

## Stage Curtain Care & Maintenance

With regularly scheduled maintenance, you can extend the life and improve the appearance of your curtains. Here are some basic steps to maintaining stage curtains and hardware.

1. Take a medium soft bristled brush, and brush down the face and back of the curtain. Start at the top left hand side, and work left to right down the face of the curtain. (Annually)
2. With an industrial style wet/dry vacuum, clean the face and back of the curtain using the same method as step #1. (Annually)
3. Spot clean any stains or markings on the curtain face immediately. Use a mild soap & warm water solution or a spot cleaning chemical. Always test the cleaning solution on the back side of the bottom hem prior to treating the stained area. This will ensure the effectiveness of the solution, and prevent damage to the face of the fabric. Limit the cleaning surface area on curtains that have been treated with a flame retardant solution, so as not to reduce the performance of the FR-treatment. (As needed)
4. Have any tears or holes repaired immediately to avoid additional damage to the curtain. (As needed)
5. Inspect all hardware, rigging, cord and motorization on a regular basis. Repair or replace damaged or worn parts immediately.
6. The control cords on the curtain track system often wear prematurely as a result of too much slack. This slack is a typical occurrence that results from the cord fibers stretching. The excess cord slack is prone to sliding off of the tensioning wheel and rubbing against the metal housing. The cord slack should be drawn-up immediately by locating the knot in the master carrier (center of track), pulling the excess cording through, and terminating with a new knot. The extra cording can be cut and discarded. The entire cord should be replaced as soon a fraying or dry rotting is identified. Never pull on the curtain panel by hand. (As needed)
7. All tracks, pipes, chains and cables should be kept free of dust buildup and debris by vacuuming regularly. (Annually)
8. Make sure that the bottom hems of all curtains do not drag or touch the floor. The bottom hem of a stage curtain is typically the first area to show wear. The length of a stage curtain will change (typically 1"-4") throughout the year as a result of heat, humidity, fabric content, height and weight. (As needed)
9. All curtains shall have a certificate of flame retardancy that is permanently affixed to each individual curtain panel. This certificate should have been provided by the curtain manufacturer, and properly identifies the specific curtain, size, fabric content and applicable fire rating. Special care should be taken to make sure that the requirements for flame retardancy and dates are current and up-to-date. Inherently Flame Retardant (IFR) fabrics are typically made from Avora® or Trevira® polyester. These fabrics are permanently flame retardant and never have to be treated with chemical solutions. Also, they hold their color (color fastness) and are not susceptible to dry-rotting, compared to the cotton or cotton blended fabrics. The cotton or cotton blended fabric curtains have a limited time period that they can hold their flame-retardant characteristics. This time period is dependent upon the humidity and fabric content. Prior to the noted date of expiration, these curtains should be tested, treated if necessary, and certificates applied. Please contact Drapery Industries for assistance. (As needed)