

# A little care goes a long way

By Belinda Wan

The most expensive sofa, softest pillows and best mattresses all need to be maintained properly for a longer shelf life.

Here are some simple ways you can do this.

## EASY SOFA MAINTENANCE

Learn how to take care of your sofa so it can last longer – especially if your sofa is pricey.

Did you know that the way you sit on the sofa can affect how long it lasts?

### Sofa care tips

Mr Kelvin Koh, director of Cosimo Gallery said: "Sofas are meant for sitting and resting. But it is best to avoid sitting on the armrests and back of the sofa."

He also recommended sitting on different areas of the couch so that all the seats are evenly used.

What should you do if you accidentally spill something on your couch?

"Clean it immediately before the stain sets in and becomes difficult to remove."

If you have pets, make sure they do not use your

leather sofa as a scratching post, said Mr Koh. To avoid this problem, spend time training your pets properly.

### Regular cleaning

In most cases, a sofa can last a few years, especially one of good quality.

Mr Koh said: "Unless you want a new look for your home, you only need to replace a good-quality leather sofa when the seat cushions become too soft for comfort."

"This is why it pays to buy a good-quality sofa as inferior-grade leather can crack after a short period of usage."

To keep your sofa in tip-top condition, use Cosimo Gallery's specific cleaning kits that are made for its range of leather sofas. Or opt for Cosimo Gallery's cleaning services.

Mr Koh said: "Once a week, use a damp cloth and wipe the sofa evenly throughout. Concentrate on contact areas like the armrests, seats and back. Regular cleaning is always better than doing spring cleaning."

For recliner or incliner sofas, he said it is not necessary to oil them.

"That said, it is best to use such couches regularly even if you do not always use the mechanisms."



Wash your mattress and pillow covers regularly for a comfortable night's sleep.

Photo: Tempur Singapore

## TENDER LOVING CARE

Some effort and care can make a difference to your mattress and pillows.

### About mattresses and pillows

Should you flip your mattress once every few months?

Ms Janet Soh, the country manager of Tempur Singapore said: "You do not need to flip a Tempur mattress at all."

"The Tempur material will always return to its original shape when you get off the mattress. In fact, for a Tempur mattress, no particular maintenance is needed at all."

This means it is fine to sleep on the same side of the mattress every night, said Ms Soh.

She also advised replacing your pillows regularly.

"Get a new pillow if it has become flattened, uneven or lumpy, or feels uncomfortable," said Ms Soh.

She recommended informing Tempur sales advisors of your sleeping position, as there are different pillows designed for various sleeping positions.

"If you often wake up with a stiff neck and should

ers or headaches, your pillow may be unsuitable for you, worn out or not as supportive as it should be. Use an ergonomic pillow design for the best support.

"Try out a pillow in a position that you often sleep in during the night before buying it. Comfort is key."

Ms Soh also advised checking on the warranty and country of origin. A good pillow should last up to three years.

### Cleaning tips

Most of Tempur's mattress covers can be removed and machine-washed in accordance with the washing instructions, said Ms Soh.

"Air your pillows every time you change your covers. If you are prone to perspiring, using a pillow protector can help."

For an adjustable bed, Ms Soh said it is best to return the bed to its original flat position when not in use. Wipe the bed with a slightly damp cloth to clean it.

"For sofa beds, follow the manufacturer's cleaning instructions and only use products they recommend. Fabrics can be vacuumed or wiped with a cloth that is slightly damp."



Wipe your sofa once a week to keep it in good condition.

Photo: Cosimo Gallery

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