

# General Maintenance instructions

For all your customized furniture, manufactured by Nijboer Interieur. Protective films increase the transport safety and therefore make possible an effective protection of our high quality furniture surfaces. If, after removing this film, any adhesive remains you can easily remove this with a solution containing alcohol and a soft cloth. Please do not use any aggressive chemical substances. The warranty becomes invalid if the maintenance instructions are not adhered to!

## The following generally applies:

Ensure that the surfaces do not become damp (e.g. through the use of very wet cloths and through condensation during and after cooking). Keep the surfaces dry at all times.

# Cleaning cupboards:

For cleaning cupboards, shelves and drawers/pullouts use a slightly damp cloth with a cleaning fluid/ glass cleaner. Always rub the furniture after cleaning with a soft cloth dry! When too wet cloths are used, water can penetrate into the joints, which can lead to the furniture expanding. To prevent odours occurring in the furniture, through cooking vapours and residues, we advise you to regularly open cupboards and to ensure intensive ventilation of the kitchen. Abrasive cleaning materials and all cleaning materials based on nitro and synthetic resins or similar materials are not suitable for treating the surfaces!

# Wooden fronts/guardrails, solid or veneered:

Wood is a living material with natural colour and structure nuances. Discolouration can occur as a result of changing (sun)light exposure, which is completely normal. This is therefore also no reason for complaints. Solid wooden fronts are easy to maintain. The surfaces are multiply sealed with a high quality varnish. Always use a slightly damp cloth for cleaning. Always rub in the direction of the wood grain, so that any dirt present is rubbed out of the pores. To ensure that no damp remains in the profiles, in the corners and on the edges, the front must always be rubbed dry after cleaning. Dirt may not dry out and must be removed immediately. Also here you should avoid the use of very wet cloths. Wood may not be exposed to extreme damp or dry air. Otherwise it starts moving, i.e. it expands or shrinks — despite the carefully applied varnish.

## Synthetic fronts:

Fronts, which are coated with synthetic, can be cleaned with normal cleaning materials. This is

best done with a soft cloth, lukewarm water and some washing-up liquid. Never use polish or hard sponges!

Persistent stains, such as grease spills, varnish or glue residues can possibly be removed with a normal synthetic cleaner. Before you use this for the first time, we advise you to first try this on a non-visible spot. When cleaning, do not use vapour cleaner or cleaning materials that contain solvents!

# Use:

Never use coffee-makers, kettles etc. directly under the cupboard. The steam dissipation can cause damage and discolouration of the front and the cupboard. If a canopy with spotlights is placed above the cupboard, do not leave the door half open under the extremely hot spotlight. Damage can occur to the door through heat dissipation or there may even be a danger of fire. Never leave doors of ovens and combination microwaves open after use to cool down. Damage to the front and the cupboard can occur through heat dissipation. Never leave dishwasher doors open immediately after the end of the programme. Damage to the front and the cupboard can occur through steam dissipation. Use must be made of the extractor hood at all times during use of the hob. If the extractor hood is not used or is used incorrectly, damage can occur to the cupboard and the front that hang next to it. An often occurring error is not using the extraction hood when boiling water (because indeed water does not smell). This is, however, of great importance for the removal of steam dissipation. Never allow the flames from gas hobs to burn without a pan on the hob. This can lead to damage to the cupboard and the front.

# Fittings (hinges and drawers):

The best way to clean fittings is to:

- Use a soft, lint-free cloth, a shammy leather or sponge
- Wipe slightly damp, not wet
- Always wipe dry
- If available, use a special cleaning product for material such as leather, stainless steel, etc., otherwise only clean with clear water
- Immediately remove recent dirt

# When cleaning fittings avoid:

- The use of damp cleaners
- Cleaning agents such as scouring powder, steel wool or scouring sponges as well as cleaning agents with acetone, chlorine, nitro-dilution and solutions of which the name starts with Tri or Tetra
- Open storage of, for instance, cleaning agents, baking powder, dishwater detergents or household salt.
   Vapours that occur can lead to corrosion of all metal surfaces.

## Stainless Steel

Product information: Stainless steel is an alloy. This means that it is obtained by melting different kinds of metal and mixing them together. The most important elements in the alloy are chromium and nickel. The chromium gives stainless steel its gleam; the nickel ensures that stainless steel is indeed

not free of rust but is corrosion resistant, because stainless steel can certainly rust, if only on the surface and not from itself but through protracted contact with base metals

Maintenance: Clean daily with water and a degreasing, soft soap. With heavy contamination, rinse spots with a lot of water and treat with Staalfix (always in the direction of the polish). Persistent stains from, for instance, hydrochloric acid, cement and tile cleaner, drain unblockers, silver polish and chlorine must be treated several times.

Use as a worktop: Always use coasters for hot pans or appliances such as toasters to avoid the glue dissolving due to the heat. Do not cut directly on the surface. The use of a cutting board is strongly recommended.

## Powder coated steel

Powder coated steel is a practical and durable material with a long life but be aware that coloured liquids that remain for a long period can cause circles and stains. If any liquid is spilled on the table or chair frames, dab dry and clean with fresh lukewarm water. Never place hot objects directly on the powder coated components, this can cause circles which cannot be removed.

Cleaning instructions: To clean your furniture and keep it in good condition we advise you to clean the powder coated components with a slightly damp, soft cloth and to rub with a soft dry cloth. After cleaning, wipe well with clean water so that no soap residues remain. Do not clean the surface in the full sun. If you want to clean your powder coated furniture with a cleaning agent, then we advise you to use slightly soapy water using green soap. Aftercare with a wax-based product has the advantage that the lustre is polished and the paint finish becomes more dirt and water repellent.

Never use solvents such as petrol, acetone, ammonia spirit or chlorinated hydrocarbons on your steel table or table legs. Certain car waxes with a polishing action are advised against. We strongly advise against the use of aggressive cleaning agents, scouring agents and scouring sponges.

# Worktops:

# General usage information:

Always use coasters. Most modern worktops are resistant to heat. However, the temperature of objects is often underestimated. For example, a pan that comes directly from the heat source can have a temperature of more than 350°C, high enough to affect any surface. Furthermore, appliances often cool slower than expected. It is therefore also recommended to always use coasters when you work at the kitchen sink, all the more because fire and scorch marks do not fall under the guarantee. Always use cutting boards. However scratch resistant your surface is, it is advisable to not cut directly on the worktop. It is also recommended to work with cutting boards to avoid damages that cannot be removed, because scratches do not fall under the guarantee. Test special cleaning agents in advance on a non-visible spot. Various special cleaning agents can be obtained from the special-ist retailer to remove persistent stains, remove damage or give your surface more lustre. Under all circumstances, test each special agent in advance at a discrete spot on the surface. Do not apply the liquid directly, but with a cloth, due to the risk of spillage. Always work from outside to the inside to prevent the spot becoming larger

# SOLID WOOD

Product information: Wood is a natural material. This gives every worktop that is made from wood a unique appearance. No two wooden worktops are identical. A wooden worktop is built up from different layers. These are referred to a strips. A good quality wooden worktop therefore consists of separate components that are fixed in such a fashion that this causes no problems if the wood starts working. The wood is finished with a protective layer. The warm, unique and natural appearance of wood is the most important reason why wood is chosen. Wood is certainly a material that requires relatively little maintenance. The protective top layer must be regularly maintained; otherwise you run the risk that stains and discolouration occur. Wood is also more sensitive for indentations and scratches.

Maintenance: For daily maintenance you can wipe solid wooden worktops with a damp cloth or soapy water. You must immediately dry water stains with a cloth. With very dirty spots, sand lightly with sandpaper (180 grit) and immediately oil again.

## 0ils

Depending on the application and due to the risk of dehydration, oil the worktop 6 to 12 times each year with the oil prescribed by the manufacturer (e.g. raw linseed oil). Remove the old layer of oil in advance, by sanding this in the direction of the grain (180 grit sandpaper). Sanding dust can possibly be used to fill up shrinkage cracks. Subsequently oil the surface if the surface is dry and dust-free (see directions on the packaging). Do not allow the oil to dry for longer than 5 minutes, after which immediately remove the surplus oil. After oiling, let the used cloths dry completely due to the risk of combustion. The use of concentrated or abrasive materials is advised against. Do not leave any wet dishcloths behind on the surface or leave cups, plates, vases etc. to drain on the worktop. Under no circumstances should the worktop be treated with steel wool. Contact with caustics, acids and metals such as tin, nails and screws should also be avoided due to the risk of discolouration. If this should still appear on the surface, then the spots should be immediately removed with a lot of water and then dried. For cutting work or hot pans, use a cutting board resp. coaster at all times.

# **SYNTHETICS**

Product information: In contrast to what the name suggests a synthetic worktop is built up from several materials. A fairly thick layer made from bonded wood or multiplex is coated with a synthetic top layer. This is mostly from so called HPL (= High Pressure Laminate).

The advantage of HPL is that it is available in an almost infinite variety of colours and designs. In many cases a border of synthetic or aluminium is attached to the outside edges of the worktop which acts as finishing and/or a water-retaining edge.

Maintenance: You can clean synthetic worktops with a sponge, dry well afterwards. For cutting work or hot pans, use a cutting board resp. coaster at all times. Treat severely soiled spots (grease, coffee, tea, red wine) with household soapy water or a soft nylon brush, soaked in soapy water with washing-up liquid or green soap, possibly leave for some time to soak in and rinse off with water. Remove soaked in spots or stains of ink, paint, nicotine or felt-tip pen with acetone. We strongly advise against the use of liquid abrasives or steel wool. This can affect the structure of the top layer. The scratch resistance, resistance to wear and impact resistance of a synthetic worktop are generally reasonable to good. However, the worktop cannot withstand excessive heat. But if coasters or, for example, a metal frame is used to place hot pans on, this does not have to be a problem. The cheaper synthetic worktops have bonded wood as a base. The disadvantage of this is that it is sensitive to damp and can give problems. Especially if damages occurs the bonded wood can bulge out and cause fractures in the synthetic layer.

# **GRANITE**

Product information: Granite is a natural product that was often formed hundreds of millions of years ago. Variations in the material such as colour and structural differences, but also veins, hairline fractures, small depressions and natural mineral concentrations, only emphasize the value and authenticity of this product. If, despite all quality controls, an issue should arise with your worktop, then contact your kitchen supplier as soon as possible. Granite naturally has an open structure. Therefore always use a cutting board if you want to cut or chop something. Never do this directly on your worktop. Never leave greases or foodstuffs unnecessarily long on the worktop and avoid contact with sharp objects and chemicals. Your granite kitchen worktop is considerably heat resistant. However, always use a coaster for hot pans and/or trays. Never place this directly on your kitchen top. Acid free sealants are used during the assembly of your worktop. These require approximately 24 hour to harden. During this time do not rub over the visible sealing joints.

Starting from here, special instructions apply for Belgian bluestone (see the separate chapter for this.)

#### Maintenance

After assembly: Remove sealing or glue residues and cement

residues which have possibly come into contact with your worktop during assembly. Use turpentine or a silicon remover. Then thoroughly clean your worktop with normal cleaning materials such as an all-purpose cleaner. The worktop is highly resistant to the usual household cleaners. Never use an abrasive material.

Taking into use: If you have cleaned the worktop as described above, you should treat the worktop once with the provided cleaning agent. You only need a small amount. After you have let his soak in for at least 5 minutes, you can polish it with a clean dry cloth. We advise you to repeat this treatment approximately four times in the first week. After that once or twice a year depending on the use.

Daily maintenance: You can clean the surface with a clean damp cloth with normal soft cleaning materials. Never use an abrasive material.

Lime stains: Lime stains on the worktop and around the tap can best be removed with cleaning vinegar, or another de-scaling agent available on the market. Follow the instructions on the packaging.

Persistent stains: You remove persistent stains, caked food residues and soaked in stains such as tea and wine stains, by thoroughly cleaning the surface with a degreasing all-purpose cleaner. Spray on, allow to soak in and then remove with kitchen paper. You can repeat this until the stain disappears. Other suitable agents are chlorine, acetone or hydrogen peroxide. After this treat the worktop again with the cleaning agent.

# HONED WORKTOPS

Because of their matt finish, honed worktops, especially dark colours, show fingermarks and grease stains more easily. These can easily be removed by thinly spraying glass cleaner. Rub dry immediately afterwards with, for instance, a piece of kitchen paper.

Honed worktops: Require slightly more maintenance. Do not use any other cleaning agent for marble or natural stone in combination with the cleaning agent we have provided.

# ANTIQUE GRANITE

The instructions for the treatment of antique granite are the same as the instructions which apply to polished and honed granite.

Additional maintenance: However, the surface of an antique kitchen top has a more open structure due to the processing operation. It therefore requires slightly more maintenance. Also after assembly you must additionally treat this surface several times with the provided cleaning agent.

## BELGIAN BLUESTONE (dark honed)

Belgian bluestone, also called Arduin or Petit Granit, is a grey-blue, compact sedimentary crinoid limestone. It is formed by the accumulation of residues through calcite bound crinoids. The rustic character is strengthened through the special characteristics such as common white cleavage surfaces, white stains, white veins, glass veins, black veins and stains, the presence of fossils (for example coral and shells) and colour variations. It is therefore normal that it contains concentrations of shells. Therefore differences in colour can also appear in a kitchen top. The presence of carbon can cause cavities, which can also be formed later.

Daily maintenance: Clean the worktop with a clean and damp cloth. Never use an abrasive material.

Maintenance: Treat with green soap, vowel oil or linseed oil gives the worktop extra protection and will nourish the material. A 50-50 mixture of turpentine and linseed oil gives the best protection. Do not mix these cleaning agents. Acids, citrus fruits, vinegar and limescale cleaners can cause stains. Marseille soap is the most suitable for thorough cleaning. Generally available at your chemist.

## COMPOSITE

Product information: A composite stone worktop mainly consists of natural materials. Variations in the material, such as tone and structural differences, pigment concentrations, but also small depressions only emphasize the value and authenticity of this product. If, despite all quality controls, an issue should arise with your worktop, then contact your supplier as soon as possible.

Never use aggressive agents on the kitchen worktop such as paint remover, brush cleaners, metal cleaners, oven cleaners or drain unblockers. If aggressive materials still come in contact with the kitchen worktop, these must be immediately rinsed off. Knives become dulled if you cut directly on the worktop and there is a risk of damage to the worktop. Therefore always use a cutting board if you want to cut or chop something. Never do this directly on your worktop. Your composite stone kitchen top is reasonably heat resistant. However, always use a coaster for hot pans or trays.

Never place this directly on your kitchen top. Acid free sealants are used during the assembly of your worktop. These require approximately 24 hour to harden. During this time do not rub over the joints.

After assembly: Remove sealing or glue residues and cement

residues which have possibly come in contact with your worktop during assembly. Use turpentine or a silicon remover.

Taking into use: Thoroughly clean your worktop with a liquid abrasive, for example Cif, in combination with the rough green side of a nylon scouring sponge. Due to its unique properties, the worktop will not be damaged.

Daily maintenance: You can clean the worktop with the usual soft household agents such as all-purpose cleaners and you can use a glass cleaner to remove the grease.

Lime stains: Lime stains on the worktop and around the tap can best be removed with cleaning vinegar, or another de-scaling agent available on the market. Follow the instructions on the packaging.

Persistent stains: You can remove persistent stains and caked food residues by thoroughly cleaning the worktop with a liquid abrasive in combination with the rough green side of a nylon scouring sponge. After that you can remove the grease from the worktop with a glass cleaner or rinse with abundant water and then rub dry with a clean cloth.

## HONED AND LEATHERTOUCH

Because of their matt finish, honed composite stone worktops show fingermarks and grease stains more easily than on polished surfaces. To a lesser extent this also applies for Leathertouch surfaces. You can use glass cleaner to remove these stains. Spray on very thinly and immediately rub dry, for instance, with a piece of kitchen paper.

# OPEN STRUCTURE WORKTOPS

A number of colours differ with regard to structure and surface and are also recognizable as such. They have a rougher surface and will always show lighter stains across the surface. This is inherent to the material. You can only mask these lighter stains through regular treatment with, for instance, Top Protector from HG (available at your DIY store or chemist).

Even though the material is closed, the surface has an open structure and liquids, juices, dirt and grease will be able to penetrate and attach themselves to the surface. Immediately wipe these stains, for instance, with kitchen paper and possibly follow this with a degreasing all-purpose cleaner.

# **GLASS**

Product information: Glass worktops consist of thermally hardened or extra clear glass with a coated underside and matt etched top. A glass worktop has a homogeneous appearance.

Maintenance: With normal contamination you only have to clean the worktop with a wet cloth. If there are stains, then you can remove them with soapy water. You can treat lime stains with organic vinegar. However, never use aggressive agents such as acids and chemical products. These can irreparably damage the worktop (so immediately remove if there is spillage!).

Use: Glass worktops are not UV resistant and discolour in time through the incidence of light. A glass worktop is no more scratch resistant than ordinary glass, it is therefore recommended to not cut directly on the glass worktop but to use a cutting board. Risk of breakage at too high temperatures.

# Washbasins

Maintenance of stainless steel washbasins: For daily maintenance you can clean stainless steel washbasins with a sponge and some washing-up liquid. With stains from aggressive materials or for more lustre, use scouring agents and/or scouring sponges (Staalfix). Rust, through iron dust which has been released during the production process or through iron particles from the water distribution circuit which have entered the washbasin, should be removed with Staalfix. The use of stainless steel cleaners is advised against. Also, hydrochloric acid and chlorine may not be stored in the kitchen sink cupboard, the vapours that arise from these agents can irreparably damage the stainless steel. Use mild washing up or cleaning materials for recessed sinks which are made from different material such as, for example, porcelain, synthetics, acryl ceramics and for stainless steel washbasins. Abrasive cleaning materials are not suitable! Please take into account that signs of use and fine scratches are possible through hard objects. However, this does not lead to a reduction in the quality of these intensively used recessed sinks. Also comply with the maintenance instructions from the manufacturers.

Maintenance of tiled sinks: For daily maintenance you can clean tiled sinks with a sponge and some washing-up liquid.

For a thorough cleaning you can clean the tiled sink with bleach, for the drain and cover use stainless steel or brass polish.

# Upholstered sofas

Maintenance: Do you want to enjoy your fabrics for a long time? Take the following advice to heart, to have pleasure from your upholstery fabrics for as long as possible.

# Upholstery fabrics

- Cut loops/ never pull them out, but push them back into the fabric.
- Vacuum with a smooth nozzle and possibly brush with a soft furniture brush.
- Also keeps the seams on your furniture dust and free of dirt.
- Avoid direct sunlight.
- Regularly clean your upholstery fabric, this extends the life of the fabric.
- Do not use cleaning materials, these are often less suitable for upholstery fabrics.
- Never use soap or washing-up liquid.
- Never impregnate your upholstery fabric with stain and/ or dirt-resistant agents. This can attack the fibre and, for instance, nullify
  the good dirt-resistant properties of wool. It is also less suitable on synthetic compositions (for example, Trevira CS).
   The guarantee on the upholstery fabric then becomes completely void.

We only recommend maintenance and cleaning agents from James (see www.james.eu). These have been tested on the fabrics.

Maintenance and cleaning of our upholstery fabrics extends the life of the fabric. Furthermore, fabrics can be excellently cleaned. The application of the correct cleaning products and the correct practices are important. You can also always make use of a professional cleaner. Weekly maintenance of upholstery fabrics has the effect that dust and fabric particles cannot pile up or attach themselves to the cloth. It is important to also vacuum your furniture with a smooth nozzle between and under seat cushions (take note of the sharp edge at the end of the vacuum cleaner hose itself). The objective of good vacuuming is the removal of dirt particles, dust and sand with an abrasive action, also in and around seams!

With regard to periodic maintenance, the largest problem is the piling up of skin fats. You will particularly find them on the armrests, head rests and sitting areas. A soiled or fatty spot will become visible in the long term. Skin fats can be excellently removed through the application of James Water (see www.james.eu). Spray James Water on a dry towelling cloth and rub this in smooth long strokes across the dirty surfaces. Major maintenance / professional cleaning: we can recommend a SWTM (Guarantee Carpet and Furniture Cleaning Foundation) certified company that can carry out the cleaning. The affiliated members can be found at www.swtm.nl

Stain removal: In the event of stains, we recommend to initially only use water with a towel. Dampen the towel well with lukewarm water and wring it out. Lay across the stain and let the towel dry without lifting this up in the meantime (this can take up to 24 hours). Large parts of the stain will be

absorbed in the cotton fibres during the drying of the towel. You can then treat any residues of the stain with James Water or James Stain Spray.

# Leather sofas

Maintenance: When you have leather furniture, you must maintain it in a special manner. By maintaining your leather sofa and using the correct products, you can keep your sofa clean and in good condition. Use the following tips to clean your leather sofa.

- 1. Thoroughly dust off your sofa. Pay special attention to the openings between the sofa cushions.
- Use a vacuum cleaner to remove all large pieces of dirt. Then wipe down your sofa with a clean, soft cloth.
- This ensures that dust and dirt is not pressed into the leather when you continue cleaning.
- When you are vacuuming, be careful that you do not make scratches on your sofa with one of the plastic accessories that you use when vacuuming.
- 2. Carefully examine your sofa and determine at which places your sofa must be cleaned.
  - It is not good to clean leather too often with all kinds of cleaning agents.
- If your sofa only has a couple of dirty spots, then concentrate on these and leave the rest of the sofa as much as possible alone.
- Remove spots that are relatively clean with a clean, damp (not wet) cloth. This is really all that your sofa needs.
- If you have a sofa of suede or nubuck, then you must clean in a different manner.
- 3. Remove spots that are slightly dirty with a damp cloth with a small amount of soap. This works well on large spots that are somewhat dirty and which cannot be easily (or cheaply) cleaned with a leather cleaner.
- Use a mild, natural soap without sodium lauryl ether sulphate (often stated on the packaging as sodium laureth sulphate) or a comparable ingredient. An aggressive soap will dry the leather out.
- First, test the soap out at a place which is not immediately visible.
- Do not rub too hard. This only presses the dirt even further into the leather.
- This method can also be used to clean stains that are sticky or soluble in water.
- Rub lightly over the stains and rinse out the cloth frequently. Wring out the cloth so that it is not too wet.
- Alternate with a clean, dry cloth to dust off loose dirt. In this way, you can keep the leather surface of your sofa relatively dry.
- 4. If there are mould spots on your sofa, then spray the leather with a thinned solution of cleaning vinegar in water.
- Try to use as little moisture as possible and clean the spot quickly so that the mixture does not soak too much into your sofa.
- Cleaning vinegar disinfects the spots in a mild manner and should kill all mould.
- 5. Buy a leather cleaner for spots that are very dirty. Cleaning materials which are not especially intended for leather, can remove the natural oils that are present in leather. This dries out the leather and will form cracks after some time.
- Look for a good saddle or leather soap or a natural leather cleaner with beeswax which does not contain too much oil or solvents.
- The best cleaners contain wax and no oil. Wax both cleans and nourishes the leather surface of your sofa at the same time, but does not soak too

deep into the leather so that the leather cannot breath as well.

- In contrast to what is often thought, foot oil is not the best cleaning agent for leather. It is, however, suitable for use in small amounts.
- Remember that leather is a natural material and that each piece is slightly different. It can be that you will have to try out several cleaners before you find the one that works best on your sofa.
- 6. First, test the cleaner out by cleaning a small piece of leather at a place that is not immediately visible.

  Do this before you start using the cleaner on the entire sofa.
- Ensure that the leather is well dried and that no stains or discolouration remain before you start using the cleaner on the
  entire sofa.
- Many leather cleaners contain solvents which can discolour the leather.
- 7. Apply the cleaner to the leather with a damp cloth. Dip the damp cloth in the cleaner.

  Exert some pressure and rub the cleaner in circular movements across the surface of your sofa.
  - Slightly dampen the cloth. A cloth that is too damp will leave stains behind on the leather.
- Start with the spots that are the least dirty (but which still need to be cleaned). Work towards the spots which are dirtier. In this way, you do not further spread the dirt across the sofa.
- Regularly use a new cloth or regularly clean your cloth. Always apply new cleaner and always use a clean part of your cloth until all dirty spots on your sofa are cleaned.
- 8. Wipe the surplus cleaner from your sofa. Clean each cushion with a clean, damp cloth, and rinse out your cloth in clean water after each cushion. Do not use any cleaning materials. You now rinse off the spots that you have just cleaned.

- 9. Remove stains. This may or may not be successful depending on the type of stain and its persistence. You may not be able to remove stains that have penetrated deep into your sofa
  - or contain strong dyestuffs.
- Wipe over the stain again with a strong leather cleaner with a light abrasive action. You can also do this with some toothpaste.

  Wipe this from your sofa when you are finished. Do not forget to first try out all the cleaners that you use on a small spot!
- If the stain cannot be easily removed, then do not continue to rub over it. This can damage the leather.
- Bear in mind that it is sometimes better to leave things alone. Consider just turning your cushion around, if this is possible.
- When nothing works, call in a professional cleaner. He or she can remove the stains for you or at least can give you more information about how you can remove this specific stain from your sofa.
- 10. Dry your sofa. Wipe all the cushions with a dry cloth and then ventilate the room containing the sofa. This ensures that your sofa dries as quickly as possible.
- 11. Apply a special conditioner to the leather. Apply a small layer of conditioner to the entire sofa when this is completely dry.
- For the best results use a natural wax-based cleaning agent.
- Regularly treat your sofa with a conditioner or cleaning agent to protect the leather and keep it supple.
   Do this at least once each year.
- Polish your sofa with a clean cloth so that the leather starts shining.

# TIPS

- Regularly dust off your sofa, so that this is easier to clean. Wipe your leather sofa once a week with a dry cloth. You can also lay a blanket over your leather sofa when you are not using it.
- If you use a conditioner after cleaning your sofa, then check that this is a mild agent. Do not use the conditioner too often; every half year to a year should be sufficient.
- Ensure that you protect your sofa against sun and heat. Your sofa will look good and remain in good condition.
- It is perhaps necessary to thin some cleaning materials with water before you use them. Read the instructions
  on the packaging before starting.
- If you make a mess on the sofa or make a stain, then clean this as soon as possible. It is a lot easier to remove new stains than old, dried stains.
- After purchase, have your sofa professionally treated. This will keep your sofa in good condition.

## Warning

- Never forget to first test every agent or every cleaning method which you use on a piece of your sofa that is not immediately visible.
- Never use large amounts of water when you clean your leather sofa. Leave no water on your sofa.
- Never use ammonia, bleach or other aggressive cleaning materials on leather furniture.