



# UPHOLSTERY

## Silk Fabric

### INTRODUCTION

Silk is a very expensive and luxurious fiber and is typically found in upholstery of "higher end" homes and hotels. By cleaning silk upholstery you are taking additional risk just by the value of the product; however, the cleaning procedures are really no more complicated than for other fabrics.

#### Cleaning problems to watch for in silk:

- **Fiber damage** from long-term exposure.
- **Fiber distortion** – The texture of the fiber can change with water-based cleaning.
- **Rings** can result from cleaning of some silk fabrics. To avoid this scenario always clean an entire panel of silk rather than just spots.

Most silk fabric should be dry-cleaned, but some fabrics made of raw silk can be wet-cleaned.

### CLEANING PROCEDURES

#### DRY-CLEANING–

*This procedure is taken from the Bridgepoint Fabric Care System.*

- **STEP 1**  
Vacuum the fabric thoroughly. It is important to remove as much dry soil as possible.
- **STEP 2**  
Pre-spray with **Dry Fabric Prespray RTU**.
- **STEP 3**  
Mist the fabric with the extraction solution below using your tool.
- **STEP 4**  
Agitate with a clean, white terry cloth towel. This will loosen the soil allowing absorption into the towel.
- **STEP 5**  
Extract – To each gallon of **Furniture and Drapery Compound** add 2-ounces of **De-Liminate**.

- **STEP 6**  
Agitate fabric with dry towel to aid in drying and further soil removal.
- **STEP 7**  
Protect with **Maxim Fine Fabric**.
- **STEP 8**  
Dry with **Air Movers**.

**NOTE**–You cannot perform a solvent extraction process with standard portables or truckmounted units. You must have a machine that is capable of running solvents through it.

#### WET CLEANING–

*If wet-cleaning silk, be sure that it is a raw silk and that it will not be damaged by water. The following procedures are taken from the Bridgepoint Fast Track Upholstery System.*

- **STEP 1**  
Test for shrinkage and color loss.
- **STEP 2**  
Test for cleaning effectiveness by cleaning a small test area.
- **STEP 3**  
Vacuum thoroughly.
- **STEP 4**  
Thoroughly extract with **Dye-Loc**. This accomplishes two things. First, it removes any loose fugitive dyes. Second, it assures that all the fibers have been treated with **Dye-Loc**.
- **STEP 5**  
Pre-spray with **Avenge Fabric Prespray**.
- **STEP 6**  
Extract with **Avenge Clean Rinse**.
- **STEP 7**  
Protect with **Maxim Fine Fabric**.
- **STEP 8**  
Dry quickly using **Air Movers**.

### Chemicals Needed



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



**Dry Cleaning Prespray**  
**Type:** Solvent prespray  
**Highlights:** Dry formula designed to dissolve and emulsify oils.



**Avenge Fabric Prespray**  
**Type:** Liquid Preconditioner  
**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.



**Maxim Fine Fabric Protector**  
**Type:** Protector  
**Highlights:** Keeps spills and stains from damaging fine upholstery.



**Furniture & Drapery Compound**  
**Type:** Dry solvent extraction agent  
**Highlights:** Used as a final extraction rinse in dry cleaning procedures.



**De-liminate**  
**Type:** Deodorizer  
**Highlights:** Boosts cleaning effectiveness and prevents odors while cleaning.

## Accessories Needed



### 2-Quart Pump Sprayer

**Description:** Pump sprayer

**Purpose:** Applies chemicals quickly and efficiently.



### Horsehair Brush

**Description:** Brush

**Purpose:** Agitates chemicals on upholstery.



### Power Sprayer

**Description:** Electric sprayer

**Purpose:** Easily disperses a wide range of chemicals.



### HyDry Tool

**Description:** Upholstery cleaning tool

**Purpose:** Excellent control of moisture and vacuum while cleaning upholstery.



### Air Movers

**Description:** High volume air mover

**Purpose:** Dries carpet and upholstery quickly.

## Equipment Needed



### Truckmount

**Description:** Hot water extraction machine.

**Purpose:** Provides necessary heat, pressure and vacuum to obtain desired results.

## HELPFUL HINTS-



1. Boost customer satisfaction and your profits by applying **Maxim Fine Fabric Protector** after cleaning.
2. Cleaning of silk and other natural fabrics should be priced higher than synthetic cleaning due to the additional risk, value of the item, and the expertise necessary to process the work.
3. Fiber identification is not difficult if you ask the customer. If they have spent the money to purchase silk, they will usually know what it is.

## CAUTION –



- Dry-Cleaning**—You should be aware that while dry-cleaning is very safe for fabrics, it might only be marginally effective at soil removal when the fabric is heavily soiled. Dry-cleaning fluids are considered toxic and flammable. Be sure to follow these procedures to protect you, your technicians and your customers.
1. Turn off pilot lights and all other sources of flame or spark.
  2. Provide adequate ventilation and be sure that your machine is outside, or that the fumes are vented to the outdoors.
  3. Wear personal protective equipment such as respirator, gloves and safety glasses.
  4. Pets and people should not be exposed to dry-cleaning fumes.
  5. Solvent cleaning requires special equipment. Consult your Bridgepoint representative to determine if you have the right equipment.

**Wet Cleaning**—If wet-cleaning silk, be sure that it is a raw silk and that it will not be damaged by water.

## PROCEDURE

- 1 Test for color fastness.
- 2 Test for shrinkage.
- 3 Prespray with **Dye-Loc** solution.
- 4 Prespray with **Avenge Fabric Prespray**.
- 5 Extract with **Avenge Clean Rinse**.
- 6 Dry quickly.

## PRODUCTS

- Avenge Clean Rinse
- Fab-Set
- Dry Fabric Prespray
- Furniture and Drapery Compound
- De-Liminate
- Maxim Fine Fabric Protector
- HyDry Tool
- 2-quart Hand Pump Sprayer
- Power Sprayer
- Horsehair Brush
- Airmovers
- Olympus Portable
- Truckmount

Quick Guide



## Other Resources

Bridgepoint Upholstery and Cleaning Guides  
Fast Track manual and cleaning guides  
Bridgepoint Catalog

Bridgepoint Website • [www.bridgepoint.com](http://www.bridgepoint.com)  
Bridgepoint Customer Service • 1-800-794-7425