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The Paramus Post

Thursday, December 13, 2012, 12:21 PM EST

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Locals Making Last Minute Home Fixes For Holiday Guests

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By [Mel Fabrikant](#) Friday, December 07, 2012, 10:15 AM EST

For most of us, the holidays are the most wonderful time of the year. But if you're hosting the in-laws for the weekend or throwing a neighborhood party, the stress of cleaning and preparing your house for guests may dampen the holiday spirit. Just ask the homemakers around town scrambling to fix noticeable eyesores that have been put to the back burner all year, so their homes are in top shape for visitors.

Fibrenew, a local business specializing in repairing and restoring furniture, is experiencing a back log of work from customers wanting to get their torn, stained, chewed or faded furniture looking like new in time for company. The name of the game is limiting your guest's ability to critique your home. Your mother-in-law is inevitably going to question something about the house, but do you want to hear her criticizing the appearance of the couch with unsightly chew marks from the dog (or the kids)?

I can help you build a story about ways families are prepping their homes for holiday festivities with a local Fibrenew restoration specialist who can restore and repair almost any piece of furniture – whether it is torn, worn, faded, chewed by the dog, or covered in cat scratches. Fibrenew craftsmen (and women) have the equipment and expertise to make cracks, stains, scratches, holes, rips and fades in leather, plastic, vinyl, fabric and upholstery look new again. They can even re-dye a leather couch to make it a different color.

Fibrenew has seen people make every mistake in the book with their leather, fabric, vinyl and plastic furniture, and they can also provide some helpful, little-known facts about vinyl, plastic and leather, tips on preventative care, and tips on dealing with furniture problems.

DOs and DON'Ts of extending furniture's life

Discoloration and fading

DON'T use markers to treat spots or areas of discoloration. Many old wives tales state that you can use markers to repair discolored leather. That is NOT true. Markers cannot match the exact appearance of the leather as it is not made for this purpose, so never use a marker to quickly remove the discoloration. You will only end up creating an irregular look.

DO regularly apply leather cleaner and try to keep furniture out of direct sunlight as much as possible.

Drying up

DON'T ever treat your leather with olive oil, petroleum or any other type of oil. A lot of people do to try to prevent drying, but the oil you use will get soaked up just like any other oil, resulting in spots and discoloration. Olive oil and all other oils actually speed up the deterioration process for leather. As leather is porous it will absorb the oil and over time the absorbed oil will lead to discoloration.

DO apply protection cream regularly.

Sweating and sunscreen

DON'T use household cleaners or baby wipes. They are the worst thing you can use as they will destroy the finish on your leather. Using household products may appear to work but, in the long run, will deteriorate the leather finish quicker and it may then be impossible to restore.

DO clean furniture regularly, especially after trips to the beach or other outdoor excursions.



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