

## Care and Cleaning

**Warning: always unplug any electrical appliance before attempting any service.**

### **Awning fabric:**

Fabrics should be cleaned regularly before substances such as dirt and food particles are allowed to accumulate on and become embedded in the fabric. The fabric can be cleaned without being removed from the umbrella frame by simply brushing off any loose dirt, roof particles etc. and cleaning with water and a mild soap solution (no more than 100 degrees F). Our recommended cleaning solution for most stains consists of 0.5 ounce of antibacterial dishwashing liquid to 22.5 ounces of water. **DO NOT USE DETERGENTS!!**

Spot wash by sponging briskly with a soap solution of mild soap in lukewarm water. Rinse thoroughly with clean water to remove soap and **air dry**.

For stubborn stains or suntan lotion, soak the fabric for approximately 20 minutes in a solution of no more than ½ cup (4 oz) of bleach and ¼ cup (2 oz) natural soap per gallon of water at approximately 100\* degree F. A non-chlorine bleach is recommended for fabric cover because of the urethane coating. Rinse thoroughly in cold water to remove all of the soap. Note: Excessive soaking in bleach can deteriorate sewing threads. This method of cleaning may remove part of the fabric's water repellency. Following a thorough cleaning, and when water repellency is a factor, the fabric should receive n application of an air-curing re-treatment, such as Hi- Tech Fabric Guard or a similar product.

The fabric cover may be dry cleaned, but a water repellent treatment must be applied to the fabric after dry cleaning to reestablish water repellency. Fabric covers are made from 100% synthetic fiber and are thermoplastic or heat sensitive. When washing or cleaning, do NOT subject the fabric to excessive heat as the fabric will shrink. Do NOT steam press or dry in electric or gas dryers. Allow fabric to AIR DRY.

Synthetic fabric does not promote mildew growth. However, mildew may grow on dirt and other substances that are not removed from the fabric. To clean mildew stains, prepare a mild solution of one cup bleach plus two caps full of a mild soap per gallon of water of water. Spray on entire area and allow to soaking in. If necessary, scrub vigorously with a sponge or clean rag. Rinse thoroughly with clean water and Air Dry.

In cases where an awning is taken down and stored during winter season, it should be cleaned, allowed to air dry, and stored in a dry, well ventilated area. Many fabricators offer a reasonable priced removal, cleaning, storage and re-hanging service on a yearly basis.

### **Awning Frame:**

The awning frame may be rinsed off with a hose. **WARNING:** make sure the electrical power supply is unplugged. If soap is needed, use a mild soap with a soft sponge. Rinse the awning thoroughly. Open the awning manually to allow the frame to dry. Wipe off any excess water around any switch, socket or electrical part. Make sure the awning and surrounding area is dry prior to plugging in and turning on the power.

Any auto polish may be used on the frame to help protect the frame from the elements.

