# Caring for Custom Draperies & Shades



# **Drapery Care & Maintenance**

Caring for your custom window fashions starts with removing airborne dirt and dust. This can be achieved by periodic vacuuming of the fabric, paying particular attention to the pleats and folds where dust lands. It is important to understand the inherent limitations of certain fabrics as well as the invisible influences of the environment in which the draperies hang. These will affect the life and appearance of your draperies. Please take a moment to read the following information so that you will have realistic expectations and be better equipped to protect the investment you have made in your home by adding custom draperies, valances, roman shades or cornices.

### **Invisible Enemies of Your Draperies & Upholstery**

Today's fabrics are lovelier and longer lasting than ever, but each has its own set of limitations based on the fiber content. In addition to the limitations of wear-ability of the fibers themselves, there are various invisible enemies which are constantly attacking the fibers of the material and effect the product life.

## **Sunlight & Humidity**

Constant exposure to the bright hot rays of the sun will weaken most fibers over time and can cause varying degrees of color fading and streaking. Drapery lining, window film and constant use of shades or blinds behind the drapery will reduce the negative effects of sunlight. Humidity will effect fabrics differently. Loosely woven fabrics may be most likely to show the effects of humidity changes by either shrinking or stretching. The best protection for your draperies against the sun is a combination of window shades and protective window film - see below for CGT Window Film.

#### **Maintenance**

Maintenance of your draperies involves routine vacuuming with the brush attachment on your vacuum cleaner. Depending upon dust conditions, cooking habits, and other factors, you may wish to do this every three to four months. For additional protection, we recommend a spray-on fabric treatment, see Fiber-seal below.

## Cleaning

After years of exposure to dust, cooking or tobacco smoke residues, and other environmental pollutants, you may choose to have your draperies professionally cleaned. On-site cleaning is recommended. Your draperies, valances, roman shades and cornices will be cleaned while hanging on the window, thus ensuring minimal shrinkage. The investment you have made in your new draperies is worth protecting. The dividend will be years of enjoyment for your family and for guests in your home.

#### Shades & Blinds

We recommend on-site cleaning for the popular Hunter Douglas shades, but unlike draperies, they can be taken to an off-site 'ultra-sonic' cleaner with minimal risk. This method is also the best and only way to clean blinds, other than regular maintenance in your home.

Cleaning & Fabric Protection Companies		
Lazarian Cleaners 201-941-2650 John's cell 201-206-0619 On-site Drapery & Furniture Cleaning njcarpetcare.com	We Clean Window Treatments 973-627-5713 - Joel On-site Drapery & Furniture Cleaning	Bedminster ON-SITE Drapery Care 908-722-2345 Mitchell cell 908-230-7541
Pro Blind Cleaners (Off-site ultra-sonic cleaning for shades & blinds) 973-835-0771 problindsnj.com	CGT Window Film Vista Protective Window Film 888-347-0141 cgtinc.com	Fiber-Seal Northeast Protection & Cleaning of Upholstery & Carpet Maureen - 973-820-1668 Fiberseal.com

NJ Family Business of the Year

Green Brook - at Fabricland Paramus - formerly Nassaus Livingston - on Route 10 East ASID Industry Partner 270 US Highway 22, Green Brook, NJ 08812 799 Route 17 South, Paramus, NJ 07652 449 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Livingston, NJ 07039

 Draperies & Window Coverings Retailer of the Year

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