



## Leather Care & Cleaning

Fine leather is soft and luxurious, making it an ideal choice for furniture. With the right care, leather improves with age, providing many years of enjoyable use. Even the best leather, however, is subject to damage. That's why Guardsman provides a leather care program, a total care and maintenance system for your leather.

Different types of leather (see below) require different care and maintenance products. If you are uncertain about the type of leather you have, check with your sales representative or contact the store where you purchased the item. As a general rule of thumb, pretest all of the care products in a hidden area to make sure they are compatible with the leather.

To maintain the rich, natural look of your leather furniture, we offer the following general recommendations:

### General Leather Care Tips

- Avoid using or placing sharp objects on leather goods. Leather is very durable, but not accident or damage proof.
- Place your furniture a minimum of two feet from radiators and other heat sources.
- Protect your leather furniture from direct and even indirect sunlight. Some leathers, such as full and semi-aniline, will fade over time.
- Avoid air pollution such as cigar or cigarette smoke and cooking fumes, which can cause leather to fade or change color.
- Keep leather free from dust by dusting with a cloth (such as the Guardsman Dust Cloth), preferably once a week.
- Clean leather with Guardsman Leather Cleaner, preferably once a month if the furniture is used daily. Minimally, this needs to be done four times a year. Don't rub! Sponge gently until all grime and stains are absorbed.
- Treat leather with Guardsman Leather Protector/Conditioner after each cleaning, to retain its softness and attractive appearance.
- Blot spills up immediately. Use Guardsman Leather Cleaner to remove the spill. Please note: Many common household cleaning products can cause severe damage and costly repairs, and improper cleaning may void your Furniture Protection Plan.



## Leather Types

- Nubuck (buffed) – Process of raising fibers on the grain-side of a hide to give a nap effect by buffing.
- Naked/Full-Aniline – Leather that has been dyed with aniline, a transparent dye which permeates the entire hide. However, there is no pigment (paint) or finish put on pure aniline-dyed leather to correct or hide imperfections. Best suited for light use.
- Semi-Aniline – Leather that has been dyed with aniline, a transparent dye, which permeates the entire hide. However, there is either a clear lacquer or slightly pigmented finish applied to improve resistance to wear and light. Slightly more durable than full-aniline.
- Pigmented – Hides that are aniline-dyed, then treated with a heavy pigment (paint) and top coating. Ideal for heavy use or active families.
- Corrected, Pigmented & Embossed – Pigmented leather that has been totally buffed of any imperfections, then embossed with an artificial grain to improve the appearance.
- Split – The bottom layer of the hide, which has been separated from the top grain. Split hides are generally weaker than top grain leather and may be used in less expensive upholstered furniture applications. Split hides are not recommended for heavy use.
- Suede – Process of raising fibers of the flesh-side of the hide to give a nap effect by buffing.
- Tanning – A technical process that converts raw hides into a non-perishable material called leather.

## Guardsman Leather Care Products

**Guardsman Leather Cleaner** provides an efficient but gentle cleaning of full-aniline, semi-aniline and pigmented leathers. It safely cleans without leaving a residue or water rings. This mild treatment helps prevent the leather from getting too dirty, and can be used frequently without harming the leather. Regular use removes dirt and body oil build-up, that over time, can cause serious damage to leather. Guardsman Leather Cleaner is a water-based solution of neutral substances. After each cleaning, be sure to apply Guardsman Leather Protector/Conditioner.

**Guardsman Leather Protector/Conditioner** helps prevent spills from penetrating the leather by creating an invisible barrier over the surface. An application of the Guardsman Leather Protector/Conditioner on new leather is an important first step because it helps maintain the fat balance in the leather. The Guardsman Leather Protector/Conditioner helps the leather retain its suppleness and beauty. **Do not use on nubuck or suede.**



## Leather Cleaning Instructions

1. Pretest all of the care products in a hidden area to make sure that they are compatible with the leather.
2. Water-based spills and stains such as coffee, ketchup, milk, etc. may require the Guardsman Leather Cleaner. Please refer to the instructions on the Leather Cleaner bottle.
3. For oil-based spills and stains such as popcorn grease, salad dressing or other non-water-soluble spills, wipe the leather clean with a clean, dry cloth. Allow for the remainder of the stain to dissipate into the leather over a 24-hour period. Do not use Leather Cleaner, Leather Protector/Conditioner, water or soap on oil-based stains.
4. Never use saddle soaps, oils, all purpose cleaners or solvents. Use of these products could damage the finish. Modern tanning techniques do not require such products. Most spills will blot up easily with a dry cloth or paper towel.
5. If these efforts do not produce satisfactory results, and if the stain or damage is covered by one of our Furniture Protection Plans, please contact a Guardsman Customer Service Representative at 1-800-253-3957. You must report your claim within five (5) days of the date the stain or damage occurred.

## Wood Care & Cleaning

Wood furniture represents a significant investment in many homes. To maintain its beauty and help it last, wood furniture needs regular and proper care. Most wood furniture is finished with a fine lacquer or varnish. It has a sheen – or gloss – ranging from high to low, depending on the finishing materials the manufacturer has selected. The finish adds to the beauty of the wood and protects it. No finish is totally indestructible, but with regular care and Guardsman products it will last much longer. Providing years of satisfaction and enjoyment.

### General Wood Care Tips

- Dust frequently. The Guardsman Fine Furniture Dust Cloth is treated to attract and hold dust and leave furniture spotless.
- Use a quality furniture polish, such as Guardsman's Furniture Polish. It will lessen your chance of expensive refinishing jobs. Polish approximately once a month.
- Clean up spills immediately. Use a blotting action rather than a wiping action.



- Use a soft, lint-free absorbent cloth for cleaning and polishing. The Guardsman Polishing Cloth is ideal for this purpose.
- Avoid placing furniture in direct sunlight, as sunlight causes fading.
- Avoid extremes in room humidity. Too high or too low humidity can cause wood to warp or the glue lines to fail.
- Avoid extreme changes in temperature. Arrange furniture away from radiators, registers, and air-conditioning units.
- Rotate accessories on furniture so they do not sit in the same spot all of the time.
- Avoid placing plastic or rubber objects on a wood finish, as their ingredients react with those of the finish.
- Use pads, cloth or felt to protect the furniture surface from plastic, rubber, hot dishes, beverages, bookends, flower pots, and vases.
- Use a protective pad when writing with a ballpoint pen.
- Lift and place objects, do not drag them across the furniture surface.
- Make minor repairs while they are still small.
- Use the proper materials or professional help to repair badly damaged surfaces.
- Avoid wax polishes. Regular use of wax polishes may result in the build-up of wax film on the surface of the furniture. This build-up may then pick up dirt, smoke and other pollutants in the air, which may result in smudges and streaks. Used long enough, this may cause the finish to soften, requiring expensive refinishing work. Wax build-up over time hardens, making it difficult to remove from the furniture's finish.
- Avoid silicone polishes. Silicone oil is an ingredient used by many furniture polish makers to create a high degree of shine. Silicone seeps into even the most lacquered finishes, making it difficult to remove. Should it become necessary to refinish a piece of furniture, silicone makes it a very difficult process, even for a professional refinisher. Most furniture manufacturers recommend using polishes that do not contain silicone.

## Wood Care Products

**Guardsman Furniture Polish** is recommended by leading furniture manufacturers. It is a special blend of natural and organic oils with cleaning emulsifiers. It does not contain wax, silicone or petroleum-distillate solvents. Guardsman Furniture Polish is safe, non-toxic, and non-flammable.

**Guardsman Wood Cleaner** will safely remove old wax, built-up polish and many types of stains and discolorations.

**Guardsman Dusting Cloth** is specially treated to attract and lock dust into the cloth fibers.



## Wood Cleaning Instructions

1. Wood furniture should be dusted as often as needed using the Guardsman Fine Furniture Dusting Cloth. Dust cloths can be reused by hand washing up to five times. It is also more efficient and convenient than spray products. Feather dusters scatter the dust particles into the air, which then resettle back on your furniture.
2. Polishing is recommended about once a month. If your furniture is used often, you may want to increase the frequency. However, be aware that over-polishing is the main cause of damaged finishes. Use a soft, lint free, absorbent cloth such as the Guardsman Fine Furniture Polishing Cloth and work with the grain of the wood. Always follow provided directions.
3. When using Guardsman Furniture Polish for the first time on previously polished furniture, it is necessary to remove old wax and polish. This can be accomplished safely and easily using Guardsman Wood Cleaner. Not taking this step could lead to disappointing results because the natural and organic oils in Guardsman Furniture Polish could soften and loosen the layers of wax built up over the years, leaving a cloudy surface.
4. If your wood furniture becomes damaged, and if the stain or damage is covered by one of our Furniture Protection Plans, please contact a Guardsman customer service representative at 1-800-253-3957. You must report your claim within five (5) days of the date the stain or damage occurred.

## Mattress Care & Cleaning

Your new mattress will help create a restful sleep environment. Be sure to ask your retailer for advice about properly moving your new mattress and foundation into your home. Improper installation can damage your new sleep set.

### General Mattress Care Tips

- Turn and rotate a new mattress every few weeks to help smooth out contours. After a few months, turn and rotate your mattress twice a year to help equalize the wear and tear that normally occurs. Also remember to rotate your foundation as well.
- Avoid using the handles to support the full weight of the mattress. Typically, handles are designed to help you position the mattress over the foundation. If used improperly, handles may pull out and damage the fabric.
- Vacuum your mattress and foundation for general maintenance. Use a Guardsman mattress pad to help keep the sleep set free from stains.



## Guardsman Mattress Care Products

**The Guardsman Guard Grip Mattress Pad** is pretreated with fabric protection. The fabric protection is both non-toxic and non-allergenic. The mattress pad with fabric protection provides a barrier against soiling and staining to your mattress. With our exclusive guard grip construction the mattress pad will hold firmly to your mattress.

**The Guardsman Waterproof Mattress Pad** offers the security of knowing that your mattress is protected against staining from liquids. The waterproof barrier allows mattresses to breath, and is hypo-allergenic and machine washable.

## Mattress Cleaning Instructions

1. Guardsman Guard Grip Mattress Pads are machine washable and dryable. If a spot should occur, remove the mattress pad from the bed and wash in warm water. Use normal household laundry detergent. Non-chlorine bleach is optional. Tumble-dry low, separately.
2. If the mattress becomes wet or soiled, blot any excess moisture using a soft cloth. Then follow the cleaning directions provided by the mattress manufacturer.
3. If these efforts do not produce satisfactory results, and if the stain or damage is covered by one of our Mattress Protection Plans, please contact a Guardsman customer service representative at 1-800-253-3957. You must report your claim within five (5) days of the date the stain or damage occurred.

## Fabric Care & Cleaning

Upholstered furniture adds function and beauty to every room in your home. The choices are many with a wide variety of fibers, fabrics, colors and styles readily available. Guardsman products help you maintain the beauty and value of your furniture investment.



## General Fabric Care Tips

- Re-arrange the furniture occasionally to ensure even use of the cushions and wear areas. Reverse loose cushions weekly. Vacuum often to remove grit that can cause abrasion.
- Caution those wearing clothing with transferable dyes, such as blue jeans, that the dye could transfer onto light-colored furniture.
- Protect fabrics from the sun. Ultraviolet light (sunlight) will cause fiber degeneration and color fade. Fabrics should not be placed in direct sunlight, as this may cause fading. Occasionally, dyes can fade from impurities within the air.
- Keep pets off the furniture. Pet urine and pet body oil can be difficult to remove. Use proper care with structural weave fabrics (design created by the weave) to protect against snags.

## Fabric Cleaning Codes

Before attempting to clean a spill or spot on your furniture, you should identify the fabric and correct cleaning method recommended by the manufacturer.

This information is represented by a cleaning code (W, S, WS or X) often found under a cushion, on the bottom of the furniture or on the manufacturer's tag. If you cannot find this information, contact your sales representative at the furniture store where the item was purchased.

## Fabric Codes

- “W” Spot clean with water-based cleaner.
- “S” Spot clean ONLY with mild water-free solvent cleaner.
- “WS” Spot clean with water-based or solvent cleaner.
- “X” Clean only by vacuuming or light brushing.

## Guardsman Fabric Care Products

**Guardsman Organic Stain Lifter™** is a water-based spot cleaner that cleans fabrics without leaving any residue. It is recommended for fabrics treated with Fabri-Coate. Guardsman Organic Stain Lifter is for use on “W” or “WS” coded fabrics only. It removes water and protein-based stains such as coffee, blood, most food stains and pet stains. Pretest Guardsman Organic Stain Lifter in a hidden area for color loss and fabric compatibility.



**Guardsman Dry Cleaning Fluid™** is a water-free cleaning solvent. It removes oil-soluble stains such as grease, tar, oil, gum, oily foods and other stains. Guardsman Dry Cleaning Fluid is for use on S coded fabrics only. Pretest Guardsman Dry Cleaning Fluid in a hidden area for color loss and fabric compatibility.

## **Fabric Cleaning Instructions**

As a general rule, when a spill occurs, it is important to clean the fabric immediately. The longer a spot remains, the harder it is to remove; it may even become permanent. If you have cleaning directions from the furniture manufacturer, follow those. If none are available, use the instructions provided here. For fabrics coded "W" or "WS", or those that can be cleaned with water-based cleaners, use Guardsman Organic Stain Lifter. If your fabric carries an "S" cleaning code, use only water-free dry-cleaning solvents such as Guardsman Dry Cleaning Fluid.

1. Gently scrape away any excess solid matter or liquid using a dull-edge spoon.
2. Pretest the cleaner you intend to use in a hidden area for color loss and fabric compatibility. Look for faded colors, shrinkage or dark rings; these are signs of incompatibility.
3. If possible, place a clean white cloth under the area to be cleaned, such as the inside of a seat cushion. It will absorb the soil and produce better results.
4. Apply a small amount of cleaner to a soft, clean white cloth. Begin at the edge of the stain and work toward the center, turning the cloth often. Blot, don't rub the stain, as rubbing can roughen the delicate fibers and leave the fabric looking worn and faded.
5. After cleaning, "feather" the edges of the spot by brushing gently back and forth with a dry cloth. Dry quickly with a fan. This will help prevent ringing.
6. Keep a small stain small! A cotton swab, dipped into the proper cleaning solution and squeezed out, will wick up the dissolved stain, stopping it from spreading (this is a good fix for small ballpoint ink marks).
7. If your first attempt does not remove the spot, you may want to repeat steps three through five a second time.
8. If these efforts do not produce satisfactory results, and if the stain or damage is covered by one of our Furniture Protection Plans, please contact a Guardsman customer service representative at 1-800-253-3957.



## Fabric Stain Removal Guide

Some stubborn spots may not respond well to the blotting technique described above. The following hints may help. Please note: Not all of the stains included in this chart are covered by a Guardsman Furniture Protection Plan. As noted earlier, you should follow the furniture manufacturer's cleaning guidelines where applicable. Always pretest the cleaner in a hidden area.

<b>STAIN</b>	<b>CLEANING SUGGESTION</b>
Ketchup, Chocolate, Cream/Milk, Earth, Blood, Excrement, Ice Cream, Mayonnaise, Mucus/Drool, Cheese, Egg, Soy Sauce, White Glue	Use a solution of bleach-free liquid enzyme cleaner (laundry detergents), 1 part to 30 parts distilled water; rinse by blotting with distilled water; blot to remove excess water, then dry quickly with a fan.
Berries, Coffee, Fruit Juice, Jam/Jelly, Soft Drinks, Candy, Tea, Mixed Drinks, Wine, Urine	Use a solution of mild, bleach-free detergent, 1 part to 30 parts distilled water. If some of the stain remains, use a solution of 1 part white vinegar to 3 parts distilled water. Blot to remove excess moisture, then dry quickly with a fan.
Crayon, Asphalt, Body Oil, Butter, Oil, Lipstick, Makeup, Gravy, Hair Oil, Mascara, Shoe Polish, Shortening, Tar, Felt-Tip Pen Ink, Vaseline	Use a water-free, dry cleaning solvent. You may have to repeat procedure until stain is gone. Dry quickly with a fan when stain is removed.

Please note: Not all of the stains included in this chart are covered by the Guardsman Furniture Protection Plan.