

Tips For Upholstering With Silicone Hybrid Fabrics

These are not hard and fast rules, but are meant as a guideline.

It is important to note that upholstery methods for Silicone Hybrids are comparable to upholstery with similar weight Polyurethanes, but that these methods differ from upholstery Vinyl.

A FEW THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN UPHOLSTERING WITH SILICONE HYBRID

Silicone Hybrids often stretch more than vinyl and, when upholstered improperly, may show a sagging or puddling effect. The following may assist in minimizing this:

- Always use good quality high density foam.
- Consider cutting the foam at least one inch oversize in both directions.
- Thick foam applications should have breathing holes to allow for quick foam recovery.
- Consider wrapping the foam to assist the backing fabric to slide freely over it, which will prevent the Silicone Hybrid material from bunching up.
- It may be necessary to adjust sewing patterns that were used for vinyl or leather, to account for the increased stretch of the Silicone Hybrid. It is not recommended to railroad Silicone Hybrid fabrics, especially when using the material for large areas.

A FEW THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN SEWING

- Avoid extreme folding of the material around tight corners or sharp radius' without foam backing support. This may place undue stress on the Silicone Hybrid film creating a potential wear point, regardless of the abrasion rating.
- Due to its thin surface structure, Silicone Hybrid is not recommended for use on welt cord.
- Consider using a minimum of six stitches per inch using a light ball tip needle.
- Avoid sewing Silicone Hybrid with a top-stitch technique, as this may stress the Silicone Hybrid skin.
- Consider double stitching key seam areas.

All manufacturing processes differ. These tips are offered as general helpful hints that should be considered prior to upholstery with Silicone Hybrids.