

Regular Care Instructions For Prolonging The Life Of Your Casa Fiora Draperies

Thank you for purchasing your draperies from Casa Fiora. With proper care, we are confident that you can extend the life of your beautiful selections. And by keeping your draperies maintained on a regular basis, you'll also make fewer visits to your professional dry cleaner. The following are some care guidelines to assist you with maintaining your Casa Fiora draperies.

- Protect your draperies from moisture through window condensation or rain. Prolonged exposure to moisture and extreme humidity can cause discoloration from mildew. Mildew stains can be difficult or impossible to remove.
- Rotate your draperies to vary sun exposure. Constant exposure to sunlight not only can cause discoloration, but it can also cause the fabric to shred. Typically, closely woven fabrics are more durable than loosely woven fabrics. Silk is the most vulnerable to light deterioration, while acrylic and polyester are the most resistant.
- Vacuum your draperies with an upholstery attachment on a monthly basis to remove dust, animal hairs and other household airborne contaminants. Always use special care when vacuuming floors to avoid letting the bottom of the drapery come in close contact with your vacuum cleaner.
- Maintain your HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning) System air filters according to the manufacturer's instructions to prevent the effects of atmospheric soils. Tobacco, heat from you household system, kitchen smoke, and other atmospheric soils can cause fabrics to yellow permanently.
- Provide periodic inspections of your drapery installation. Reattach any pins that come out of your rings. Reinsert any pins that have fallen out of the drapery. Re-anchor any loose or missing hardware brackets to provide secure mounting.
- Prevent stain heartaches by consulting with a reputable local company in your area that treats soft home furnishing with preventative stain guards.

We hope our Regular Care Instructions will prevent any unnecessary trips to your local dry cleaner. But on the occasion that you require professional help, a reputable dry cleaner who has extensive drapery cleaning experience will be able to assist you. They should assess your drapery-cleaning needs, evaluate the best cleaning options (based on the components of your draperies), and share any concerns they may have with you prior to caring for you draperies.

With regular care and occasional professional dry cleaning, you'll take pleasure in your Casa Fiora draperies for years to come. Enjoy!



Fiora's Tips for Keeping Your Draperies in Pristine Shape



Pardon My Wrinkles

Though Casa Fiora has taken precautions to ensure that your draperies are ready to hang when received, some wrinkling and creasing may occur. Wrinkles and creases can be kept to a minimum by immediately doing the following:

- Promptly remove the draperies from the box and hang on a rod.
- Install your new Casa Fiora draperies as soon as possible.

The most commonly creased area occurs at the location where the drapery is hung over the hanger. The longer drapery is left on the hanger, the greater the creasing will be.

Professional installers have offered these helpful hints for spot treating wrinkles or creases after hanging your Casa Fiora draperies:

- **Cottons and Linens**

– *Steaming:* Ensure your steamer is clean and free of any residue. Fill it with the recommended water type from your owner's literature, and follow your steamer instructions. Begin with the lowest possible heat setting, increasing the heat very slowly as needed. Casa Fiora's fabrics are NOT preshrunk and special precautions will need to be taken to prevent shrinkage.

– *Ironing:* Ensure your iron is clean and free of any residue. Fill it with the recommended water type from your owner's literature. Begin with the lowest possible heat setting, increasing the heat very slowly as needed. It is sometimes helpful to place your hand behind the three layers of fabrics to help support the weight of the iron. Take every precaution to make sure the iron is on low heat and that you will not be burned by the metal plate or by steam.

- **Silks and Synthetic Blends**

– *Ironing:* Ensure your iron is clean and free of any residue. Use a completely dry iron – any water left in the iron may cause water spots on silk. Begin with the lowest possible heat setting, increasing the heat very slowly as needed. It is sometimes helpful to place your hand behind the three layers of fabrics to help support the weight of the iron. Take every precaution to make sure the iron is on low heat and that you will not be burned by the metal plate or by steam.

Note: We do NOT recommend using a home steamer for these types of fabrics. Home steamers may spot these sensitive fabrics. For steaming silks and synthetic blends, we recommend you consult a qualified professional.

- **Sheers**

– Please use special care while installing, dressing or cleaning your sheers. Sheer fabrics used in seamed drapery panels are delicate, vulnerable at the seams, and prone to snagging, especially in high-traffic areas. Excessive handling may cause stretching at the seams, so limited handling is recommended. Seamless drapery panels are made of wide width goods which may arrive folded, causing creasing to occur. Wrinkles and creases can be reduced by lightly dampening the fabric and ironing on a low heat setting. For helpful hints on spot-treating wrinkles or creases after hanging your sheer draperies, please reference the content instructions of the sheer fabric. Our Sunbrella® brand fabrics are made of solution-dyed acrylic fibers and offer the added benefit of excellent resistance to fading, mildew and stains. In most cases, Sunbrella fabrics can be spot-cleaned by sponging with mild soap and warm water. Visit www.sunbrella.com for more cleaning tips.

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Professionally Dressed Windows Tips

After your draperies have been hung and spot pressed, take a moment to get a professionally installed appearance:

- For a tailored look, if you haven't already installed your draperies with "returns," you may want to consider doing so. "Returns" are the far outside edge of the drapery panel that is turned at a 90 degree angle, where the last drapery pin is attached to a hook in the wall. Hence, the term "return."
- At the top of the drapery, pull all pleats forward and fold the fabric between the pleats toward the back of the drapery. Crease this fold with your hand to point towards the window.
- The fan folds will still be present and you may want to encourage this look to remain by tying 1" wide ribbon loosely around the panel in two or three places. Be sure the ribbon lies flat and is not tight enough to cause any wrinkling. If you can, let the ribbons remain for a few days. This will help "train" the drapery to stay in the fan folded position. (This trick will also work if your drapery has been disturbed when vacuuming.)
- If your draperies seem too short after they are hung, there may be a not-so-obvious reason. Some fabrics, especially cotton, linen and rayon, may change dimensions in response to changes in the relative humidity. Just as your hair may draw up and become curly when the air is humid, your draperies may draw up and become slightly shorter. This problem may correct itself when the air becomes dryer. For geographic areas that experience constant humidity, you can adjust the length by either changing the placement of the drapery pins in the drapery heading or by lowering the drapery rod.
- If you miscalculated your length when you placed your order and find your draperies are too long, with today's current trends, you're not out of luck. With the popular "break and crash" look with 2"-3" on the floor, you'll feel right in style. Another option may be to simply lower the drapery pins in the drapery heading for smaller adjustments.

