



# UPHOLSTERY

## Cotton

### INTRODUCTION

Cotton is one of the most versatile and often used fibers in upholstery manufacturing. It is used in its most unrefined state, Haitian cotton, and in its most refined form in polished cotton or chintz. As a rule of thumb we can say that the less the fabric is refined the more problems you are likely to experience. Possible problems in cleaning cotton upholstery are:

- Browning
- Shrinking
- Fading
- Bleeding

By dividing the cotton fabrics into two categories, refined and unrefined, we can offer two procedures that will be successful in almost all cases. These procedures are designed to be easy to follow, very effective and to prevent the problems listed above. The procedures are taken from the Bridgepoint Fast Track Upholstery Guide.

### PROCEDURE

The following preparatory procedures apply to both the refined and unrefined cotton categories.

- **STEP 1**  
Identify the Fiber using the burn test and visual method to determine the category. Unrefined cotton will appear more thick, loose and rough, such as Haitian cotton or canvas. Refined cotton is smoother and is a thinner fabric.
- **STEP 2**  
Pre-vacuum the upholstery to remove dry soil.
- **STEP 3**  
Pre-Test the upholstery by cleaning a small area. This is one of the most important procedures in terms of fabric safety and customer satisfaction.
- **STEP 4**  
Pre-spot the fabric where necessary.

### REFINED COTTON - Polished Cotton, Chintz, etc.

The following procedure is taken from Bridgepoint's Fast Track Upholstery System, Method A.

- **PRE-SPRAY**  
1 part **Avenge Fabric Prespray** to 1 part hot water. Prespray may be used full strength for extra heavy soil. Apply the prespray in sufficient amount to allow for soil suspension. Agitate with a **Horsehair Brush** and allow to dwell for 5 - 10 minutes.
- **EXTRACT**  
Dilute **Avenge Clean Rinse** in your machine. For Truckmounts - 1 quart per 5 gallons of water (meter high). For portable - 1 ounce per gallon of hot water.
- **EXTRACT USING THE HYDRY UPHOLSTERY TOOL**
- **MIST**  
Lightly mist fabrics with a dilute solution of **Fab-Set**.
- **DRY**  
Use proper ventilation and air movers to dry the fabrics as quickly as possible.

### UNREFINED COTTON - Haitian Cotton, Canvas, Etc.

The following procedure is taken from the Bridgepoint Fast Track Upholstery System, Method B.

- **PRE-SPRAY**  
1 part **Avenge Fabric Prespray** to 1 part hot water. Prespray may be used full strength for extra heavy soil. Apply the prespray in sufficient amount to allow for complete soil suspension. Agitate with a **Horsehair Brush** and allow to dwell for 5 - 10 minutes.
- **EXTRACT**  
Dilute **Fab-Set** in your machine. Truck mount - 1 quart per 5 gallons of water (meter high). Portable- 4 ounces per gallon of hot water. Extract using the **HyDry** upholstery tool.
- **DRY**  
Use proper ventilation and **Air Movers** to dry the fabrics as quickly as possible.

### ALTERNATIVE METHOD -

A long time industry standard is the Bridgepoint neutral scrub extract formula.

- In one gallon warm water add 1oz. **Boost All** (always add first), 2oz. of **Buff All** and 4oz. of **Fabric Shampoo**.
- Work solution in to a foam with a **Natural Ocean Sponge**.
- Clean with the foam only.
- Extract with **Fab-Set**.

### Chemicals Needed



**Avenge Fabric Pre-spray**  
**Type:** Prespray  
**Highlights:** Preconditions fine fabrics on upholstery.



**Avenge Clean Rinse**  
**Type:** Emulsifier  
**Highlights:** Rinses away soil and chemical residue.



**Fab-Set**  
**Type:** Conditioner/neutralizer  
**Highlights:** Prevents soil wicking, browning and yellowing, and will neutralize alkaline residue.



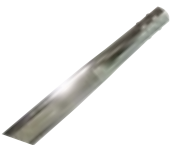
**Bridgepoint Spotting Kit**  
**Type:** Assorted chemicals & accessories  
**Highlights:** Contains a complete selection of spotting products stored in a SoftSide™ bag.



**Dye-Loc**  
**Type:** Specialty Chemical  
**Highlights:** Prevents color bleed.



**Boost All**  
**Type:** Oxygen Bleach  
**Highlights:** Increases soil suspension. Dissolves oils.

**Buff All****Type:** Buffer/Neutralizer**Highlights:** Buffers pH of high alkaline solutions.**Fabric Shampoo****Type:** Shampoo**Highlights:** Revitalizes and brightens a wide variety of fabrics. Very aggressive neutral pH cleaner.**Maxim Fine Fabric Protector****Type:** Protector**Highlights:** Fluorochemical protector that repels all types of soils.**Air Mover or Air King****Description:** High volume air movers**Purpose:** Dries carpet and upholstery quickly.**Upholstery Sponge****Description:** Sponge**Purpose:** For agitation and control of moisture when cleaning upholstery.**Bucket****Description:** 10 quart gray bucket**Purpose:** For mixing dry foam solutions such as Bridgepoint Neutral Scrub Extract Formula.**Accessories Needed****2-Quart Pump Sprayer****Description:** Pump sprayer**Purpose:** Applies chemicals quickly and efficiently.**Horsehair Brush****Description:** Brush**Purpose:** Agitates chemicals on upholstery**HyDry™ Tool****Description:** Hand tool**Purpose:** Uses adjustable vacuum relief to optimize cleaning, and internal jet to avoid over-wetting**Crevice Tool****Description:** Hand tool**Purpose:** Reaches the places that your upholstery tool won't.**Quick Guide****PROCEDURE**

- 1 Identify fiber and determine category.
- 2 Vacuum the fabric.
- 3 Pre-Spray with **Avenge Fabric Prespray**.
- 4 Extract using **Avenge Clean Rinse** or **Fab Set**, depending on the category.
- 5 Dry quickly using ventilation and air movers.
- 6 Apply **Maxim Fine Fabric Protector**.

**HELPFUL HINTS**

If the fabric shows signs of bleeding (color transfer) other steps may be necessary. See the brochure titled **Color Bleeding Upholstery** or the **Fast Track Upholstery System**. Apply **Maxim Fine Fabric Protector** after cleaning. This will provide customer satisfaction and additional profit for your company.

**Other Resources**

IICRC S300 Standard and Reference Guide  
 Bridgepoint Professional Upholstery Cleaning Manual  
 Bridgepoint Catalog  
 Bridgepoint Fast Track Manual  
 Color Bleeding Upholstery Brochure  
 Bridgepoint Website • [www.bridgepoint.com](http://www.bridgepoint.com)  
 Customer Service • 1-800-794-7425