

Fabric Care & Characteristics

Bow, Bias And Seam Matching

The industry standards are 1-1/2" to 2" for bow and bias. Some print and solid patterns may have difficulty with seams matching.

Brocade Patterns

These fabrics may have a rippling effect which is a natural characteristic of jacquard weaves.

Double Rubs

Double Rubs is a measure of abrasion resistance using the Wyzenbeek Double Rub method. A medium duty upholstery fabric will have a rating of greater than 15,000 Double Rubs. A heavy duty upholstery fabric will have a rating of greater than 30,000 Double Rubs.

Dry Cleaning

Use a reputable dry cleaner that specializes in home furnishing. Dust has impurities which affect fabrics. Vacuum fabrics often. Dry cleaning should be at regular intervals before excessive soil has accumulated. Very few fabrics are washable.

Dyelot Match

If an exact dyelot match is required, please send swatch of material for match. Otherwise, we will ship the dyelot as close to the sample as our stock permits. We cannot accept the return of cut yardage material for full credit because the dyelot is off in cases where a swatch was not sent with the order for match.

Finishes

Applied finishes may help fabrics resist soil and stains, but does not eliminate the necessity of properly caring for fabrics.

Flaring

Flaring custom drapery returns is a natural characteristic of many fabrics, especially those woven from synthetic fibers. If flaring is a problem with your client, we recommend memory stitching when fabricating custom draperies. Some casements and polyesters have a tendency to flare. Flaring is not a reason for return.

Handwoven and/or Silk Fabrics

Many fabrics are created by home hand weavers thus creating unique qualities. Dyelot variations, inconsistent weaving, heavy threads, wrinkling, flaws, colored yarns, holes, pattern repeats that vary within the same yardage, loose threads, missing yarns and threads, missing beads, pearls, incomplete appliques, puckering around embroidered silks and inconsistent embroidery are natural characteristics. Protect all silks from direct and indirect sun as fading and disintegration are common. Bow and bias may be in excess of industry standards. These fabrics may also have a tendency to stretch in length. These characteristics are not considered defects and therefore, not reasons for returning fabric. Backing is recommended for upholstery use.

Heat Sensitive Fabrics

Many fibers used in drapery fabric construction are sensitive to heat and can cause puckering and hiked hems. Polyester is the most sensitive to heat and must be fabricated with a cool iron only. Acrylic and modacrylic fibers are also sensitive to heat. When measuring a drapery prior to fabrication, check to make sure that the drapery will not hang over a hot air duct or a baseboard heater as it will often affect the drapery once it is hung. Heat sensitive fabrics that are steamed or ironed often shrink or pucker.

Moire Fabrics

Moire fabrics have a tendency to fluctuate in length. They are sensitive to variations in humidity and shrinkage is very likely. Moires have a tendency to shrink due to excessive steaming and ironing or proximity to heating vents.

Pattern Repeat

Pattern repeat, as listed in this catalog and on samples, is approximate only and can vary slightly from one printing to the next. We cannot guarantee repeat matching.

Puckering

It is natural for some fabrics (i.e. hammered satins, satin stripes) to have a puckered or slightly wrinkled appearance. This is a characteristic of today's more relaxed, casual fabric constructions.

Sheers

Sheers will intensify in color when made into a drapery. Fold a sheer sample three times for a true color reading. Darker sheers have more of a tendency to fade or disintegrate than lighter sheers.

Shrinking & Length Fluctuations

Be tolerant of normal fluctuations in lengths of draperies. Few fabrics are completely stable. Fabrics breathe and absorb moisture, resulting in stretching or shrinking. Fabrics placed over or near heating and cooling vents may react to a much greater degree. Wesco will not be responsible should this situation occur. A 2% to 3% change is reasonable. Allow sufficient fabric in the hems for later adjustments, should it be necessary. Fabrics that are steamed or ironed often shrink or pucker.

Sun Protection

Fabrics should be protected from the sun. Wesco Fabrics does not guarantee against fading or color fastness. Draperies should be lined. Shades should be drawn during the day and glass protection should be used whenever possible. Window glass magnifies the destructive elements in the rays of the sun. The winter sun and reflection from the snow are even more harmful than the summer sun and may cause disintegration. Colors can fade by oxidation, "gas fading", if fabrics are kept in storage for too long a period without airing. Some colors are more sensitive than others. Impurities in the air may cause as much fading as direct rays of the sun.

Synthetic Fibers

Despite the impressive strides in the advancement of the technology of weaving synthetic fibers, performance will vary with the construction of the fabric and its application. Whole or partial synthetic constructions may have a tendency to react adversely more readily to

atmospheric conditions than natural fibers. Synthetic fibers are sensitive to heat, sunlight and steam. Shrinking, hiking seams, puckering and flaring are common characteristics.

Velvet

Velvet nap will crush and may be directional.

Washed Goods

Washed fabrics are processed to achieve a casual and soft appearance. Characteristics such as wrinkling, fading, and puckering are normal. Widths may vary. Bow and bias may be in excess of industry standards and guidelines.

Wrinkling

Wrinkling is a characteristic of linen and cotton blend fabrics.

*** These characteristics are not considered defects and therefore, not reasons for returning fabric.**