

UNDERSTANDING FABRICS IN YOUR INTERIOR DÉCOR

In the realm of interiors and furniture the word soft-furnishing is most commonly implying upholstery material of that furniture product. It is essential to have an understanding of the application of fabrics in different interiors!

Choosing the right fabric

All interior spaces have different soft-furnishing criteria. For example, the children-room should not have busy/cluttered pattern prints. Instead, bright plain solid colours accented with large-patterns are recommended.

Climatology of fabrics

Architecturally speaking, climatology too plays an important role in soft-furnishing selection. North-East and South-West directions receive the most amount of sunlight. So cool colours like shades of green, aqua and blue are advice.

Natural Fibres

The authenticity of your fabric governs the scale of its usage. Natural fabrics can be expensive to purchase. However, they are more durable, soft, luxurious and resilient. Some of the common used natural fibres used to make fabric are linen, cotton, silk, hemp, jute, wool, horsehair, cashmere, mohair and camelhair.

Artificial and Synthetic Fibres

Artificial fibres are obtained from different engineered processes or alterations of existing natural fibres. Some of the popular artificial fibres used to create fabrics are acetate, rayon, triacetate and modified rayon. Synthetic fibre is again man-made fibre that is used to improve the quality of natural and artificial fibres. Some of the improved synthetic fibres are acrylic, nylon and polyester.

Selecting the right fabric

When it comes to fabric, there are many selections to choose from and it may be hard to figure out which one works best for you home. The type



of fabric that you purchase is very important and it can be the difference between beautiful and over-done.

Hence, we are providing the readers a short insight to the positive properties of some popular fabric materials to choose from!

Leather can add a rich element to a home and many people love it but this is not the easiest fabric to have in your home. Leather requires a lot of work and the color can fade if it is placed in direct sunlight. Another problem with leather is that it can become scratched and stained quite easily. Still, it does make a statement wherever you use it and can be an excellent choice

Silk is prized for its fragility and luxury and can be very expensive. It requires frequent dry cleaning and hand washing is strictly prohibited for silk. It also gets creased and can be damaged if exposed in sunlight. Silk's absorbency makes it comfortable in warm weather.

Wool can be dyed any other colour. It is considered to be a good insulator and is used in clothing in colder areas to protect against cold winds. Wool is very versatile and can be blended with synthetics to create an improved fabric.

Cotton is a very strong and tough fabric. It is durable, economical and airy. Cotton is also widely used for decorative fabrics as it doesn't fade away easily.

Rayon valued for its hardness, strength and high absorbency. It is widely used because it is economical and has excellent drapery properties and is a common substitute for a variety of natural fibres.

Acrylic doesn't crease easily, is shrink resistant and highly resilient. This fabric is also moth resistant but is sensitive when exposed to sunlight and can also be made to mimic other fibres, such as cotton. It takes dyeing and colouring well, and is washable.

Nylon is non-shrinkable, crease resistant and easily washable. Nylon is valued for all these characteristics and has proved to be the most durable synthetic fibre available.

Linen fibre is moth resistant and hard wearing. It can be easily washable and is also strong when wet. But it tends to crease quite easily.

The rule runs as once said – "Each piece of every space, if thought deeply; shall be sought properly." With this knowledge as your disposal, we hope choosing for different areas and furniture can now be simplified and understood more deeply.



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