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# GALLATIN VALLEY

## FURNITURE CARPET ONE

Bozeman Montana

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### Fabric Characteristics & Features

Nothing transforms a room more than upholstered furniture. The term "upholstery" refers to the attached covers of fabric or leather applied to sofas, chairs, window treatments and other pieces of furniture. Upholstered furniture can set the tone and the style of the room through various colors, patterns, textures, fibers & leathers (for more information about leather, please view the "Leather Characteristics section"). We have provided a few general characteristics about the seven primary categories of fibers used in upholstery for your reference. The cost of upholstery can vary due to the complexity of the manufacturing process. Also, it should be noted that all fabrics will fade and wear over time. Please visit with one of our designers or sales associates today to explore the many options of quality, colors, designs, and textures of upholstery and leather.

#### *Seven Types of Fibers Used in Upholstery*

**Natural Fibers:** Animal-derived natural fibers include wool spun from sheep, goats, llama and alpaca. Plants produce natural fibers such as sea grass, jute, flax and cotton.

1. **Wool:** Wool is soft and extremely resilient. Wool provides strength, versatility, and variety and is available in many colors.
2. **Cotton:** Cotton is available in many colors, provides softness and good performance.

**Synthetic Fibers:** Synthetic fibers such as olefin and nylon are petroleum products, while rayon - a man-made alternative to silk - is synthesized from cellulose found in trees.

3. **Nylon:** Nylon is manufactured in an unlimited variety of colors, resists soil and is easily cleaned.
4. **Olefin (Polypropylene):** Olefin is the predominant machine-woven synthetic fiber. Olefin has a soft wool-like feel, but resists wear and stains while being colorfast, strong and affordable.
5. **Polyester:** Polyester provides softness when constructed into thick, cut pile textures for durable furniture fabrics as well as area rugs.
6. **Acrylic:** Acrylic can be blended with other fibers to provide the look of wool at a lower cost while providing good fade resistance and durability.



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7. **Blends:** Any of the above natural and synthetic fibers may be blended. Selecting upholstered fabrics can be an exciting part of the design process. Visit our showroom today to see the how we can help you transform any room in your house.

### Care for Upholstery

Most furniture companies provide standardized cleaning codes and instructions which list the preferred spot cleaning method. Here are the definitions for each of the cleaning codes:

#### Upholstery Cleaning Codes

- **S:** Clean the fabric sparingly with a dry cleaning solvent that's water free. Test for color fastness, use sparingly.
- **W:** Clean fabric with a water based solution, such as mild detergent and water or foam upholstery cleaner. Avoid over wetting.
- **WS:** Depending on stain, use a water based solution, dry-cleaning solvent or upholstery shampoo.
- **X:** Fabric should be professionally cleaned only. Vacuum or brush lightly to remove any accumulation of dust, dirt and debris. Do not use cleaning solvents or water based products on fabric.

Furniture can be an expensive item, and you can permanently damage it if you use the wrong cleaning materials. If you are not sure about how to clean your furniture, or the codes are not available, it may be best to call a professional cleaner. You can also purchase upholstery protectors to keep your furniture from becoming stained or dirty. If you buy your furniture brand new, the fabric is generally pre-treated. However, over time this protection will wear off, and used furniture will likely not have it.

