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Curtain maintenance is an important task that should be performed twice a year by carefully inspecting the curtains for any holes and tears or other damage. Dust, UV light and curiously, dry cleaning too often, can damage your curtains.

We can conduct an inspection of your curtains and offer a range of options

Always check the labels prior to any cleaning or maintenance work. These should indicate whether the fabric is inherently flame retardant (IFR) or flame retardant treated (FR). IFR fabrics do not need to be retreated as they are flame retardant for the life of the fabric. If the curtains are FR (flame retardant treated) they do need to be periodically retreated. The label should indicate the date of the last treatment. If the period since treatment is greater than five years, the curtains will require re-treatment. In addition, certain harsh conditions (flooding, excess humidity, dust, etc) may have accelerated the loss of flame retardant properties so you may want to perform testing. In addition, the label may include information about the dimensions of the curtain and the amount of sewn-in fullness - two factors that will affect restoration pricing.



Customer information form with fields for: CUSTOMER, DATE, SIZE, FLAME RETARDANT, APPLICATION DATE, FABRIC, TEST No. Includes contact info: (02) 9439 9060, www.stmstudiosupplies.com, and DRY CLEAN ONLY.

Cleaning

For napped curtains, such as velour or velvet, brush with a soft bristled brush to remove the surface dust, making sure to brush inside the folds of the pleats. First brush down the back of the curtain working from one side to the other. Then brush the face of the fabric twice, once against the nap and then with the nap.

For smooth finishes a single brush down the face should be sufficient.

Fabrics that have been topically treated for flame retardancy (add link) must be professionally drycleaned. Keep in mind the flame retardancy chemical will dissipate over time and repeated cleaning, so have your curtains tested periodically



and re-treated by a professional as needed. We can include this in our quote.

Spot cleaning with a commercial dry cleaning solution can be done for large or noticeable stains. This should be done as a last resort as spot cleaning can result in a noticeable difference between the portion that was spot-cleaned and the remainder of the curtain. Typically, commercial dry cleaning solution is more effective on heavier weight and/or brushed surface fabrics whereas stick or pen stain may be used on a smooth fabric.

Laundering very small drapes, such as some pipe and drape panels, can be undertaken at home. Keep in mind that laundering may cause slight shrinkage. Hand wash or machine wash on the "Delicate" cycle, using cold water and a mild detergent and do not use bleach. If machine washing, do not overload the washer. Hang dry or tumble dry at low heat. If machine drying, load the dryer no more than one third full. Once the drapes are dry, immediately hang or roll the drapery to minimize wrinkling.

Storage:

Do not store your curtains in plastic. Instead, store in a curtain bag or a canvas bag or hamper. To minimize wrinkling, fold along the width and then roll along the length of the fabric. Store in a dry, well-ventilated area. Hang the curtains several days before needed to allow any wrinkles to drop out. If necessary, you can lightly mist the back of the curtain with warm filtered water and lightly press with a warm iron. When ready to store the drapes again, make sure that they are dry prior to folding, rolling and storing.

We can assist as much or as little as you require. For the complete service we will conduct a site inspection, remove the curtains, organise dry cleaning, repair and fire retardancy (add link) treatments as required then deliver and rehang.

Please contact us on 02 9417 3000, follow the link for further information.



<http://www.stmstudiosupplies.com/products-stage-studio/curtains.htm>