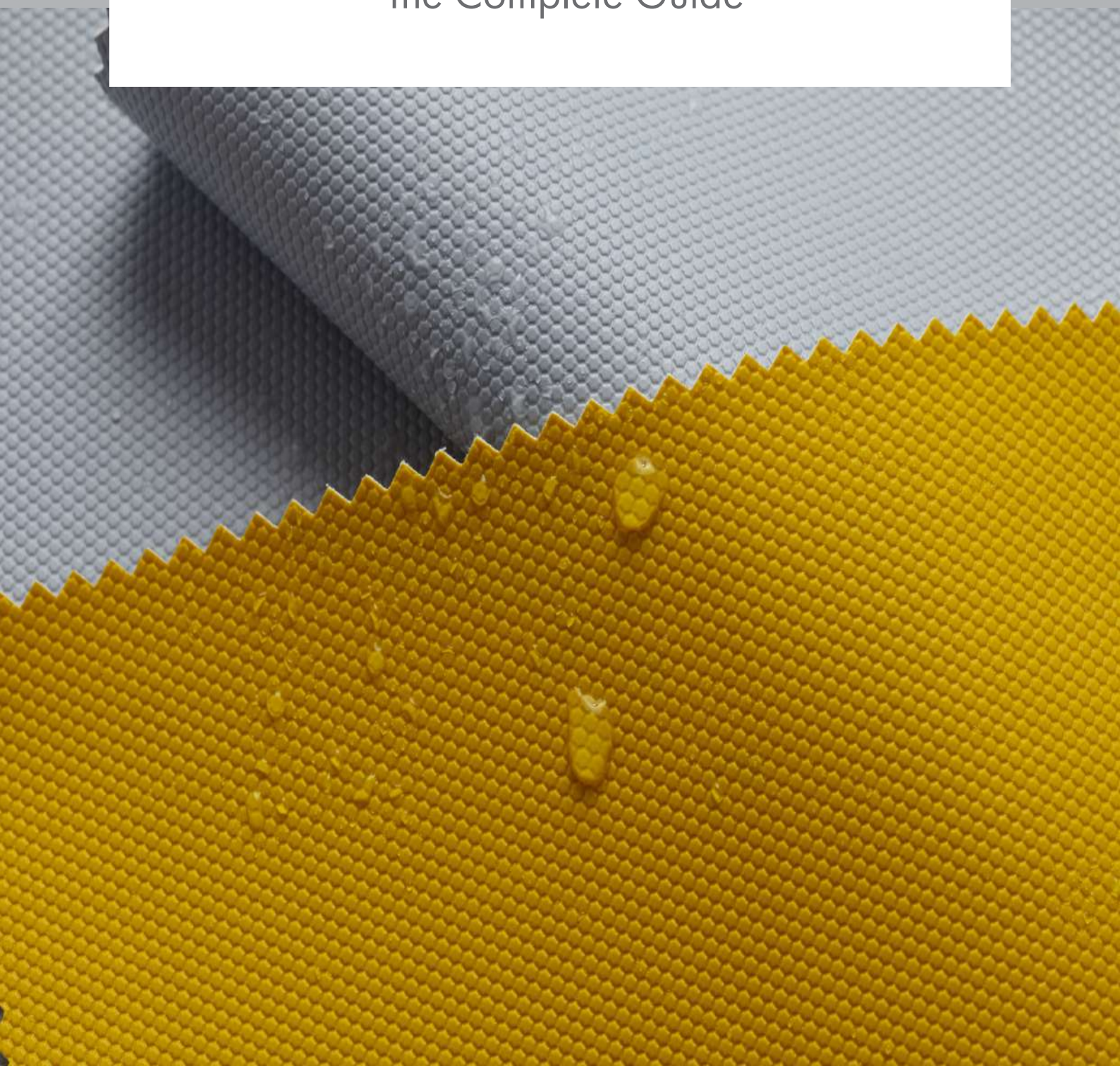




chieftainfabrics

# Caring for Coated Fabric

The Complete Guide



## Sewing

- The key element when it comes to upholstering with coated fabrics is to ensure that you are using the appropriate needle and thread.
- It is not recommended that needles and threads used for sewing natural leather are used. These can damage artificial leather and may tear the fabric. Threads for artificial leather should be similar to those used for woven fabrics.
- Chieftain Fabrics vinyl has been tested according to test method ISO 13936-2:2004 using 80D tex polyester cone thread and classified for Severe Contract (SC) market upholstery use applications.



## Upholstery Recommendations

- Always use a good quality high density foam which provides good support.
- Backing cloth used in coated materials such as PVC and PU has a diverse structure and can be either knitted or woven with different elongation parameters on the warp and weft.
- Fabric direction during upholstering is important especially if it has a knitted backing cloth. Knits have more stretch in one direction than the other. The application direction is best determined by the upholsterer.
- It is possible to apply heat to vinyl to form it into the shape required.
- Tension during upholstery is important. The fabric must be appropriately sized. Tension that is too tight can cause torque, bulking and puddling, whereas tension that is too loose can result in wrinkles and sagging.





# Cleaning

**REMEMBER:** Clean upholstered surfaces regularly (at least once a week) with a pH neutral soap and a soft sponge/brush. Always rinse with clear water. Do not use strong detergents, solvent-based cleaners, polish, wax or cleaners meant for natural leather. Never allow artificial leather to be soaked with water, always dry it with a dry cloth.



**IMPORTANT!** Persistent stains such as coffee, wine, all types of oil, wine, ketchup, chocolate, mustard, ballpoint pen, felt-tip pen, permanent marker, shoe polish and grease must be cleaned immediately to avoid permanent absorption into the vinyl.

**N.B.** If antibacterial wipes or sprays are being used as part of an intensive cleaning regimen, it is extremely important that the fabric is cleaned weekly with warm water and soap to remove all residue.

There are a number of different recommended cleaning methods depending on how persistent the stain is.

**Method 1** - Light stains on upholstered surfaces, for example: ketchup, mustard, chocolate, blood, etc.

Clean with a sponge or a soft cloth soaked in warm water or a solution of water with mild detergent (e.g., dishwashing liquid).

Rinse repeatedly with a clean, wet cloth and then dry with a dry cloth.

Do not allow water to soak into upholstery.

**Method 2** - Stubborn stains on upholstered surfaces, for example: cooking oil, olive oil, ballpoint pen, felt-tip pen, permanent marker, baby oil, massage oils, make- up, engine oil, shoe polish.

Clean with a sponge or a soft cloth dipped in surgical spirits or white spirits, for a maximum of 2 minutes.

Rinse repeatedly with a clean, wet cloth and then dry with a dry cloth.

Do not allow water to soak into upholstery.

**Method 3** - For substances adhering to the fabric, for example, chewing gum, candy, ice cream, coffee, tea wine, liquor, fruits:

Firstly, scrape stains with a blunt knife, sometimes an ice-cube placed on the stain for one minute will help to remove it.

Clean with a sponge or a soft cloth dipped in surgical spirits or white spirits, for a maximum of 2 minutes.

Rinse repeatedly with a clean, wet cloth and then dry with a dry cloth.

Do not allow water to soak into upholstery.







# Disinfection

**N.B. It is always recommended to carry out a patch test before cleaning our fabrics.**

Chieftain Fabrics coated materials are resistant to most common disinfectants based on Isopropanol, Ethanol, Benzalkonium chloride, Sodium hypochlorite, Sodium hydroxide, Tetraacetylenediamine (TAED), Sodium percarbonate, Hydrogen peroxide, Ammonium Hydroxide diluted to 5% concentration, Acetic acid diluted to 2% concentration.

**Always rinse the surface of the fabric thoroughly after disinfecting it.**

Chieftain Fabrics artificial leather has been assessed by an independent laboratory (Ekoteks) and has a demonstrated resistance to most cleaning methods.

See below:

- Colour fastness to domestic and commercial laundering according to EN ISO 105 C06
- Colour fastness to domestic and commercial laundering using a non-phosphate reference detergent incorporating a low temperature bleach activator according to EN ISO 105 C08
- Colour fastness to domestic and commercial laundering - oxidative bleaches response using a non-phosphate reference detergent incorporating a low temperature bleach activator according to EN ISO 105 C09
- Colour fastness to dry washing with organic solvents: ethanol and propanol according to EN ISO 105 X05
- Colour fastness to bleaching hypochlorite and peroxide in accordance with ISO 105 N01 and ISO 105 N02
- Colour fastness to steaming (steam cleaning) in accordance with EN ISO 105 E11



# Advice

## **We do not recommend the following:**

- Dry cleaning with perchloroethylene
- Ironing
- Close contact of the upholstery with a source of intense heat (radiator, dryer, direct sunlight, etc.)
- Cleaning with undiluted (highly concentrated) alcohol, gasoline, acetone, chlorine liquid, and other oxidants
- Cleaning with products for natural leather (e.g. waxes, sprays, pastes) and other oil-based preparations,

### **Chieftain Fabrics**

Wellington Place  
Trim  
Ireland

**Tel:** 00 353 46 9431396

**UK Freephone:** 0800 0355 955

[enquiries@chieftainfabrics.com](mailto:enquiries@chieftainfabrics.com)

**[www.chieftainfabrics.com](http://www.chieftainfabrics.com)**