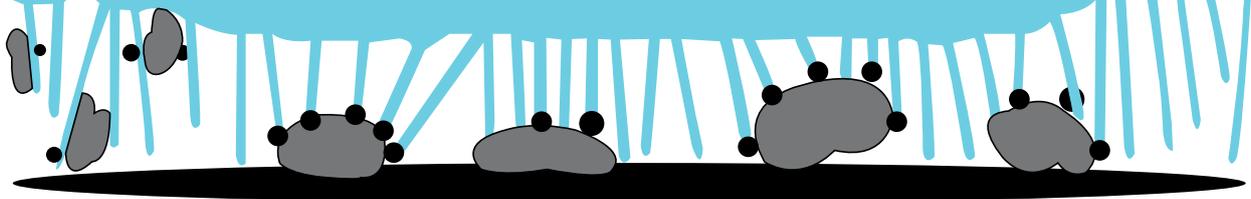


Cleaning Upholstery | The Wonders of Microfibre

Why a Microfibre Cloth?



Panaz upholsteries are treated with a stain resist that buys valuable time to clean the fabric before substances such as coffee, orange juice, wine etc can eat into the fabric and it becomes indelibly stained. This works by repelling liquids – beading them up and holding them at bay until remedial action can be taken.

By contrast, soap is a wetting agent. Wetting agents are substances that reduce the surface tension of a liquid, thus allowing it to spread and wick into a fabric surface.

Of course, they work in direct opposition to one another. Soap will negate the benefits of the stain repellent and clog the fabric. This subsequently attracts soiling, compounding the problem.

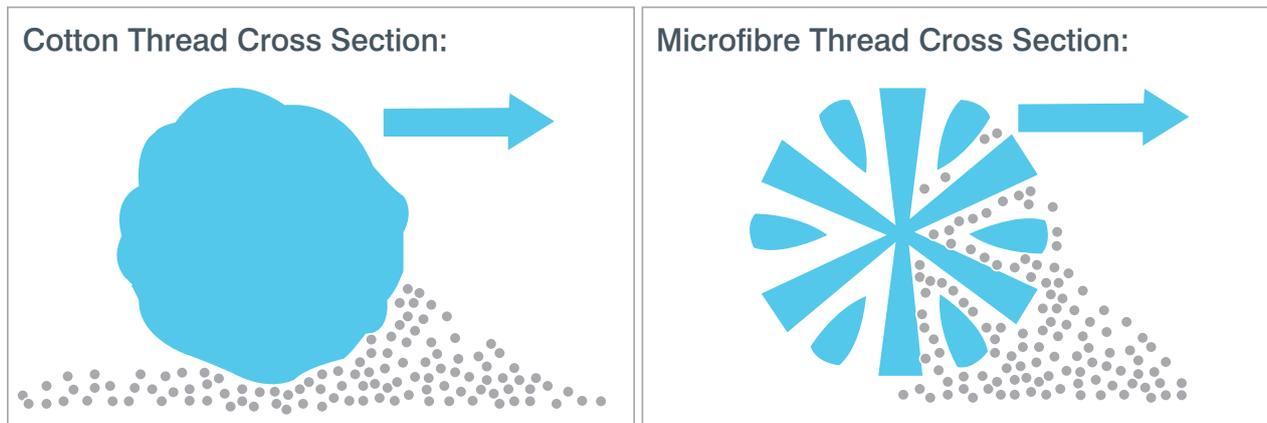
Microfibre Cloths and Water

Independent Tests commissioned by Panaz and performed by Satra have shown that this method of cleaning was more effective than a standard cloth, water and proprietary soap.

Microfibre consists of very fine threads of polyester and polyamide (nylon) that combine to form a single thread. One Microfibre is 100 times thinner than a single strand of human hair. Microfibres are so small that they can attach themselves to even the smallest, most microscopic dirt particles- ones that normal cloth fibres crudely brush past.

The physical process by which it achieves this is called van der Waals force after their discoverer, Nobel-prize winning Dutch chemist Johannes Diderik van der Waals.

There is a microscopic amount of van der Waals force between any microfibre and dirt particle. As there are millions of microfibrils in a cloth, the overall force of attraction is magnified dramatically. Hence dirt and dust are “hoovered up” by microfibre cloths.



This is cleaning with physics rather than chemicals, using nothing but the adhesive power of forces-cleaning mechanically, naturally and without chemicals.

This is also why it is necessary to clean microfibre cloths well after use. The dirt stays locked inside the cloth's fibre until you wash it in hot water, which makes the fibres uncurl slightly and release any dirt particles being held.

See above the cross section of microfibre and cotton threads.

The principle of the action is pretty clear, illustrated with the movement to the right. Contrary to the cotton fibre, the microfibre leaves little or no residue.