUCTIONS

CHARACTERISTICS OF VELVET AND HOW TO CARE FOR VELVET

Packing methods for our velvet items have been developed to ensure our velvet products are successfully transported globally, arriving at their destination in perfect condition and ready for use.

After unpacking you may see slight pressure marks in velvet. These quickly disappear once unwrapped and once the fabric has settled. All velvets are recommended to be dry-cleaned only in order to maintain the best appearance of the pile.

Velvet is a delicate fabric; the pile can easily be disturbed but with careful handling and a proper understanding of its nature, velvet based products can be enjoyed for many years.

If the pile does becomes crushed by a constant pressure or use, the angle of the pile will alter, which may result in areas of the pile appearing lighter or darker in shade. This is often described as 'pressure marking', which can easily be mistaken for uneven dyeing.

Newly made velvet products usually need time to condition in their environment after unpacking. During this time the pile will relax and lift, improving the richness and lustre of the velvet.

If any pressure marking continues to persist, a light steaming or gentle brushing in the direction of the pile will also be beneficial.

Pile direction

Pile up (if you brush your hand upwards and the pile feels smooth, but if you brush your hand down, it feels harsher and the pile is disturbed) gives the colour a richer and deeper appearance and any pile disturbance will disappear more quickly as the pile relaxes and blooms.

Pile down (the opposite to above) allows more light to be reflected from the velvet, so the shade will stay lighter and the pile will stay quite flat, with more of a sheen, and any pile disturbance will show more readily and take longer to fall out.

HOW TO CARE FOR VELVETS

General Care

To get the most out of your velvet upholstery or accessories, we recommend incorporating it into your cleaning routine. We suggest gently vacuuming with a brush upholstery attachment or using a soft hand brush once a week. This will remove any dust or lint that has formed on the surface of the fabric and prevent displacement of the pile over time. If you don't have an attachment, place a pair of tights over the nozzle – this will work just as well. When vacuuming or brushing, make sure you are doing so in the direction of the pile.

Spillages

If you do spill something on your velvet upholstery or cushion, DO NOT attempt to clean it with water or rub it with a cloth. Liquids can stain velvet easily and rubbing may force the spill deeper into the fibres. Simply blot the surface with a dry, highly absorbent cloth, taking care to avoid rubbing or putting pressure on the fabric.

Once you've blotted the surface, simply air dry the fabric or use a hairdryer without heat at a safe distance to lightly dry the area.

If your spill is more severe, we recommend taking the fabric to a dry cleaner or upholstery specialist. Research a dry cleaner with expert knowledge of upholstery to ensure it is returned in its best condition.

Maintaining Sheen

Over time, a velvet's pile is likely to move and experience wear due to its delicate weave. If possible, you can try using a steamer on the reverse side to fluff up the fibres. Then gently brush in the direction of the pile.