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Tel: 0131 667 5410



Fire & Furnishings (Fire) (Safety) Regulations 1988

Summary

This regulation was introduced to ensure that all newly produced furniture, furnishings and other products containing upholstery had the adequate level of fire resistance.

1993 Amendments

From 1993 it became necessary for Landlords to ensure all furnishings in their residential let accommodation complied with the regulations introduced in 1988.

These regulations apply to:

- Beds, headboards of beds and mattresses
- Sofa-beds, futons and other convertibles
- Nursery furniture
- Garden furniture which is suitable for use in the dwelling
- Scatter cushions and seat pads
- Pillows
- Loose and stretch covers for furniture
- Extra or replacement furniture purchased for rented accommodation

These regulations do not apply to:

- Furniture made before 1950
- Bed-clothes including duvets
- Loose covers for mattresses
- Pillowcases
- Curtains
- Carpets
- Sleeping bags

What to look for:

Each item of furniture or furnishing will have a label attached to it stating compliance with the regulations. Look for statements like:

- Foams and fillings pass the test
- Upholstery (covers and fillings) is cigarette resistant
- Covers are match resistant