

2019 Trends: The Ultimate Guide to Caring for Velvet

- Everything you need to know about caring for velvet
 - Top tips for getting out spills and stains
- Things to consider before dressing your home with velvet furniture/accessories



[Bewley Velvet Button Back Dining Chair](#) – from £59.99 – www.furniturechoice.co.uk

Thanks to its luxury yet versatile style, velvet was an interiors favourite for 2018, and with continuing to search for “velvet furniture” in 2019*, it doesn’t seem to be going anywhere anytime soon. While velvet adds a glamorous finish to any room, caring for this unique texture can be tricky.

Rebecca Snowden, Interior Style Advisor at Furniture Choice reveals everything you need to know about keeping this much-loved fabric in perfect condition.

1. Tackling stains



[Hampton Velvet Sofa Range](https://www.furniturechoice.co.uk) - £599.99 – www.furniturechoice.co.uk

“When it comes to cleaning stains off velvet, it’s important to attend to the issue as quickly as possible, Rebecca advises.

“One of the most effective methods for cleaning up messes on this material is soaking a cloth in soapy dishwater and gently pressing onto the stain until it disappears. While this is known as the ‘wet cleaning method’, it’s vital the fabric dries quickly.

“To speed up the drying process and ensure the velvet doesn’t become misshapen or lose its sheen, use a fan or hair dryer to speed up the drying process immediately after dabbing,” Rebecca advises.

2. Cleaning spills



“Where cleaning existing stains is best done using moisture, a dry cleaning method is more effective for those clumsy spills,” says Rebecca.

“Soak up the spilt liquid with a dry cloth or paper towel before applying a dry detergent to a sponge and dabbing the spill repeatedly. It’s important you then let the cleanser completely dry into the fabric – again, it’s best to speed up this process using a hair dryer or fan.”

3. Avoid direct exposure to sunlight



Charleston Velvet Sofa Range - £649.99 – www.furniturechoice.co.uk

Other than cleaning velvet efficiently, it's essential to consider your furniture placement when it comes to this fabric. "As a precaution, it's best to avoid direct exposure to sunlight," Rebecca says. "This prevents velvet fabric from fading - especially for brighter, more pigmented colours such as navy or green."

4. Maintain regularly



[Orbit Mink Velvet Bed](#) – from £399.99 – www.furniturechoice.co.uk

With a regular cleaning routine, velvet will only get better with age. “Regularly brushing or vacuuming the fabric helps to maintain its sheen, says Rebecca.

“Using a double-sided brush, brush any velvet accessories or furniture once a week to help keep the dirt from sticking. Be sure to brush only in one direction starting with the tougher bristles to remove any pet hair or dust followed by the softer side of the brush to get rid of any remaining fuzz.”

“One final maintenance tip and, one that’s perfect for those pieces who are starting to lose their shine, is to hold a steamer above the fabric, following the velvet pile every few months or so, advises Rebecca. “When steaming the fabric, however, be sure to do so on the reverse side of the upholstery to avoid any damage.”

5. Choosing the right velvet for you



“While all these pointers will help you keep your velvet in top notch condition, to give it the optimum care, it’s important you know the type of velvet your pieces are made from advises Rebecca.

“Silk velvet is a lightweight fabric with a shimmery finish, similar to the “crinkly” crushed velvet popular on the market today. Both of these need to be steamed regularly, but carefully, as to not damage their delicate nature.”

“Sturdier velvets include cotton velvet and synthetic velvets. These will be a little more resilient to general wear, but their thick, matte finishes could hold spills and stains easier so be sure to act fast if accidents do happen.”

“Velvet is often associated with winter styles thanks to its cosy feel, but while that is true for wool based velvets, a linen velvet offers a cooler, breathable alternative. Due to its rugged finish though, be sure to brush linen velvet often to avoid it misshaping,” says Rebecca.

Angie Tang, Senior Operations Manager at [Laundrapp](#) comments, “You should always check the label on your velvet furniture before cleaning it, but most velvet fabrics will be able to cope with brushing, vacuuming and stain removal. When removing stains be sure to not soak the material, but instead blot with a damp cloth, as doing so could cause a discoloration. Always be sure to test any products or tools on a discrete place on your furniture to check they’re compatible before going ahead.”

To learn more about how to introduce velvet into your home and the best aftercare methods, please visit: https://www.furniturechoice.co.uk/advice-and-inspiration/guide-to-velvet-furniture_a10000031

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