

# **CASTLE LINE**\*

# Tips & tricks

Castle Line insists on only ever delivering top-quality products, so that you and your guests can experience years of pleasure. You will find more information about the characteristics of the furniture in this booklet, along with maintenance tips and solutions for possible stains or damage.

That is the only way we can rest assured that you will continue to enjoy your purchase for many years to come.

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## **Textiles**

Castle Line has an extensive collection of fabrics and colours. There are natural and synthetic fabrics.

Natural fabrics (such as linen and cotton) are generally very kind to the skin and absorb moisture easily.

Synthetic fabrics (such as polyester) are very easy to care for and maintain. They keep their colour better, are fire resistant, and they are not sensitive to changes in temperature.

#### **Characteristics**

#### **Illusory stains**

Depending on where the chair is placed, it may look as though there are marks on the fabric. This is not any kind of manufacturing defect in the fabric: in fact the cause is simply that the pile of the fabric is not all lying in the same direction. To deal with it, stroke the fabric gently in one direction so that the pile all goes the same way.

#### Creases

To begin with, a fabric chair will be nice and firm. After a while, usage and the stretch in the fabric may lead to creasing.

#### Crushing

Some fabrics may become crushed over time, due to body heat, weight and moisture. This can be dealt with by covering the fabric with a damp cloth and waiting for 30 minutes. Then you can brush the fibres straight, in the direction of the pile, using a damp brush. Let the chair dry out properly afterwards.

#### Pilling

Pilling may appear on the fabric after being used for some time. Little balls of lint form, which are stuck to the fabric. Don't pull them off by hand: instead, use a defuzzing comb or fabric shaver.

#### Foam and filling

We mainly use polyether and cold foam. To begin with, the seat will feel nice and taut, but the foam will lose its firmness as it is used. However, this will make it more comfortable.

#### Care

Vacuum the furniture weekly to remove household dust, crumbs and other everyday dirt. Do this with a soft brush in the direction of the fabric pile. The pile is the direction the weave or fibres are lying in.

If there is any loose fluff, you can remove it with a damp cloth.

#### **Stains**

Remove stains immediately after spillages occur so that the stain does not bond with the fabric.

Soak up fluids as quickly as possible by dabbing with a clean cloth. Be sure to avoid rubbing the stain, so that it does not expand or penetrate deeper into the fabric.

If the stain is caused by a solid substance, remove the substance with a spoon to avoid pushing it further into the fabric.

Most stains can be removed with a sponge and lukewarm water. Don't use too much water, and you can add a mild detergent to the water if necessary. Pat the stain dry with an absorbent cloth until it disappears. Be sure to avoid rubbing the fabric hard so that you do not damage the fibres. If necessary, you can dry the chair with a hairdryer, but be sure to hold the dryer at arm's length from the chair to avoid scorching the fabric.

Thorough cleaning can be done with a dry foam or by having the fabric cleaned professionally. Before you try this yourself, be sure to test the dry foam on an area of the fabric that does not show.

For velvet fabric, brush the fabric with a velvet brush after cleaning.

For cleaning FibreGuard fabric, we advise you consult the following website: <a href="https://fibreguard.com/how-to-clean">https://fibreguard.com/how-to-clean</a>



### PU

The 'PU' in PU leather stands for polyurethane. The visible layer of PU leather is in fact a polyurethane film or coating. This is sometimes applied to a layer of split leather, but it may also consist of compressed leather scraps. So although PU leather does contain real leather, the material you see and feel is *not* leather.

#### **Characteristics**

#### Creases

A PU seat will be nice and firm to begin with. After a while, usage and the stretch in the PU leather may lead to creasing.

#### Foam and filling

We mainly use polyether and cold foam. To begin with, the seat will feel nice and taut, but the foam will lose its firmness as it is used. However, this will make it more comfortable.



#### **Scratches**

Scratches in PU can always be removed by 'warming' the chair with a hairdryer and rubbing away the scratches with a smooth cloth. This is only possible if the scratches are not too deep. The hairdryer must also be held far enough away from the PU to avoid scorching it.

#### Discolouration

Never place the chair in direct sunlight, to avoid discolouration.

#### Care

PU leather must be dusted regularly with a non-fluffy, dry or slightly damp cloth.

#### **Stains**

Remove stains immediately after spillages occur.

Soak up fluids as quickly as possible by dabbing with a clean cloth. Be sure to avoid rubbing the stain, so that it does not expand.

Most stains can be removed with a sponge and lukewarm water. Don't use too much water, and you can add a mild detergent to the water if necessary. Pat the stain dry with an absorbent cloth until it disappears. Be sure to avoid rubbing the PU leather hard.

If this method does not work, we advise you to use a PU cleaner, but be sure to test it first on an area that does not show. Regular cleaning can increase the lifespan of the furniture and restore its shine.

Never use strong cleaning products.

## Leather

Leather is a natural product with great allure that is very easy to look after. The most beautiful skins are selected for furniture leather, but it is possible that you may find scars from insect bites, barbed wire or neck folds in the leather. This adds to the unique character of the leather; it is not a defect.

#### Characteristics

#### Creases

To begin with, a leather chair will be nice and firm. After a while, usage and the stretch in the material may lead to creasing. Never place leather furniture in direct sunlight either, or beside a heat source. This can adversely affect the colour and suppleness of the leather.

#### Discolouration

Where the head, neck and hands (transpiration) come into frequent contact with the leather, discolouration is likely. Regular cleaning with a slightly damp cloth may prevent this discolouration.

#### Foam and filling

We mainly use polyether and cold foam. To begin with, the seat will feel nice and taut, but the foam will lose its firmness as it is used. However, this will make it more comfortable.

#### Care

With only a little effort, you will be able to enjoy the leather furniture you have bought for many years. It is sufficient to wipe it regularly with a soft, dry cloth.

To keep the leather supple and in tip-top condition, it is best to apply a leather cream twice a year.

#### **Stains**

Remove stains immediately after spillages occur.

Soak up fluids as quickly as possible by dabbing with a clean cloth. Be sure to avoid rubbing the stain, so that it does not expand or penetrate deeper into the leather.

NEVER use aggressive cleaning products on leather.

There are special stain removers on the market for each type of leather. Always test them first in a place that will not show.

## Wood

Solid wood is very sustainable and has a lovely appearance. There are around 600 types of wood commercially available. Each species has its own colour, hardness and grain. Most wood for the furniture industry comes from conifers and deciduous trees. Conifers (including those from the Netherlands and Scandinavia) grow quickly and have softer wood, e.g. spruce, fir and pine. Deciduous tress (including those from the US, Europe and Asia) grow more slowly and have harder wood, such as teak and oak. The value of the wood is determined by its hardness and weight, which is why softer wood is cheaper to buy.

#### **Characteristics**

Wood is a natural product. No two trees are the same. That means knots and small cracks in wooden furniture are intrinsic to the wood. Wood also reacts to atmospheric humidity and changes in temperature. Consequently, the wood may bulge or shrink somewhat. Cracks and splits may also appear. These are intrinsic to solid wood furniture and are not production defects.

### Everyday use

- ✓ Do not put hot items directly on a wooden surface: use coasters or pan holders.
- ✓ Watch out with excess moisture or alcohol, which can leave rings.
- ✓ Do not place wooden furniture near a heat source or beside a window, to avoid warping and cracking.
- ✓ If the furniture is in direct sunlight, it will discolour more quickly. The furniture will change colour somewhat anyway over time.
- ✓ Never tug at the furniture to move it: first empty it and then lift it evenly.
- ✓ Provide a humidifier in the room that regulates the humidity to 40-60%.
- ✓ Make sure the furniture is level and avoid unnecessary strain on the joints.
- ✓ Close the drawers and doors to reduce warping.
- ✓ Move decorative items on the furniture now and again to avoid discolouration.
- ✓ It is best to put a pad under your paper when writing.
- ✓ You can fit felt or synthetic pads under the feet to protect the floor.
- ✓ In the first weeks, the wood may release a scent, but this will disappear after a week or two.

#### Care

Clean with a slightly damp cloth. Then rub dry with a clean, dry cloth. Do not use any cleaning products or chemicals. Always dry the metal parts of cupboards and tables well to prevent rusting.

You cannot treat lacquered or varnished furniture with oil or wax. As time goes by, however, you can always have the lacquer or varnish re-applied.

Oiled wood is somewhat more sensitive and can be cleaned with a slightly damp cloth. You may want to care for the furniture by oiling it twice a year.

Teak will turn grey over time. If you do not want this to happen, you can clean and oil the table twice a year. Start by cleaning your garden furniture with a hard brush. NEVER use a high-pressure cleaner for this, because this will damage the wood's natural wax layer. Then clean it with a wood cleaner (see instructions on the packaging). Allow the furniture to dry completely, apply oil and allow it to soak in. Stubborn stains can be sanded away with paper or gently removed with a sanding machine.



## Marble

Marble is a porous natural stone. It is recognisable by its veined structure.

#### **Characteristics**

Marble is sawn and polished manually. That may mean the edges are somewhat rough or uneven. Splits and cracks can occur due to use.

As marble is porous, it can contain small irregularities. Differences in colour and shine are also characteristic of marble. Consequently, it is quite normal that even in a set of several tables, there is a difference in colour and/or gloss.

Marble is not heat-resistant. Placing a hot pan can cause permanent damage to the top.



Marble is a soft material and therefore not scratch-resistant. So be careful with sharp objects.

The above characteristics are inherent to the product and can therefore not be a reason for exchange.

#### Care

- ✓ Never use abrasive cleaners to remove stains.
- ✓ Marble is not stain-resistant. The top layer is open, which means that certain liquids can easily penetrate the surface. You can treat marble with oil beforehand to prevent stains.
- ✓ Clean with lukewarm water and a soft cloth. You may want to use soap or marble cleaner. Clean the table by making circular movements across the surface.

## Pebble marble

Pebble marble is a nature-friendly combination of marble waste, quartz, sand and powdered stone, rosin, cement and acrylic adhesive. The advantage that pebble marble has over natural marble is its more homogeneous pattern. It is also considerably lighter and more dirt-resistant than natural marble. It is not porous, but it is sensitive to aggressive cleaning products, acids and heavy objects.

#### Care

- ✓ Never use aggressive cleaning products to remove stains.
- ✓ Clean with lukewarm water and a soft cloth.



## **Aluminium**

Aluminium is highly suitable for use as an outdoor material. Many of our garden furnishings use aluminium for visible or invisible parts. The colour of powder-coated aluminium garden furnishings is burned on, which makes the furniture more dirt-resistant.

#### **Characteristics**

Aluminium is very strong and will not rust through. It also deflects heat, so it does not get too hot to sit on in the summer.

### Care

- ✓ Clean with water and a cloth.
- ✓ Never use abrasives or steel wool.
- ✓ If possible, storing it indoors in winter will increase its lifespan.
- ✓ Do not cover garden furniture with a cover because it may 'suffocate'. That can lead to imprints and/or stains appearing on the aluminium that cannot be cleaned away.



# **Synthetics / synthetic wickerwork**

Most synthetics are composites: a combination of different materials. This chemical composition determines the furniture's lifespan as well as their resistance to UV rays and the weather.

#### **Characteristics**

Synthetics are sensitive to UV radiation. UV rays 'cut' some of the bonds in the material, as it were, gradually making the structure more brittle and fragile. Synthetics are most likely to break when bearing a load during cold periods, but generally people do not sit outside then.



#### Care

- You can spray new furniture with a protective spray that will ensure that dirt and moisture are not absorbed as easily by the furniture.
- ✓ Clean the furniture once a year.
- ✓ Never use abrasive products because these damage the finishing layer.
- ✓ Remove stains immediately so that no discolouration occurs.
- ✓ If the furniture has become a little dull, you can treat it with a furniture wax or oil. This will bring out the colour again and restore the furniture's protection from the elements.
- ✓ The garden furniture can be left outdoors, but it is best to lean the chairs against the table at a slant. That way, most of the dirt is rinsed away and water is not caught in the wicker.

#### **Stains**

Remove stains as quickly as possible with water, a mild all-purpose detergent and a sponge.

# **Textilene**

Textilene is very comfortable and takes on the shape of the body.

It has a strong structure and is made of coated polyester fibres. This fabric does not absorb water. It is colour fast and will not tear.

#### Care

Textilene is very easy to care for. It is sufficient to clean it now and again with lukewarm water or a special spray.

To be able to enjoy your furniture for longer, it is worth protecting it against various types of weather and putting it in storage in winter.



## **Ceramic**

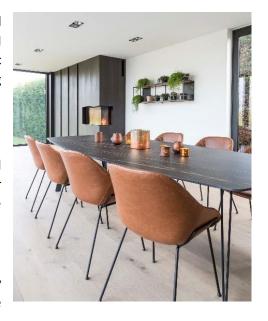
Ceramic is a combination of kaolin, clay, colourings and ceramic binding agents. Then the mixture is compacted and fired to create a strong material. That means that a ceramic tabletop is resistant to shock, impact and scratching, making it ideal for everyday family use.

#### **Characteristics**

You cannot choose in advance what a ceramic worktop will look like. You only choose the colour and shape. In other words, the pattern may be different to the worktop in the showroom.

The big advantage of ceramic is that it is colour fast.

Ceramic is scratch, water and stain resistant. Ceramic is very hygienic. You can also place food straight onto it or prepare food on it because it is free from tastes and odours.



You can also put a hot dish onto a ceramic table, because a ceramic tabletop can withstand temperatures of up to 450°C.

#### Care

Ceramic is sensitive to corrosive substances. Remove these immediately so that they cannot damage the worktop.

Be careful with heavy, sharp objects. These can cause a crack or flaking.

A ceramic worktop can simply be cleaned with a wet cloth.

#### **Stains**

The table tops are cut to size using a water jet. These waterjet machines use a high-pressure water stream to erode and remove a very narrow strip of material. Using a water jet, almost any material can be cut with high accuracy.

After cutting, all table tops are superficially cleaned. Despite this, lime or residue can remain on the table top. These can sometimes be clearly visible because suction cups are used to transport the table blades from the sawing machine to the packaging area. The stains are on the blade and not in the material itself

We recommend cleaning them (sometimes repeatedly) before use:

- Clean the blade with warm water and vinegar.
- If this does not help, try using an abrasive and a dishwashing sponge.
- If the stains still persist, you can remove them with a sticker remover.

# **High Pressure Laminate (HPL)**

HPL stands for High Pressure Laminate. It is mainly produced for outdoor applications. This is because the panels can take a fair amount of rough treatment. HPL is a combination of paper pulp and phenolic resin, with a hard upper layer of melamine resin.

#### **Characteristics**

These panels are hard and resistant to moisture and weather. They are very hygienic and easy to clean.

#### Care

- ✓ Wipe daily with a damp cloth and gentle detergent.
- ✓ Fingerprints (which are more easily visible on dark colours) can be wiped away with a soft, dry cloth.
- Do not use aggressive cleaning products.

#### **Stains**

Stubborn stains can be treated with a vinegar solution.

## **DO IT YOURSELF**

#### Chair is not stable

If you notice that a chair wobbles after assembly, you can fix this yourself by loosening the screws slightly by an equal amount.

### Damage to lacquer

Wear and tear might well cause small scratches or damage to the lacquer. You can deal with this yourself. Order retouching lacquer from us. You will obtain the best results if you sand the surface a little before recolouring it.

### **Sticking drawers**

Check first that the furniture is level.

If it is, the cause may have to do with the finish applied in the production process, or the wood may have expanded a little. You can fix this by sanding gently with fine-grained sandpaper intended for wood.

You might also want to clean the drawer's runners. Rubbing them with candle wax or talcum powder often helps as well.

#### Glue residues

Glue residues may be left on the furniture after production. You can remove them yourself by scrubbing them with steel wool or with sticker remover and an abrasive sponge.

## Doors that don't close properly

Check first that the furniture is level.

If the doors still don't close properly, sand the doors and door frames gently with fine-grained sandpaper. That will create more space and the doors will be able to open and close more easily.

### **Sagging shelves**

Shelves may start to sag after some time. You can solve this simply by turning the shelf over (where the drill holes permit).

If you have any other questions about care and maintenance or about the material, please contact our service department:



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