



## BRITE BLINDS Care & Maintenance Guide

### Cleaning Your Roller Shades

With a little preventive care, roller shades can beautify your windows for years without needing to be replaced. A few cleaning strategies will ensure your blinds remain in top shape with little effort on your part.

The classic roller shade comes in a wide range of fabrics which, generally speaking, are kept looking their best with a gentle once-over with your vacuum's soft brush tool, and a little spot cleaning with a damp cloth where needed. Sometimes, however, in cases where dust and dirt have been allowed to accumulate over a long period of time, a more thorough cleaning may be required. For products not supplied by Brite Blinds, please consult the manufacturer's directions for cleaning their products.

### Cleaning Supplies

A dusting tool is essential for maintenance and light cleaning. Opt for microfiber dusters or cloths as they will attract dust rather than scatter it all over. A vacuum cleaner with a brush attachment will capture dust effectively. For more in-depth cleaning, use a sponge or soft dust cloth and a mild detergent mixed with warm water. Non-abrasive household cleaners can be substituted, but avoid any products that contain bleach, CFC's or petroleum. Folex is a gentle, non-toxic and odor-free option that can also be used on carpets, walls and upholstery. Another alternative is to make your own cleanser. Fill a spray pump bottle with a mixture of 2 cups of warm water, 1/2 tsp. dish detergent, and 1/4 cup white distilled vinegar. Add some lemon juice for a clean, fresh scent.

### Maintenance

Dusting is a valuable preventive measure that will save you time and effort in the long run by removing debris that can build up over time and make cleaning a chore. A dusting tool is essential for maintenance and light cleaning. Opt for microfiber dusters or cloths as they will attract dust rather than scatter it all over. A vacuum cleaner with a brush attachment will capture dust effectively.

### Spot Cleaning

For small spots, use a sponge or soft dust cloth and a mild detergent mixed with warm water. Non-abrasive household cleaners can be substituted, but avoid any products that contain bleach, CFC's or petroleum. Folex is a gentle, non-toxic and odor-free option that can also be used on carpets, walls and upholstery. Another alternative is to make your own cleanser. Fill a spray pump bottle with a mixture of 2 cups of warm water, 1/2 tsp. dish detergent, and 1/4 cup white distilled vinegar. Add some lemon juice for a clean, fresh scent. Dry with a soft, clean cloth.

*See back page for deep cleaning directions.*



## Deep Cleaning Your Brite Blinds

### Supplies:

- Mild laundry detergent
- Bleach (optional)
- Sponge or soft cloths
- Old toothbrush
- Vacuum with brush attachment
- Drying rack or outside clothesline
- Bath tub
- Warm water
- Friend to help (optional)

1. If the blinds are especially dirty, begin by vacuuming away surface dirt on exposed blinds using a brush attachment.
2. Remove the blinds from the roller and carefully lay them flat on the floor.
3. Use the brush attachment on the vacuum to gently brush the entire surface and remove loose dirt, dead bugs, spiderwebs, etc.
4. Half fill a bathtub with warm water.
5. Add some laundry detergent to the water and mix together until a few suds begin to form on the surface. If the blinds are white, a small amount of bleach can be added to the water as well.
6. Next, carefully lay the blinds in the tub. If the blinds are long, it is okay to loosely layer them in an accordion fashion.
7. Allow them to soak in the soapy water for 2 hours.
8. Next, start at one end of the blinds and gently wipe back and forth with a soft cloth or sponge. This will help remove any remaining dirt and/or stains.
9. For tough stains, scrub them gently with an old toothbrush.
10. Drain the sudsy water from the tub.
11. Fill with clean water and rinse the blinds. Repeat until all of the soap is removed. If soap residue remains on the blinds, it will act as a magnet quickly collecting dirt and dust.
12. If a partner is available to assist, the blinds can be held up and rinsed with a shower sprayer for quicker soap removal.
13. Lay the blinds over a drying rack or outside on a clothesline until they are completely dried.
14. Attach them back onto the roller and reinstall them over the window.



## Additional Tips & Ideas

- Color-safe bleach can be used for added cleaning power on colored blinds.
- Avoid using harsh cleaners on the fabric as it may damage the material.
- Regular cleanings will help keep major dirt and stains from building up on roller blinds.

## Brite Blinds Cleaning Service

If the idea of deep cleaning your own blinds is unappealing, or if you're managing a commercial building and don't have the time, then it's worth considering using the services of a professional blinds cleaning company. Brite Blinds offers this service at a reasonable charge, and our experienced team can remove your blinds, clean them at our dedicated cleaning facility, then reinstall them for you. **Please call us at 604.420.8820 for an estimate, or to arrange for pick up and drop off.**

