

Furniture Care, Maintenance, Reuse, and Recycling

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At Piironen, we believe that the lifespan of furniture for public spaces should be long. Long-lasting furniture is an economically sensible solution, reduces environmental impact, and serves its users in the best possible way every day when in good condition.

Therefore, the basic requirements for our furniture are high technical quality, quality materials, easy maintenance, and timeless design. Additionally, regular care of the furniture, such as cleaning surfaces, ensures a long service life. By doing so, we also create conditions for increased reuse – furniture that becomes surplus in one location can be utilized elsewhere.

This document includes the following themes:

1. Furniture Care Instructions
2. Maintenance and Repair Services
3. Reuse
4. Recycling
5. Furniture Installation and Usage

1. Care Instructions

General Considerations for Furniture Care:

- **Surface Care:** Treat the surfaces of the furniture using the recommended methods and cleaning agents for the specific materials. If you are unsure which cleaning agent to use, Piironen's sales staff will be happy to assist you.
- **Immediate Cleanup:** Remove all liquids and dirt from the surfaces of the furniture as quickly as possible. This is often beneficial even if thorough cleaning will be done later. Additionally, ensure that no liquid seeps into the frame through any seams.
- **Stain Removal Recommendations:** Below, we provide recommendations for removing stains specific to different surface materials. If the dirt or stain is from a particularly stubborn substance, such as coffee or printing ink, the surfaces can be cleaned with alcohol-based cleaning agents. Always test the suitability of the cleaning agent on a hidden area first. Strong cleaning agents should always be diluted before use. Do not use scouring powder or abrasive liquids for cleaning surfaces.
- **Structural Issues:** If you notice a structural defect in the furniture that you believe could lead to its breakage, it is advisable to take the furniture out of use and order maintenance. Such situations might include loosened leg attachments or bent leg tubes in chairs and tables, and loose or detached screws in all types of furniture. The underlying cause of these issues may be improper use of the furniture, but even in such cases, the furniture should be taken out of use due to the safety risk.

Wood Surface Care and Stain Removal

- **Wood Surfaces:** Wood is a natural living material with grain patterns, color tones, and sheen that may vary. Additionally, sunlight and artificial light can affect the color tone of wood surfaces over the years.

- **Cleaning Recommendation:** It is recommended to clean with a dry or slightly damp cloth using a soft cloth, and then dry the surface.
- **Neutral Cleaning Solution:** Use a neutral detergent (cleaning agent pH 6-8)

Laminates

- **Cleaning Recommendation:** It is recommended to clean with a dry or slightly damp cloth using a soft cloth, and then dry the surface.
- **Neutral Cleaning Solution:** Use a neutral detergent (cleaning agent pH 6-8).
- **Durability of Laminate:** Laminate is a highly durable surface that resists many liquids; it does not allow liquids to pass through. However, if a spill occurs on surfaces like chair seats, it's important to clean and dry the wood veneer edges of the seat thoroughly.

Fabrics and Leather

- **Care and Maintenance:** The care and maintenance of fabrics and leathers should be performed according to the specific instructions provided for each material.
- **Obtaining Instructions:** You can obtain these instructions from Piironen's sales team or directly from the fabric manufacturer's website.
- **General Cleaning:** Generally, most fabric surfaces are vacuumed to remove dust and loose dirt using a soft brush attachment. Afterward, the surface is wiped with a damp cloth and allowed to dry. Finally, brush the fabric to restore its nap. This routine is sufficient for keeping fabric surfaces clean.

Care and Stain Removal for Metal Surfaces (Powder-coated and Chrome-plated)

- **Cleaning Recommendation:** It is recommended to clean with a damp or moist cloth using a soft cloth, and then dry the surface.
- **Neutral Cleaning Solution:** Use a neutral detergent (cleaning agent pH 6-8).

If any of the above-mentioned surface materials are damaged rather than just dirty, we recommend contacting Piironen sales personnel to determine appropriate maintenance actions.

Screws and Glides

- **Regular Maintenance:** As a regular maintenance measure, we recommend checking the tightness of screws in the furniture and inspecting the presence and condition of glides (nails or caps on the legs). Worn-out glides can damage floor surfaces.
- **Common Maintenance Task:** One of the most common maintenance tasks for our chairs is replacing glides. Removing an old glide and attaching a new one is a quick process. Options for glides include standard plastic glides or felt glides.
- **Stacking Nails:** Many of our chairs have stacking nails under the seat. We recommend checking the presence and condition of these nails as well.

- **Maintenance Options:** Maintenance for screws and glides can be performed by Piironen's service personnel. Alternatively, users can often perform maintenance themselves, and we can provide necessary parts by mail in most cases.

Other Parts of Furniture that Might Wear Out in Normal Use

- **Gas Springs in Chairs:** The gas springs we use are designed to last several years under normal use (our standard warranty covers five years). However, in some cases, a gas spring may malfunction due to a technical issue or improper use. It is possible to replace gas springs in all our chair models. For replacement, we recommend contacting Piironen sales.
- **Wheels on Chairs and Tables:** The wheels we use are high-quality and intended for continuous use in public spaces. However, wheels may occasionally break due to an initial defect or improper use (e.g., jumping or heavy impacts on chairs). In most cases, removing and installing a new wheel is easy and can be done by the user. We can provide necessary wheels by mail. Of course, wheel replacement can also be performed by Piironen's service personnel. If a user knows that a wheel has broken due to improper use, it's important to check the overall condition of the furniture to ensure no other structural damage has occurred.
- **Armrests on Chairs:** Our chairs feature various types of armrests depending on the model. Armrests made of wood or plastic can be replaced with new ones. Regular inspection of the chair's condition should include checking the stability of armrest attachments, especially in models with armrests.

2. Maintenance and Repair Services

During the design phase, many fundamental decisions are made that significantly impact the maintenance and serviceability of furniture. Our approach in design is guided by the principle that maintaining, servicing, and if necessary, repairing furniture should be as easy and cost-effective as possible. This guiding principle influences our decisions regarding product structures and material choices.

In addition to our own furniture collections, we also provide maintenance services for furniture made by other manufacturers.

Typical maintenance procedures include:

Chairs' Seats and Backrests

- Re-staining or repainting veneer surfaces
- Reupholstering or repairing damaged upholstery (in reupholstering, existing frames and foams can be utilized depending on the situation)
- Replacement of seats and backrests with new ones

Chairs and Tables' Metal Frames

- Cleaning of frames
- Repainting frames (with the same or a new color)
- Depending on the current condition of the frame's surface, it can be repainted directly or the old paint can be removed first

Tables

- Grinding and refinishing solid wood tabletops

- Replacement of wood veneer and laminate-covered tabletops with new ones

You can read more about our maintenance services at: <https://www.piiroinen.com/service/>

Feel free to contact our sales team for more information or to discuss the implementation of maintenance projects in detail: <https://www.piiroinen.com/contacts/>

3. Reuse

Reuse refers to the situation where furniture left over from a previous project finds a new purpose in the next project, either as-is or after refurbishment. This extends the furniture's lifecycle.

A very concrete example is a high-quality metal-framed chair or table. Even if the seat/backrest/top is completely replaced with new parts, the environmental impact, starting from raw material use, is significantly reduced compared to manufacturing a new frame.

Of course, we transparently inform our customers if we can offer furniture suitable for reuse. While we do not aim to accumulate large quantities in our own stock, potential reusable furniture becomes available to us continuously through various projects.

By promoting reuse, we can substantially reduce the consumption of new raw materials, energy use, and thereby environmental impact across the entire value chain. It also reduces logistical needs across the entire value chain.

4. Recycling

Our furniture is easily disassembled into parts, allowing all materials to be properly recycled. In recycling, the materials from the product are processed into new materials or products.

As part of our service concept, we can also handle the recycling of broader furnishings, not limited to our own furniture. Please ask our sales personnel for more information.

<https://www.piiroinen.com/contacts/>

5. Furniture Installation and Usage

Most of our furniture is delivered fully assembled. Any installation needs typically relate to large table setups, where frames and tops are delivered separately and assembled on-site to be ready for use.

If there are installation requirements for a delivery, these are always agreed upon in advance between the customer and Piiroinen. Product-specific assembly instructions are provided as needed for each project directly to the customer.

Finally

In addition to everything mentioned in this document, Piiroinen's sales team is here to assist and advise you on any matters related to furniture care and maintenance. Please feel free to contact us at any time.

<https://www.piiroinen.com/contacts/>