

# Coated Upholstery Characteristics

## Polyurethane, Vinyl & Silicone

### **Polyurethane (PU) Upholstery**

Polyurethane is a type of performance fabric that is made by coating a textile substrate with a polyurethane resin. The face of the product can be textured to add dimension and depth, to simulate a leather grain or add a woven appearance.

#### *Key Characteristics:*

- Excellent abrasion resistance: 100,000+ Double Rubs Wyzenbeek
- Supple, soft and rich in hand, comparable to leather
- Surface is microporous and allows the fabric to 'breathe' and remain cooler when sat upon
- Inherently acts as a moisture barrier
- Lighter in weight than vinyl
- Liquid spills can be easily wiped away
- Can be cleaned with mild soap and water solution
- High performance PU can be cleaned with diluted solutions of bleach
- May be inappropriate for environments using harsh cleaners or disinfectants
- Some PU is treated with ink and denim dye resist finish
- PVC free, low VOCs, safe to decompose or incinerate

### **Vinyl (Polyvinyl Chloride or PVC)**

Vinyl is a proven material for upholstery end uses in some of the harshest environments. Derived from a lamination of vinyl with a textile base, vinyl upholstery is a stable fabric covering choice for markets like automotive, marine and RV, as well as residential and commercial furniture.

#### *Key Characteristics:*

- Excellent abrasion resistance: 100,000+ Double Rubs Wyzenbeek
- Unique in durability and versatility as an upholstery material
- Long service life expectancy
- Stiffer hand
- Inherently acts as a moisture barrier
- Excellent lightfastness
- Can be cleaned with mild soap and water solution
- Can be disinfected with harsher cleaners including diluted solutions of bleach
- Best choice for use in areas where heavy soiling or spilling of liquids may occur
- Proven performance in healthcare environments
- Non phthalate and 21-phthalate free vinyl upholstery available

## Silicone

Silicone is a versatile and robust coated fabric that is capable of meeting the toughest of upholstery requirements. Quartzite (crystalline silica) is the basic raw material for creating the silicone compound that can be turned into a silicone coated fabric. Silicone offers inherent physical performance specifications, without the addition of flame retardants, antibacterial, or antimicrobial chemicals or any topcoats or surface finishes. Silicone offers a high level of performance combined with softness and suppleness typically associated with luxury upholstery materials.

### *Key Characteristics:*

- Excellent abrasion resistance: 100,000+ Double Rubs Wyzenbeek
- Resistant to scuffing and scratching
- Supple, soft and rich in hand, comparable to leather
- Resistant to heat and humidity
- Inherent flame-retardant properties
- Hypo-allergenic properties
- Inherent resistance to microbes or bacterial growth
- Inherent resistance to stain, ink and denim dye transfer
- Resistant to moisture, chemicals and oils
- Excellent lightfastness
- Can be cleaned with mild soap and water solution
- Can be disinfected with harsher cleaners including diluted solutions of bleach
- Excellent stretch and recovery
- Low energy consumption production process is completely solvent free and uses no water
- Free of added chemicals including flame retardants, BPA, TRIS, PFCs or PFOAs.
- Free of PVC, phthalates, formaldehyde, lead or heavy metals