

FEST - maintenance and advice

How to maintain your rugs

Woolen rugs

Don't worry, it's quite normal for new woolen rugs to shed a lot of 'fluff' and fibres in the beginning. It does not affect the appearance or quality of the rug. After a few weeks of regular vacuuming, the shedding will stop on its own.

By turning your rug every now and then, all corners will discolour/wear evenly.

Wool is a natural product, so if the humidity is below 50%, we recommend that you lightly spray the rug with water every 3 months. This way the wool stays in good condition and your rug stays beautiful for a longer period of time.

Got a stain? Act as soon as possible. If the stain is still wet, you can place a few sheets of kitchen roll on it. Then use lukewarm water and a clean, colourless cloth or sponge. Dampen the stain and blot it. Repeat that process until your rug is clean again. Note: do not rub. If you do this, you might rub the stain into the wool and damage the rug's fibres. Also, be careful not to get the rug too wet; woven rugs can then shrink or lose their shape and the threads can come loose on short and long pile rugs.

It is best to carefully scrape dry stains from woven and short-pile rugs. Start at the edge of the stain and work your way towards the centre of the stain. Then vacuum up the remaining dirt.

Kvadrats woolen fabrics

The majority of the Kvadrat upholstery FEST has in the collection is made of (a high percentage of) sheep's wool. Wool is extremely versatile and has a lot of advantages:

1. Naturally dirt resistant > *Due to the greasy layer that wool naturally has, woolen fabrics are resistant to dirt. Compare it to a sheep that can stand in the rain for hours without getting soaked. Because of that greasy layer, raindrops stay on top of her fur instead of penetrating straight through it.*
2. Durable and biodegradable
3. Naturally fire resistant
4. Wear-resistant
5. Comfortable
6. Flexible > *Doesn't crease*
7. Less pleating > *Thanks to the 'curl' in the fibre wool has the ability to 'spring back' into its old pattern. Compare it to a curl in someone's hair: when the hair is wet or when you pull it, the hair becomes long and smooth. But if the hair dries up or you let go of it, the hair will always return to its original shape: curly. The same goes for the fibres in a woolen fabric. Because they jump back to their old state, wool can also be upholstered more tightly. Note: the thicker your wool fabric is, the easier it can return to its old pattern.*

How to keep wool pretty - weekly maintenance

The following applies to every fabric: if you want to keep it looking as good as possible, for as long as possible, you will have to clean it regularly. Dust and dirt cause textiles to wear faster and – in the case of wool – also reduce its fire-retardant properties. We therefore recommend vacuuming the fabric weekly at half power with a soft, velvet brush head. Preferably vacuum with (and not against) the grain of the fabric.

By vacuuming, you keep a lot of dirt (such as dust, skin oils, etc) out, so that new stains have less chance to adhere. Wool naturally repels dirt, but if there is a hefty amount of dust and other dirt on the fabric, the wool under the dirt will no longer be able to do its job completely. In other words: vacuuming is key.

How to keep wool pretty - every so often

The biggest 'enemies' of furniture fabric? Skin oils.. Whether it's from people or animals (or both), the oils we secrete create a grey veil on the fabric. On light-coloured furniture you can recognise them as grey spots and on dark-coloured furniture as lighter spots. This is particularly visible on armrests and headrests.

Cleaning your furniture fabric yourself is very easy with [James Water](#) and a white terry towel. Spray some James Water on the dry towel and rub it over the fabric with slow, long strokes. Is there dirt on the towel? Then you can keep going. If you do this regularly from the time of purchase, the fabric will stay beautiful much longer.

How to treat stains in wool

Acting quickly is key!

Is your furniture:

- Registered at Protexx?
- Containing a food or drink stain(s) caused by secretions and excretions of humans or other mammals?
- Still under a 5 year warranty?

Please contact Protexx within 48 hours!

INot registered at Protexx or has the 5 year warranty already expired?

1. First, scrape off any liquids or solidified residues with a spoon and vacuum up any loose particles.
2. Blot liquids or damp stains with an absorbent napkin or cloth.
3. Now wet a colourless, clean terry towel with cold tap water, wring out the towel and place it on the fresh stain. Leave the towel until it is completely dry. And as tempting as it is, don't look under it in the meantime. Never dab or rub the stain with the towel as this can damage and discolour the fabric. Also, never use soap! This quickly becomes greasy and sticky, acting as a magnet for dirt. In addition, you can get a lot of circles through it.

>> If the fabric was already somewhat greasy or dirty before the new stain appeared, the dirt can spread more quickly. That is why we always recommend vacuuming your furniture weekly and cleaning it regularly with James Water. If you haven't done this, it is best to clean the fabric from seam to seam when a new stain occurs. This way, you prevent lime stains around the stain. Another tip to prevent lime stains is to boil the water first, let it cool and then get to work.

4. Are stains still visible after the towel stain treatment? Follow the instructions on the James Staindisc or the James website (<https://www.james.eu/en/products/james-stainwonder>). Here you can find about 1400 different stain solutions using the search engine. A handy site to bookmark anyway!

Wool and Protexx

Due to the greasy layer in the wool fiber, it makes no sense to spray Protexx over woolen upholstery; the Protexx will stay on top of the fabric and won't get into the fibre, because, as we explained before, the greasy layer of the wool naturally keeps dirt out.

It is possible (and sensible) to purchase the Protexx service / warranty of 5 years. You pay €50 per seat for a sofa, €25 per seat for a chair. Your furniture is insured for the first 5 years against food/drink stains and stains caused by secretions and excretions from humans and other mammals. It is necessary to call within 48 hours and know exactly what kind of stain it is. If needed, your furniture will be professionally cleaned at home by Protexx. If the stain is impossible to get out of the fabric, Protexx even offers to reupholster your furniture.

What you should never do with woolen fabrics

- Rub hard. The dirt will then settle further into the fabric, the fabric can be damaged and there is a chance that the fabric will become discoloured by brushing.
- Be careful with solvents; these can dissolve the underlying coating materials.
- Never use concentrated detergents, bleach, ammonia or soap intended for hard surfaces.