

# Choosing the correct fabric for sofas

Choices of fabrics are probably considered one of the least concerning factors while buying a sofa. But they are just as important as the design, cushions and the pillows. There are a lot of options out there and it can get confusing sometimes.



house? Will there be children running around randomly? Is there any allergy concern in your family? Is there any clumsy person in your house who likes to eat on the sofa? — there just seems to be too many questions but you need to think them through.

Once you have settled on the important questions, comes the question of plain or patterned fabrics. Plain fabrics will wear bright colours well but because of that, they will also stain rather easily. Intricate patterns will do a much better job of masking the small stains. Which means you will have to decide before choosing a fabric — how much maintenance time are you willing to put behind your sofa? There is no hard-and-fast rule when it comes to choosing a pattern or colour. A well thought combination of plain and pattern can be innovative and eye-catching.



While choosing a fabric for your sofa, you will need to answer a few key questions that will guide you towards a choice that is right for you. The first question is quite obvious. Do you want a natural fabric or a synthetic one? Keep in mind that each has their advantages and disadvantages.

For natural fabrics, you can choose from linen, wool, cotton, silk and of course, leather. Leather is one of the most durable options for a sofa and it's sophisticated as well, but it will cost you. The only limit you will have with leather is that it will somewhat limit your array of colours. Cotton will be practical but linen will offer a rich texture that's difficult to ignore. Wool is durable but can feel scratchy so carefully choose before you take your pick.

If you are looking for a fabric that is budget friendly, easy to clean, and still

stylish, synthetic is what you are looking for. Fibres such as polyesters are no cotton but they are certainly cheaper. Nylon, acrylic and olefin are some of the other choices available. Microfibres can be woven or non-woven and are notable for their durability.

There are more questions to answer before you can move on to picking colours and patterns. Are there any pets in your



If you are trying to pick a fabric for your sofa, don't just ponder on the colours and patterns. Since it's not done frequently, take your time and do it well — do it thoughtfully.

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**Photo: Sazzad Ibne Sayed**  
**Special thanks to Nazneen Haque Mimi**

## ◆ HOROSCOPE ◆



**ARIES**  
 (MAR. 21-APR. 20)

Business deals will go off smoothly. Abrupt action will cause difficulties with relatives. Keep your opinions to yourself. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



**TAURUS**  
 (APR. 21-MAY 21)

Make plans that include your loved ones. Progressive methods at work will be to your liking. Re-evaluate your motives. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.



**GEMINI**  
 (MAY 22-JUN. 21)

Arguments won't help. Impress others with your generous nature. Catch up on pending correspondence. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.



**CANCER**  
 (JUN. 22-JUL. 22)

Pay attention to new opportunities. Pleasure trips will be therapeutic. Voice your opinions at work when needed. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.



**LEO**  
 (JUL. 23-AUG. 22)

Restrictions will be suffocating. Don't be deceived by sweet talk. Spend time with family. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.



**VRGO**  
 (AUG. 23-SEP. 23)

New interests will captivate you. Be careful when lending money. Take care of any pressing health problems. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.



**LIBRA**  
 (SEP. 24-OCT. 23)

Problems with peers is apparent. Relationships can end if you are pushy. Don't let anyone burden you. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.



**SCORPIO**  
 (OCT. 24-NOV. 21)

Think carefully before acting. Look for ways to make extra money. Dream a little this week. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



**SAGITTARIUS**  
 (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

Take advantage of upcoming opportunities. Opportunities for romance will be plenty. Meet new friends who provide mental stimulation. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.



**CAPRICORN**  
 (DEC. 22-JAN. 20)

Take a long hard self-assessment. Changes will make life more harmonious. Don't take the brunt of a bad situation. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



**AQUARIUS**  
 (JAN. 21-FEB. 19)

Get sound advice on life problems. Expect changes in your financial situation. Don't get talked into get-rich-quick schemes. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.



**PISCES**  
 (FEB. 20-MAR. 20)

Plan to visit loved ones. Discuss plans for the future. Be lenient as long as the work gets done. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.