What to expect from our fabric coatings

Our fabric coatings offer a highly durable super-phobic layer which protects fabrics with a layer which is approximately 100nm thick. This coating provides a highly durable stain resistant coating for almost all fabrics. *Most coatings only offer hydrophobic protection, our coatings also offer protection against staining from oil based agents.*

FAQs:

Q.: I notice that the water can penetrate into fabrics which are coated with your Liquid Glass coating. I thought that the coating was waterproof?
A.: The coating offers a very strong hydrophobic effect on the coated fibres but there are always spaces between the fibres and water will always fill these spaces. The spaces which we refer to differ in size and fabrics with a very “open weave” will allow water to fill the spaces more readily than fabrics with very small spaces. The water passes into these spaces if the fabric is submerged or if water is pushed into or dropped onto the surface. The water is easily removed from the wet surface with a dry tissue. Coats and hats which are protected can be shaken to remove moisture.

Q.: Can I make fabric “fully water proof” with your Liquid Glass fabric coating?
A.: The only way to make a fabric fully water proof is to block the gaps in the fabric and this results the fabrics acting like a plastic bag as the fabric will not breathe.

Q.: Can I heat/iron coatings which are coated with Liquid Glass fabric coatings?
A.: Heating the coated fabric will enhance the performance of the coating. In fact we recommend that coated fabrics are ironed after the coating has dried. A warm iron set to approximately 130°C is recommended.

Q.: Can I remove oil and staining from coated fabrics?
A.: Oil is often pushed into the fabric and so fills the spaces between the fibres. If you press a tissue on to the surface you will remove some of the available oil, but oil will still covers some of the fibres (the oil will only sit on top of the coating, it will not penetrate the coated fabric). To assist with the removal of the oil and staining one should use our Biosativa® Bio Cleaner or a mild detergent and warm water to dislodge the oil. Avoid rubbing or scrubbing the coated fabric.

Q.: Can I wash coated fabric?
A.: We strongly suggest that coated fabrics are gently soak washed in warm water (30°C). Washing in a washing machine or in hot water will remove the coating. Our coatings will withstand over 20 hand washing cycles.

Q.: How long will the coating stay on the fabric?
A.: There are two factors to consider. Firstly how strongly has the coating bonded to the fabric. Some fabrics allow for excellent bonding of the coating whereas other coatings may have a high nylon content which does not allow for great bonding.

Next there is the wear and tear consideration. The coatings are exceptionally durable and withstand high levels of abrasion. Real time testing confirms that the coatings will remain in place on domestic carpets, in areas of heavy traffic (at the entrance area) for at least 18 months. Our coatings are considerably more durable than most fabric coatings.

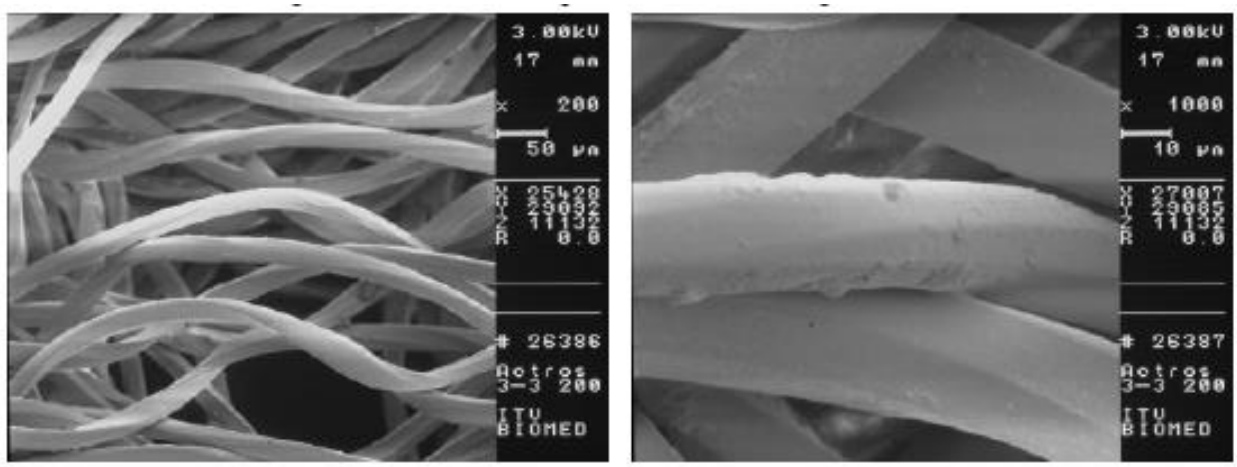
Q.: Can I recoat fabrics when the coatings have degraded?
A.: Recoating a fabric is straight forward. Spray the Liquid Glass on to the fabric and work the coating into the fabric using a gloved hand. Allow the coating to dry for 24 hrs before heavy usage.

Q.: How long will the coatings last in areas where there is no abrasion such as wall hangings or architectural fabric coatings?
A.: The coatings are UV stable and so will last for many years. We have coated fabrics in our project collection which were coated 10 years ago and they continue offer outstanding performance.

Q.: Are the coatings UV resistant?
A.: All of our coatings are resistant to UV.

Q.: Can you coat leather and suede?
A.: Many leather products are coated with polishes or oils. We can't effectively coat these surfaces; however the Liquid Glass offers contact protection for natural suede and leather. "Contact protection" means that water and oils should not penetrate the coating if removed within approximately 3 minutes.

Q.: Can I coat fabrics which are dirty?
A.: The Liquid Glass coating should be applied to clean surfaces. Surfaces which are soiled or coated with fabric conditioner etc. prevent the coating from bonding directly to the surface of the fabric.



These images show fibres coated with Liquid Glass. You will note the spaces between the fibres. Liquids will pass through these gaps but the fibre is clearly protected against staining. Thicker "old tech" coatings will fill these gaps to produce a water proof but stiff and non-breathable coating.