

Decorator's Notebook

Performance Fabrics Safeguard Furniture From Kids, Pets, Life

(NAPSA)—Children who spill, pets who shed and large windows that let in lots of fabric-fading sunlight don't have to stand between you and stylish, attractive furniture anymore. Performance fabrics are now available for indoor residential furniture, eliminating worries about spilled drinks or pizza stains in the family room or dirty paws on the sofa.

Once just for outdoor use, durable, fade-resistant, colorfast performance fabrics have been adapted for indoor use with traditional interior furniture and are fast becoming a hit with consumers. They're designed to resist fading even in the brightest of sunlight and clean easily. Even nail polish won't stain performance fabrics; just wipe it up with nail polish remover and guests will never know anything happened.

Such a tough fabric may not sound like it could be very attractive, but it is. Consumers are often pleasantly surprised to find that the fabric they selected based solely on design and softness is a performance fabric. Those who know they want a durable fabric also have been pleased to find the wide selection of performance fabrics that are now available for their interior furniture.

For example, Sunbrella brand fabrics, once used exclusively outdoors for awnings, casual furniture and marine applications, have been enhanced through jacquard weaving, unique yarn combinations and high-tech fabric finishes to create elegant, stylish designs that are soft to the touch and pair beautifully with your home's décor.

Designers, such as HGTV host Joe Ruggiero and furniture design



Sunbrella brand performance fabrics have moved indoors, offering durability, style and comfort.

authority Richard Frinier, use performance fabrics in their decorating projects. Ruggiero and Frinier have designed collections of Sunbrella for their furniture lines with styles and colors that draw on international design influences.

Indoor performance fabrics are available through a number of furniture manufacturers, such as Norwalk Furniture, Thomasville, Hickory Hill, Century, Rowe, Pennsylvania House, Craftmaster and others. When shopping for new furniture, you may want to ask if performance fabrics are available with the pieces you're considering.

When you're thinking about re-covering your furniture, you should know Calico Corners stores carry a large number of performance fabrics that can be purchased by the yard for your decorating projects. Either way, your furniture can last longer if you stick with fabrics designed to handle tough spills and bright sunlight.

For more information, visit www.sunbrella.com.