

Outdoor Fabric Care And Cleaning

One of the best ways to keep outdoor solution-dyed acrylic fabrics (a.k.a. Sunbrella, Outdura, O'bravia, Sunbury, Duralee, Perennials, Bella Dura, Docril) looking good and lasting a long time is to properly maintain the fabrics. This can be accomplished by simply brushing off dirt before it becomes embedded in the fabrics, wiping up spills as soon as they occur or spot cleaning soon after stains occur. To help maintain your fabrics, please review the below information.

General or Light Cleaning

- Brush off any loose dirt.
- Prepare a cleaning solution of 2 ounces (1/4 cup) mild soap per gallon of lukewarm water
- Use a sponge or a soft bristle brush to clean and allow cleaning solution to soak into fabric.
- Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue.
- Allow fabric to air dry.

Spot Cleaning

- Apply a light mist of mild soap and water using a spray bottle.
- Work the solution into the stain by lightly scrubbing the area with a sponge or very soft bristle brush.
- Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue.
- Blot excess moisture with a clean, soft towel or sponge and then air dry. Repeat steps 3 and 4 until all soap residue is removed.

For Removable Fabrics Hand Washing

- Soak fabric in a solution of 1/4 cup mild soap per gallon of lukewarm water.
- Use a sponge or a soft bristle brush as necessary.
- Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue.
- Air dry.

Machine Washing

- Machine wash in cold water. Use normal amounts of mild laundry soap. Add 8 ounces (1 cup) of bleach.
- Allow fabric to air dry.

Heavy Cleaning for Stubborn Stains and Mildew

Outdoor Acrylic fabrics do not promote mildew growth, however, mildew may grow on dirt and other foreign substances that are not removed from the fabric. To clean mildew, or other stubborn stains:

- Prepare a solution of 8 ounces (1 cup) of bleach and 2 ounces (1/4 cup) of mild soap per gallon of clean water.
- Spray on entire area and allow to soak into the fabric for 15 minutes.
- Remove stain with a sponge, clean towel or very soft bristle brush.
- Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue.
- Allow fabric to air dry.
- If stain and/or mildew are severe, bleach quantities may be increased. See stain chart for removal of specific stains.

Retreating Outdoor Fabrics

Outdoor Solution-dyed Acrylic fabrics have a special finish that enhances water repellency. The finish is designed to last for several years of normal use, but may require a refresh after a thorough cleaning or extended use. We recommend 303 High Tech Fabric Guard™ as the preferred re-treatment product for outdoor fabrics.

Applying 303 High Tech Fabric Guard™

Use 303 Fabric Guard on outdoor fabrics after a thorough cleaning, which removes the original finish and reduces water repellency.

- Apply 303 Fabric Guard in a well-ventilated area following instructions on the container.
- Apply 303 in a thin, even coat and allow fabric to dry completely.
- Apply a second thin, even coat (Two light coats is more effective than a single heavy coating).
- A 15-ounce bottle provides coverage of up to 50 square feet of fabric.

Professional cleaners

In evaluating the services of a professional firm, you should inquire about the firm's experience in working with outdoor fabrics and knowledge of cleaning and re-treatment requirements. DO NOT dry clean outdoor fabrics.

Helpful hints

Protect the area around your outdoor fabric when using a bleach solution – bleach may discolor some fabrics. Always rinse your fabrics thoroughly and completely remove bleach. Outdoor fabric air-dries very quickly. Machine drying is not necessary.

If fabric has some wrinkling, use an iron, if necessary, but only on the synthetic* setting. As some irons exceed the recommended 100°F/38°C temperature on the synthetic setting, test a small inconspicuous area before ironing entire piece.

DO NOT use a steamer or iron set to steam setting.

*Synthetic fabric heat settings normally do not exceed 150°F/66°C.

Stain Chart for Outdoor Fabrics

Below are recommended cleaning methods for some of the most common and toughest stains

Stain	Recommended Cleaning Solutions
Beer	Liquid Detergent, White Vinegar
Berry	Liquid Detergent/Ammonia (3 - 6% water)
Blood (dried)	Detergent/Ammonia (3 - 6% water)
Butter	Volatile Solvent (acetone)
Charcoal, Pencil Marks	Vacuum, then Liquid Detergent
Catsup or Mustard	Liquid Detergent
Chewing Gum	Volatile Solvent (acetone)
Chocolate	Liquid Detergent, Ammonia Water
Coffee	Detergent, White Vinegar, Volatile Solvent
Cola	Liquid Detergent
Crayon	Paint, Oil or Grease Remover
Egg (raw), Grape Juice, Gravy	Liquid Detergent
Grease (car)	Volatile Solvent (acetone)
Ink (permanent, india, ballpoint)	Paint Remover, Volatile Solvent (acetone), Detergent
Iron Rust	Oxalic or Citrus Acids, Water
Lipstick	Paint, Oil or Grease Remover
Mascara	Paint Remover, Volatile Solvent (acetone), Detergent, Water
Mildew	1/2 Cup of Bleach and 1/4 Cup of Mild Soap
Milk	Liquid Detergent
Nail Polish, Oil	Volatile Solvent (acetone)
Orange Drink, Paint (Latex) Wet	Liquid Detergent, Water
Paint (Latex) Dry, Paint (Oil or Lacquer)	Paint, Oil or Grease Remover
Shoe Polish (Liquid)	Volatile Solvent (acetone)
Shoe Polish (Wax)	Apply Heated Iron over Towel, Volatile Solvent (acetone)
Suntan Lotion	Pine Power® or Pine Oil Detergent
Tea, Tomato Juice	Liquid Detergent
Tree Sap	Turpentine, Liquid Detergent
Urine	Liquid Detergent, White Vinegar
Vomit	Detergent, Water, White Vinegar
Water Color	Liquid Detergent, Water, White Vinegar
Wax (candle)	Apply Heated Iron over Towel, Volatile Solvent (acetone)
Wine	Liquid Detergent/Ammonia (3-6% water), White Vinegar

For warranty information please visit <http://www.authenteak.com/warranties.html>