

Caring for your furniture

A sofa (chair or footstool) is not just for Christmas. Here's how to give your furniture a good home and make sure you have a long and comfortable life together. Regular maintenance is important to keep it looking its beautiful best, just think of it like making your bed everyday.

Looking after your cushions and frames:

- 1. Plump your sofa cushions** at the end of every day of use, particularly if they are filled with feathers or feather wrapped foam. This extends the life of the fillings and regular plumping maintains the shape of your chair and avoids permanent creases being formed. Where possible, turn and reverse the cushions to equalise wear. If you do notice creases developing (e.g in the seat area) take care to smooth them out so they do not become permanent.
- 2. Turn your seat and back cushions**, sitting on the front edges of cushions or the arms of furniture can cause distortion and damage.
- 3. Try to keep pets off** the upholstery and be **careful of sharp objects** such as belt buckles, toys and watch straps snagging the fabric.
- 4. Discourage lively children** from using your new furniture as a climbing frame if you want to prolong its lifespan!
- 5. Upholstery can be gently brushed** to remove dust, only use a brush not a vacuum cleaner on feather or down filled cushions to avoid pulling feathers out.

Continues overleaf....



VANESSA ARBUTHNOTT

12 ASHCROFT ROAD, CIRENCESTER, GL7 1QX
WWW.VANESSAARBUTHNOTT.CO.UK

Caring for your furniture

Preventing furniture fading from UV rays:

It is common knowledge that ultraviolet rays, usually referred to as UV rays, can cause damage to the eyes and skin. However, these same rays can also cause damage to many surfaces in your home. When the sun shines through standard home window glass, the UV rays are strong enough to fade your carpeting, hardwood floors, wallpaper and many other surfaces including art, photography and other decorating accessories.

A truth not often admitted: all fabrics fade in direct sunlight. It's the ultra violet rays that are the cause of most of the problems. Also, some colours fade faster than others. Generally really bright colours tend to be the worst offenders. Different fabrics will also fade at different speeds, according to the composition and the dyestuffs used though this is far harder to generalise about. If you combine natural sunlight with glass, fabrics will fade even faster. Sun lounges with no protecting blinds are therefore very unfriendly places to put your sofas.

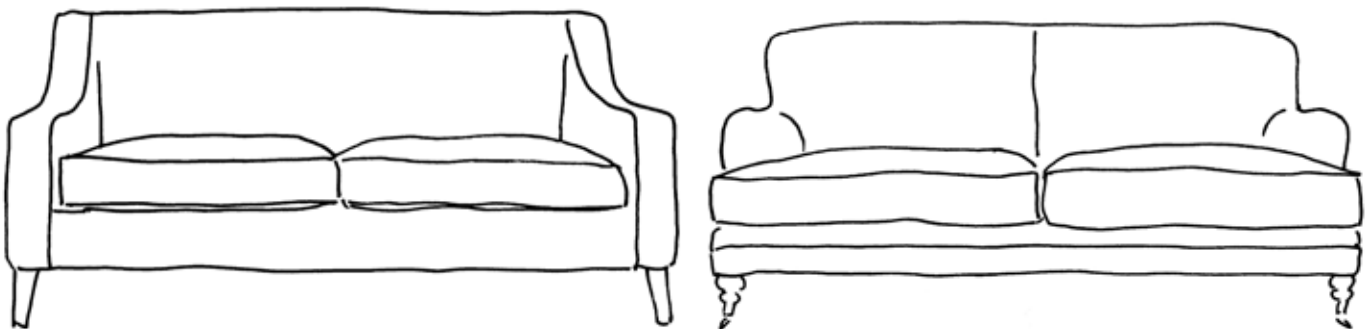
All our fabrics are rigorously tested for what is called 'lightfastness' and will perform sterling service if not in direct light. Break this rule at your peril. I have a check linen sofa at home in a sunny window alcove and it is quite a different colour to when I bought it. Here a few tips to help prevent the damage of UV rays and keep your furniture looking fantastic for longer:

Be **sure to move furniture around regularly** so as to create more even sun exposure throughout the room. This is important even in the Winter when the sunlight isn't as evident.

Rotate sofas and chairs so that they are not in the light all the time. Draw curtains or blinds when the room is not in use. If you are out at work, what difference does it make if the room is dark?

One last note

We pride ourselves on the quality and durability of our sofa and chair frames so much so that they are covered for a lifetime. Our hardwood frames are handmade in Gloucestershire using solid beech from managed forests and jointed with dowels and screws making them super tough and built to last.



VANESSA ARBUTHNOTT

12 ASHCROFT ROAD, CIRENCESTER, GL7 1QX
WWW.VANESSAARBUTHNOTT.CO.UK