

## **MAINTENANCE of the Hashira lamp range**

### **HOW TO MAINTAIN YOUR FABRIC LAMP SHADE ON THE HASHIRA LAMP RANGE**

Fabric lampshades can also accumulate dust, cobwebs, fingerprints and general debris. Some lampshades can also become yellowed over time. There are some simple steps you can take to help get your fabric lampshade back to its original look. It is important to take care when cleaning your fabric lampshade, to avoid introducing any staining or water marks, or otherwise damaging it.

You should always handle the lampshade by its fitting, to avoid denting, marking, creasing or tearing it, and use the right methods and materials to clean it. Special for these fabric lampshades are that they are glued onto its frame and so require extra care.

If you want your lampshade to stay nice-looking, and avoid the build-up of heavy, unsightly stains it's best to keep on top of things. It's easy to do this as part of your regular cleaning routine. Simply switch off the lamp, make sure the bulb is cool, and wipe the lampshade with a microfiber cloth, a gentle brush or a sticky lint roller. Doing this regularly will help to keep your lampshade looking great, and ensure it makes the kind of statement you want it to!

### **Removing excess dust and dirt from the fabric lampshade**

Begin by unplugging the lamp and removing the lampshade from the lamp base or fitting (this usually involves unscrewing the bulb and then the cap). Remove as much surface dust and dirt as possible from the inside and outside of the shade. There are several methods you can use to do this:

- A brush or microfiber cloth – using a gentle sweeping motion, wipe the lampshade fabric with a microfiber cloth in sections, or alternatively brush it vertically from top to bottom with a soft clothes brush.
- A hairdryer – excess dust and hair can be removed from lampshade using a hair dryer set to full speed. Remember to use a cool setting, and hold the dryer at a 20-30 cm distance from the shade to avoid damaging it.
- A vacuum cleaner – if the fabric is robust, you can use a vacuum cleaner with the upholstery brush attachment, gently cleaning the shade with a light brushing movement from top to bottom.
- A sticky lint roller or masking tape – roll the lint roller lightly across the fabric, or place the masking tape onto the fabric, making sure not to press too hard, and remove it gently, bringing the dirt and dust with it.

### **Removing light stains from a fabric lampshade**

If your lampshade has light dirt marks or staining but is not robust enough to immerse in water, first remove any non-washable fittings such as base, lamp holder, bulbs and cords. Mix a bowl of cool water with some delicate fabric detergent (or a fabric cleaning spray, pay attention to follow the instructions of the spray carefully) and apply just the soap suds to the shade in sections using a microfiber cloth, turning the shade each time to ensure full coverage. Then gently rinse off the suds and wipe the lampshade dry.

Note that spot-cleaning a fabric lampshade can sometimes cause a water mark or dye stains (or a particularly noticeable clean spot!) So cleaning the whole shade will help to ensure an even finish.

### **Removing stubborn dirt from a fabric lampshade**

For more stubborn dirt, or if your fabric lampshade is heavily stained, for example with grubby hand prints or water marks, you may need to take tougher action.

Put on some rubber gloves and fill a large, clean container (or a bathtub) with lukewarm water (cool water for glued fabric lampshades). The water should be deep enough to fully submerge your lampshade. Add in some delicate fabric cleaner and stir, to create suds. Now gently immerse the lampshade, holding it securely by the frame. Using a sponge or cloth, gently wipe the lampshade using an up and down movement. If required, use a soft brush to gently dab any problem areas (don't rub them, as this may cause the fabric to tear). Once the shade is clean, empty your tub a final time, refill it with clean water, and dip the lampshade in and out of the water to remove any excess soap.

### **Drying a fabric lampshade**

Fabric lampshades can sometimes appear to stretch when they are washed. However, they will return to their original shape when fully dry. The key is to make sure that they dry out evenly.

Gently shake the lampshade and pat it with a soft, clean towel to remove any excess moisture, then either hang it over the bath or stand it in a well-ventilated spot to air dry.

If the weather is warm enough, you could dry your lampshade outside. However, make sure it's in a clean, secure area away from direct sunlight – or any unwanted intervention from pets or children!

You can also use a hairdryer or a fan to help dry out your shade, but again care is needed. Use a cool setting and set the device at a 20-30 cm distance from the lampshade.

### **Reassembling your fabric lampshade**

Once your lampshade is fully dry, you can reassemble everything. Always remember to dust the lightbulb and lamp base. Then pop the bulb in and put the shade back on the base, screw it all back together, finally plug in and turn on the light!