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**ABSTRACT** This resource book for furniture renovation (refinishing and reupholstering) is one of four resource books developed for use in Code 30 or adult vocational programs in the home furnishings service area. Representative, illustrative, and informative materials contained in the resource book are Furniture Woods, Cuts and Matching Veneers, Wood Joints, Joints Used In Furniture Construction, Vocabulary of Wood, Wood Classification, Exotic Woods, Woods Physical Properties and Source Chart, Chronology of Furniture Styles, Dictionary of Upholstery Terms, Upholstery Materials and Supplies, Furniture Fabrics, Estimating Fabrics to Reupholster Various Pieces of Furniture, Removing Old Cover, Construction Processes in Upholstery, Spring and Spring Work, Attaching Burlap, Determining Size of Tack for Job, and Installing Final Coverings. (YLB)

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## FORWARD

This publication contains illustrative and informative materials for teaching Furniture Renovation (Refinishing and Reupholstering).

Reference is made to these resource in the Suggested Curriculum Guide for Furniture Renovation (Refinishing and Reupholstering). In the guide, the word RESOURCE is identified in capital letters and pages from the Resource Book are listed.

These materials may be reprinted for classroom use.

1982

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## FURNITURE WOODS

WOOD	SOURCE	APPEARANCE	CHARACTERISTICS	USLS
Ash, <i>White</i>	Northeastern and Central United States.	Grayish through creamy white to reddish dark brown; straight grain and open pores.	Tough, heavy; hard, good shock resistance.	Baseball bats, tool handles, barrels, furniture - especially bentwood chair parts.
Basswood	Northern United States and Canada.	Creamy white to creamy brown with reddish markings; faint growth rings; wood rays darker than background; small pores.	Lightweight, moderately stiff; weak, low shock resistance.	Boxes, crates, millwork, furniture.
Birch, <i>Yellow</i>	Canada, Northeastern United States.	Creamy white to light reddish brown; extremely small wood pores.	Heavy, hard, strong and stiff; good shock resistance.	Spools, bobbins, dowels, wooden ware, furniture.
Butternut	North Central states, southern Canada.	Pale to dark brown with occasional dark streaks; large, open pores.	Soft to medium texture; moderate shock resistance.	Interior millwork and furniture.
Cedar, <i>Red</i>	Eastern two-thirds of United States.	Light red with light colored streaks throughout; knots and other natural markings.	Highly aromatic and moderately hard; brittle.	Storage chests, closet lining, lead pencils, small wooden ware.
Cherry, <i>Black</i>	Northeastern United States.	Light to dark reddish brown, straight grain; small individual pores.	Moderately hard and heavy; good shock and wear resistance.	Furniture, wooden ware, caskets, pattern making.
Elm, <i>Rock, American</i>	Eastern United States	Light brown to dark brown, often with shades of red; straight grain pattern with obvious light and dark boundaries.	Moderately hard and heavy; good shock resistance, excellent bending qualities.	Boxes, crates, barrels, furniture - especially bentwood chair parts.
Fir, <i>White, Douglas</i>	Pacific and Rocky Mountain states.	Creamy white to yellowish with obvious differences in spring and summer growth.	Moderately heavy, hard, and stiff, pronounced resin canals.	Construction, plywood, boxes, crates; hidden furniture parts.
Mahogany, <i>Honduras, Cuban, etc.</i>	Central America, Brazil, Peru, other tropical climates.	Yellowish brown through reddish brown to dark red, highly figured grain pattern; open pores.	Extremely stable, moderately hard, even textured, and heavy.	Furniture, paneling, pattern making, boatbuilding.
Maple, <i>Hard, Bird's Eye</i>	Northwestern and Great Lakes states, Canada	Creamy white to light reddish brown; straight grain; tiny pores, burl patterns available.	Heavy, hard, strong, and stiff; good shock resistance.	Flooring, furniture, boxes, crates, tool handles.
Oak, <i>Red, American, White</i>	Eastern United States	Light grayish brown to reddish brown; striking grain figure; large, open pores.	Heavy, strong, hard, durable under exposure; wear resistant.	Flooring, furniture, barrels, interior millwork, boatbuilding.
Pine, <i>White</i>	Eastern and Western United States	Cream to light reddish brown, visible resin canals and obvious growth rings.	Moderately light, soft, stiff, good shock resistance.	Construction, boxes, crates, millwork, furniture.
Poplar, <i>Yellow</i>	Northeastern United States	Light yellow to brownish yellow with greenish tinge; even texture, straight grain; barely visible pores.	Medium to light weight, moderately hard, stiff, and shock resistant.	Interior millwork, wooden ware, furniture.
Redwood	Northern California	Deep reddish brown with obvious spring and summer growth rings.	Light, strong, stiff, moderately hard; marginally shock resistant.	Construction, millwork, outdoor furniture.
Rosewood, <i>Brazilian, etc.</i>	Brazil, Southern India, Ceylon	Various shades of dark brown to dark purple, conspicuous black streaks.	Very heavy, hard, extremely coarse texture.	Musical instruments, paneling, furniture, tool handles.
Teak	Burma, Java, Indo-China, East India.	Tawny yellow to dark brown with lighter and darker streaks; pattern similar to walnut.	Heavy, strong, oily, tough.	Paneling, furniture, floors, wooden ware, boatbuilding.
Walnut, <i>Black</i>	Eastern United States	Light gray brown to dark purple brown; wide variety of plain and highly figured patterns.	Very strong, stable, moderately heavy, stiff, good shock resistance.	Furniture, gun stocks, interior trim.

SOLID

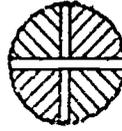
CUTS



flat



quarter



rift

VENEER

CUTS



flat



quarter



rotary

FIGURE I - A

MATCHING VENEERS



book



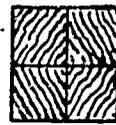
block



box



reversed  
box



diamond



reversed  
diamond



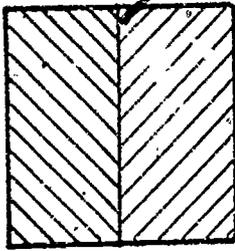
v-match



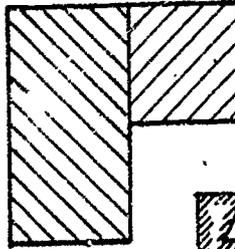
slide  
slip

FIGURE I - B

# WOOD JOINTS



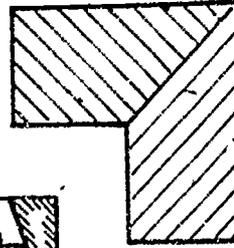
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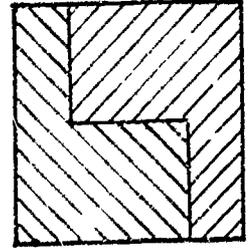
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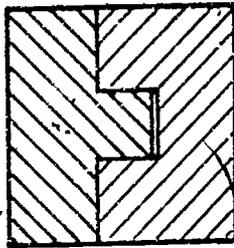
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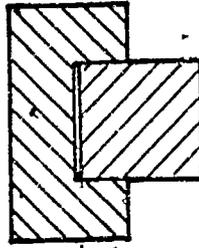
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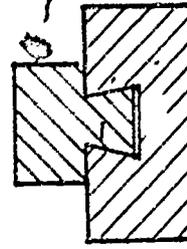
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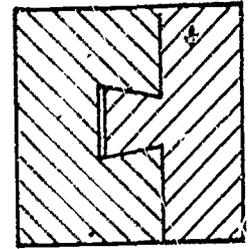
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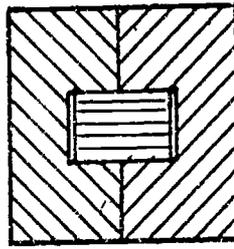
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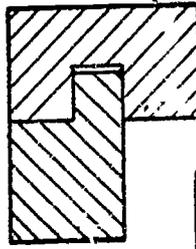
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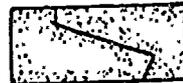
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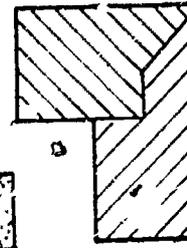
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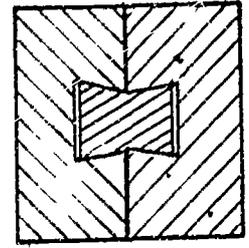
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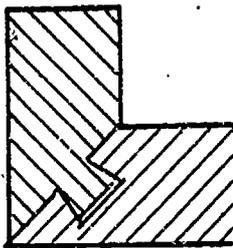
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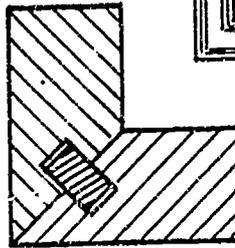
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SPLINE



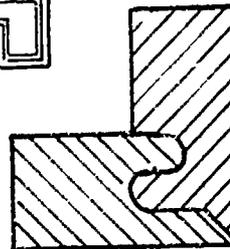
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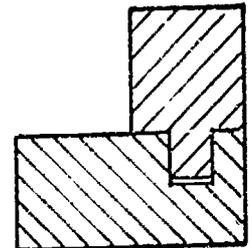
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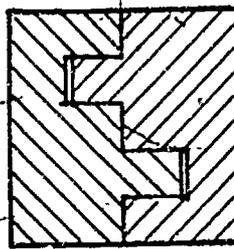
LAP



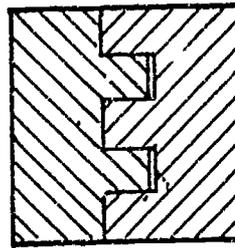
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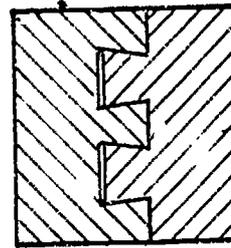
GROOVE



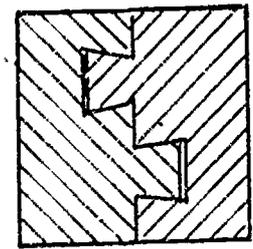
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TABLE

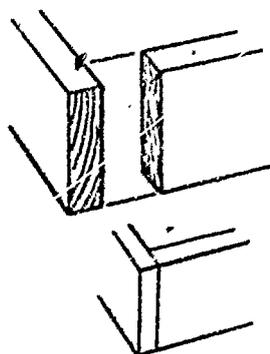


TABLE

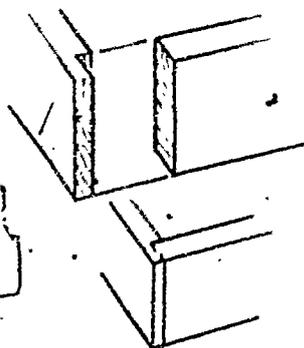


LAP DOVETAIL

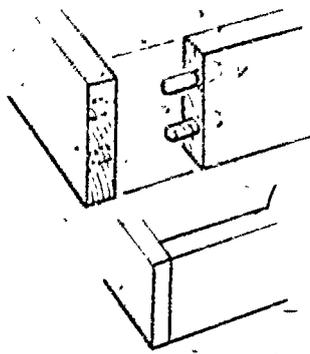
# JOINTS USED IN FURNITURE CONSTRUCTION



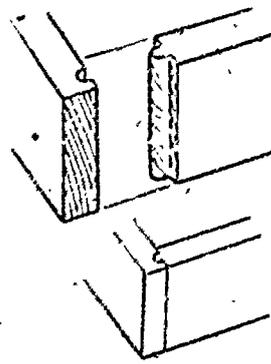
BUTT



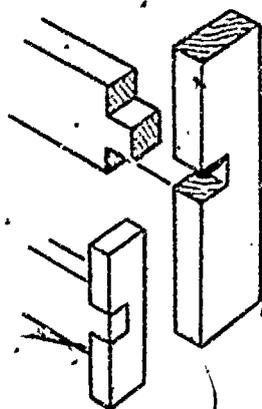
LAP BUTT



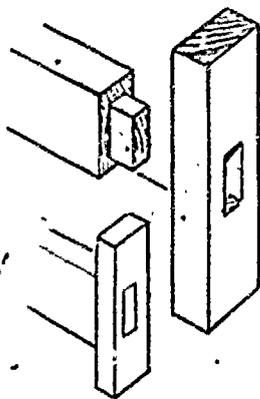
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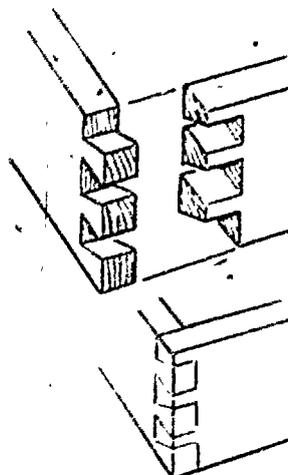
TONGUE AND GROOVE



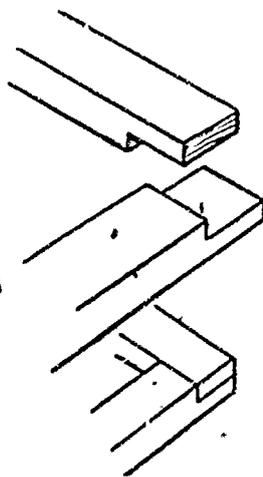
MORTISE AND TENON



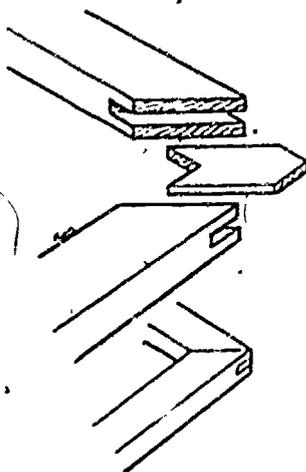
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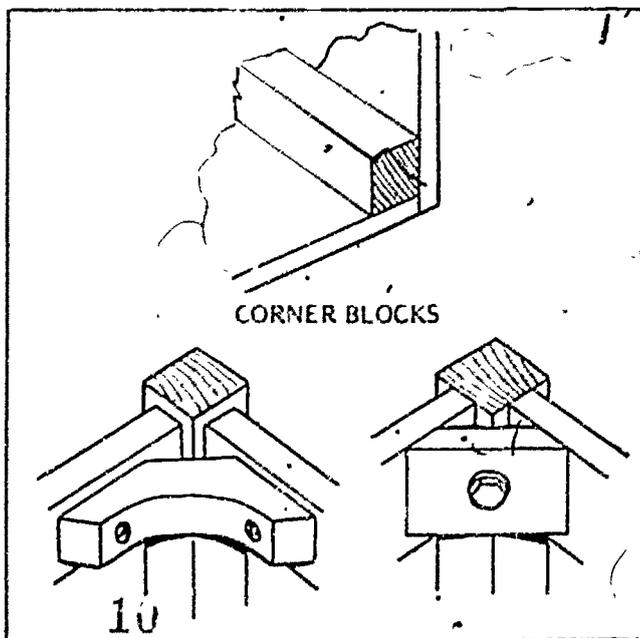
MITER



LAP



SPLINED MITER



CORNER BLOCKS

# VOCABULARY OF WOOD

bird's eye

blister

burl

butt

cross band

crotch

curly

figure

flitch

grain

heartwood

inlay

kiln-dry

laminated

marquetry

mottle

oyster

parquetry

plain sawed

plywood

quartered

rift sawed

rotary cut

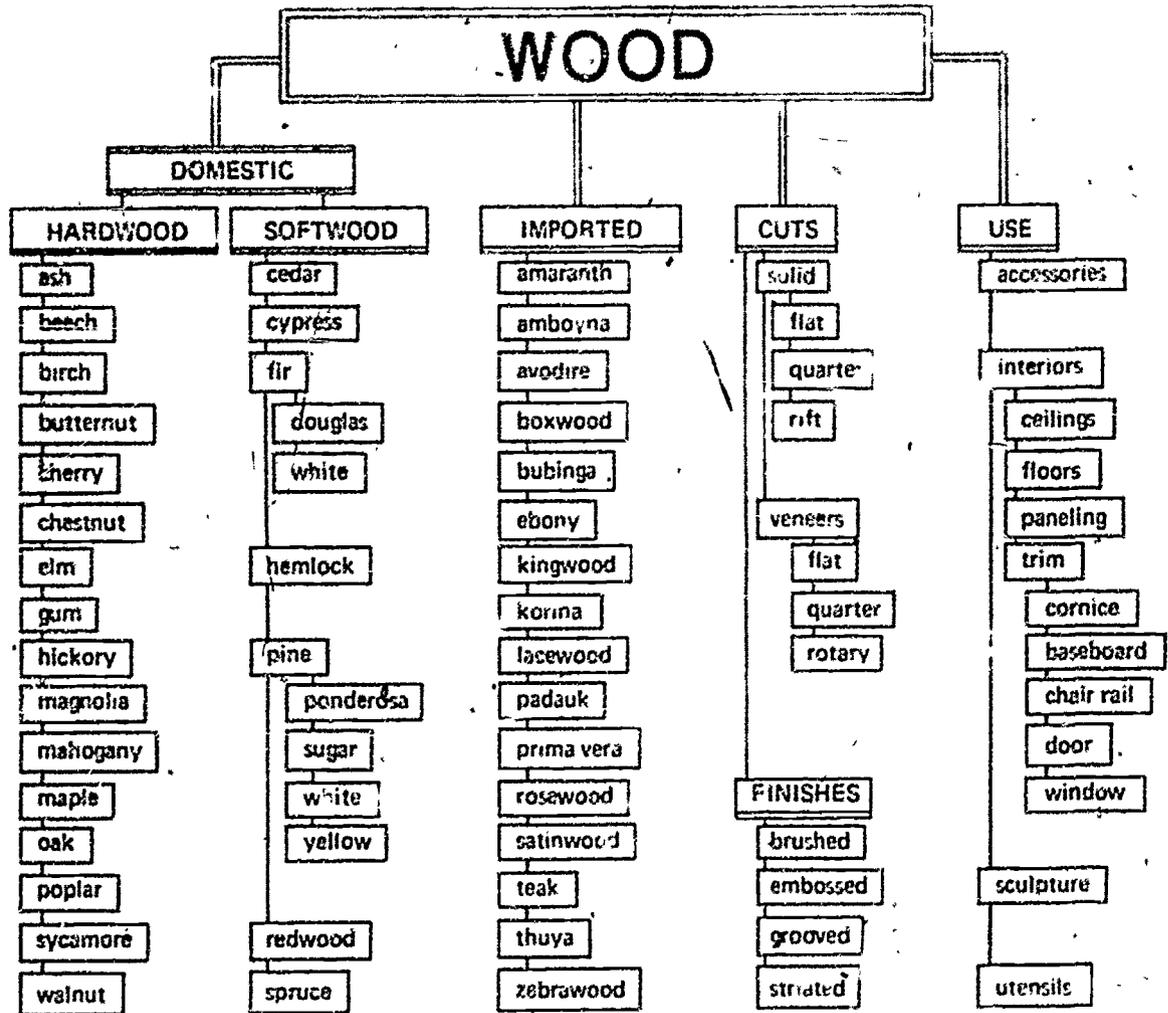
stripe

stump

swirl

texture

vencer



Wood is generally classified as softwood or hardwood, but these terms have no reference to the softness or hardness of the wood. Softwoods are cut from trees having needle like or scalelike leaves, while hardwoods are cut from broad-leaf trees.

# EXOTIC WOODS

NAME	GENUS	ORIGIN	COLOR	GRAIN	USE
Amaranth Violetwood Purpleheart	Peltogyne	Central America	violet purple	striping	inlay cabinet work veneer
Amboyna Lingoa	Pterospermum	Brazil Malay Borneo New Guinea		burr curly burr mottle open	cabinets cabinets
Ayodire Ayous Obèche	Turraeanthus Triplochiton	West Africa Africa	creamy brownish- yellow reddish	lines	cabinets
Bubinga Ebony Macassar Gaboon Ceylon Gaboon Okume Goncalo Alves	Didelotia Diospyros	W. Africa E. Indies Fr. Africa E. Indies	gray, brown black black reddish brown	stripes	inlay turnery
Guanacaste Jeniseo Genizero Kelobra Harewood Sycamore Kingwood Koa Lacewood Selane Silky oak	Aucoumea Astronium Enterolobium	Mexico Brazil Mexico	reddish dark brown brown reddish	textured figured wavy	cabinets furniture cabinets furniture plywood
Laurel Limba	Acer	U.S.	white	fiddle-back	veneer
Myrtle	Dalbergia Acacia Cardwellia	Brazil Hawaiian Is. Australia	dark brown golden brown	stripes figured figured flaked	inlay cabinets overlay
Oriental Padauk Vermillion Narra Prima Vera	Terminalia Terminalia Umbellularia	E. India Belgian Congo U.S.	red-brown blond yellow- brown	texture stripes swirly	furniture cabinets furniture
Rosewood	Endiandra Pterocarpus	Australia Africa	grayish golden red brown brown-red straw	figure streaks	inlay
Santa Maria Sassafras Satinwood	Dalbergia Calophyllum Sassafras Zanthoxylum	Asia C. America Honduras U.S. E. India Ceylon Guiana S. America	reddish brown dark red light brown golden- yellow dark brown	texture wavy- figure spotted mottled figured straight	furniture furniture furniture inlay inlay
Snakewood Letterwood Tamo Teak	Piratinera Fraxinus Tectona	Philippines Mexico S. America Japan Burma, Java India, Siam Maracoco Algeria	white yellow brown brown-red	figure streaks	veneer furniture
Thuva	Callitris Quadrivalvis Dalbergia Cynometra	Brazil W. Africa W. Africa Cameroon	tan light gold reddish- brown	burly striped streaked	inlay veneer inlay veneer inlay
Lulipwood Zebrawood Zebrano Zingana					

WOODS PHYSICAL PROPERTIES AND SOURCE CHART

No.	Species.	Comparative Weights	Hardness	Compressive Strength	Stiffness	General Strength	Shock Resisting Ability	Bending Strength	Shrinkage	Source
1	Ash, tough white	Heavy	Hard	Med.	High	High	Med.	Med.	Med.	USA
2	Basswood	Light	Soft	Low	Med.	Low	Low	Low	High	USA
3	Beech	Heavy	Hard	Med.	High	High	Med.	Med.	High	USA
4	Birch	Heavy	Hard	Med.	High	High	High	Med.	High	USA
5	Butternut	Light	Soft	Low	Med.	Low	Low	Low	Low	USA
6	Cherry, Black	Med.	Hard	Med.	High	High	Med.	Low	Low	USA
7	Chestnut	Light	Med.		Low	Low	Med.	Low	Low	USA
8	Cottonwood	Light	Soft	Low	Med.	Low	Low	Low	Med.	USA
9	Ebony	Heavy	Hard	High	High	High	High	High	Not Rated	Asia
10	Elm, Northern	Med.	Med.	Low	Med.	Med.	Med.	Low	High	USA
11	Gum, sap	Med.	Med.	Low	Med.	Med.	Low	Low	High	USA
12	Hickory	Heavy	Hard	Med.	High	High	High	Med.	High	USA
13	Korina	Med.	Med.	Low	Low	Med.	Not Rated	Low	High	Africa
14	Mahogany, African	Med.	Med.	Med.	Med.	Med.	Low	Low	Low	Africa
15	Mahogany, Honduras	Med.	Med.	Med.	Med.	Med.	Low	Low	Low	Central America
16	Mahogany, Philippine	Med.	Med.	Med.	High	Med.	Med.	Med.	High	Philippine Islands
17	Maple, Hard	Heavy	Hard	Med.	High	High	Med.	Med.	High	USA
18	Oak, Red	Heavy	Hard	Med.	High	High	Med.	Med.	High	USA
19	Oak, White	Heavy	Hard	High	High	High	Med.	Med.	Not Rated	USA
20	Padauk	Med.	Hard	Low	Med.	High	Low	Low	Med.	Africa
21	Poplar, yellow	Med.	Soft	Low	Med.	Low	High	Low	Med.	USA
22	Rosewood, Brazilian	Heavy	Hard	Not Rated	Not Rated	High	Not Rated	Not Rated	Med.	S. America
23	Teak	Heavy	Hard	Med.	High	High	Low	Med.	High	Asia
24	Walnut, Black	Heavy	Hard	Med.	High	High	Med.	Med.	Med.	USA
25	Willow, Black	Light	Soft	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Med.	USA

# CHRONOLOG OF FURNITURE STYLES

	ITALY	FRANCE	ENGLAND
1400	Medieval (Gothic)		
	Early Renaissance 1420-1500	Medieval (Gothic)	Medieval (Gothic)
1500	High Renaissance 1500-80	French Renaissance 1500-1650	Tudor-Elizabethan 1509-1603
1600	Baroque 1580-1750	Baroque 1650-1700	Early Stuart 1603-49
			Late Stuart 1660-88
1700		Rococo 1700-50	William and Mary 1688-1702
			Queen Anne 1702-11
			Early Georgian 1711-60
1800		Early Neoclassicism 1750-1804	Early Neoclassicism or Adam style 1760-1800
		Late Neoclassicism 1804-15	Late Neoclassicism or Regency 1800-17
	Empire, Eclectic Revivals 1801-90		Eclectic Revivals
			High Victorian 1850-80
1900		Art Nouveau: 1890-1905	Early Frank Lloyd Wright 1900-10
		International Style: 1919-33	
		Art Deco: 1925-30	
		Post-World War II styles continuing to present day	

*Note: Styles did not go in or out of fashion in a specific year. Sometimes, changes occurred during transitional periods of several years. Dates often refer to changes in the nation's leadership which caused new styles to become popular.*

NORTH AMERICA

Based on Medieval, Elizabethan, and Early Stuart models.  
1630-90

William and Mary  
1690-1720

Colonial Georgian  
Queen Anne  
1720-70

Chippendale  
1740-90

Early Neoclassicism  
or Federal  
1790-1820

Late Neoclassicism,  
Greek Revival, or Empire  
1820-60

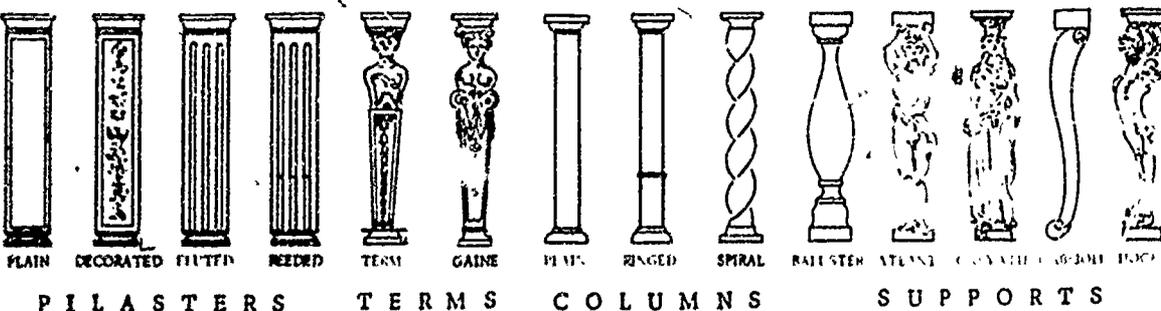
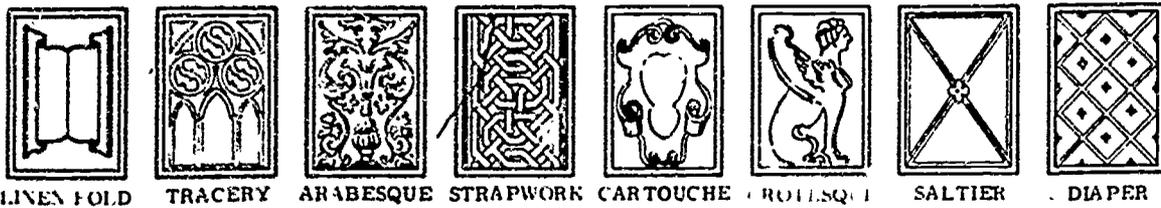
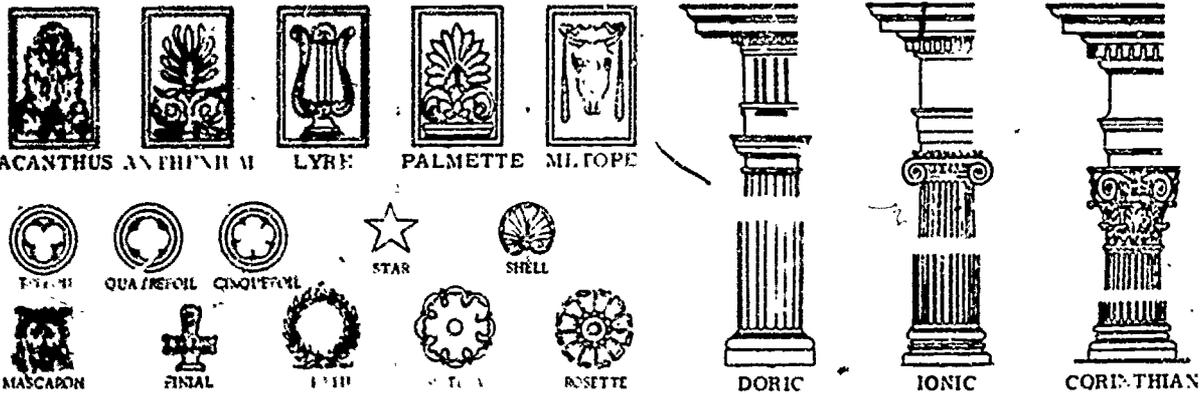
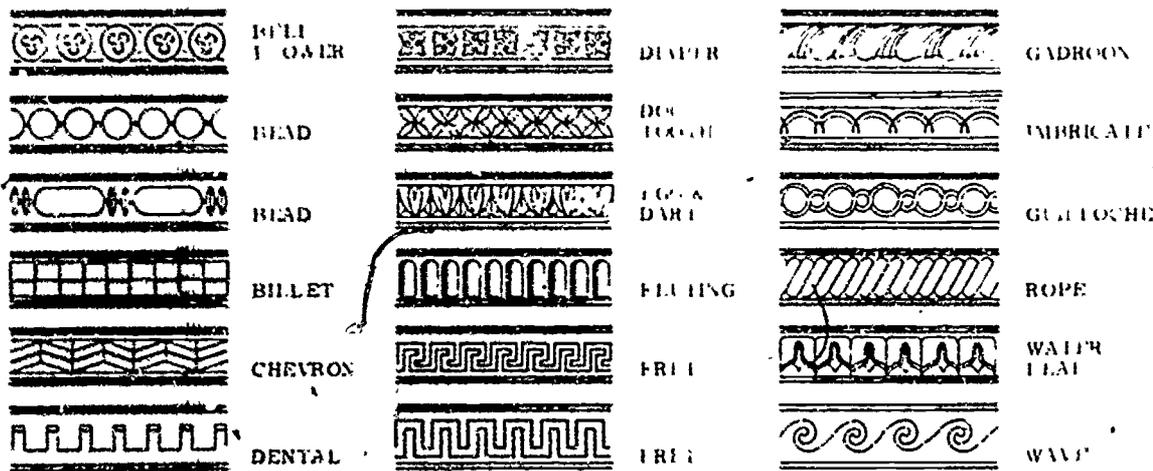
Eclectic Revivals

High Victorian  
1870-90

Reprinted from Home Decoration and Furnishings Occupations Curriculum Guide



# ORNAMENTS



## DICTIONARY OF TERMS

### A

abrasive

Material used to wear away other material, smooth stock surfaces, or polish finishes.

adhesive

Substance used to bond materials together. A variety of natural and synthetic materials are made into cement, paste or glue.

alkyd resin

Synthetic material widely used as a vehicle in varnishes and enamels to increase durability.

alligatoring

Cracks formed in a finished surface resulting in a mottled pattern caused by unequal expansion and contraction of separate coats of finish.

aluminum oxide ( $Al_2O_3$ )

An efficient abrasive made by fusing bauxite ore in an electric furnace. It is used to make abrasive paper, cloth, and grinding wheels.

aniline dyes

Oily synthetic coloring agents produced chemically from coal tar. Used in coloring fabrics or wood as permanent stain.

arris

The sharp edge formed by the meeting of two surfaces.

attaching plate

A metal plate designed for fastening a seat or table with a hanger bolt.

### B

banding

Strip of fabric often used around spring-edge and platform seats. The top edge is usually hand sewn to the edge wire and the bottom edge is fastened to the frame.

bleaching

Lightening effect in the color of wood produced by application of a chemical solution.

bleeding

The transfer of color from one finish coat to another. For example, varnish applied over an unsealed oil stain dissolves part of its color resulting in discoloration of the varnish coat.

<b>blind</b>	Work which is hidden or out of sight. Frequently used in stitching, tacking and doweling.
<b>blushing</b>	Whitish cast formed in a finish. Often occurs in clear spraying lacquer which dries too fast as it is applied. Particularly on humid days, water vapor in the air is condensed and trapped with the finish. Retarding thinner is usually added to lacquer mixture as a preventative.
<b>boiled linseed oil</b>	Certain metallic driers are added to raw linseed oil, then heat treated and aged for use in the manufacture of varnish and enamel.
<b>borax</b>	Used on wood as a second coat water solution to neutralize oxalic acid bleach. Helps prevent pink shades on maple or oak.
<b>burlap</b>	Coarse cloth, usually woven with jute or hemp fibers. It is used over springs in upholstery.
<b>burn in</b>	Process of repairing damaged finished furniture. Stick shellac, in colors to match finished surface, is melted into damaged area, then polished.
<b>buttoning</b>	Use covered buttons to hold final covering in place and produce a low relief decorative effect.
<b><u>C</u></b>	
<b>cambric</b>	Generally black or white sized cotton fabric used as dust cover on bottom of upholstered furniture. It also prevents particles of padding from falling to the floor.
<b>catalyst</b>	Substance which starts and aids in the control of a chemical action.
<b>chamfer</b>	Sloped edge formed by cutting at a slanted angle across one arris of a square edge.
<b>channeling</b>	Tubes or channels are sewn, usually straight up and down in fabric. These are filled with stuffing materials and sewn shut, resulting in rounded ridges with depressions between them.
<b>coil springs</b>	Coils formed by spirals of wire which supply the major resiliency in upholstered furniture.

colonial furniture

The kind of furniture first made and used in the American colonies.

compatibility

Term used in finishing to denote ability of mediums to mix together harmoniously.

contact cement

Cement which, when properly used, bonds two surfaces or edges together upon contact.

contemporary furniture  
(also Modern)

Modern day furniture made with characteristic smooth, trim lines and simple construction.

cotton mat (felt)

Combed cotton formed into a soft, flexible mat. It is used over rubberized hair and other upholstery materials to produce a cushioning effect.

crystalline finish

A novelty finish similar to enamel or paint which, upon drying, forms a mass of wrinkles or crystals.

cushion springs

Springs made especially for comfort and strength in seating.

D

dacron polyester fiberfill

Soft, resilient padding made with plastic materials and used over other padding as a substitute for cotton mat.

decking

Fabric used as substitute for expensive covering under cushions or other platforms hidden from view. Denim is generally used.

denatured alcohol

Combination of wood and grain alcohol.

denim

Strong, twilled cotton fabric of excellent wearing quality. Sometimes used as decking under loose cushions.

design

Plan or scheme in which ideas and thinking are incorporated as direction for creating with materials and tools.

dowel

Cylinder of wood, usually birch, manufactured in a variety of diameters by a standard length of 36 inches. It is often used to strengthen joints.

dowel peg	A short dowel made especially for wood joints.
dowel point	Metal cylinder with a flange and a sharp center point. It is used to mark the location of a mating hole for a dowel joint.
down	Soft, under feathers of ducks and geese.
drier	Catalyst added to finishing material to speed curing and drying time.
drying	Process causing finish to harden by evaporation of solvents or by chemical (oxidation) action.
dull finish	Finish without gloss obtained by rubbing or by chemical action of flattening agents.
durability	Ability to resist and withstand use, abrasion, weather, or other stresses.
dust cover	See cambric.
<u>E</u>	
early American furniture	The type of furniture made and used as industry developed during the period of the American Revolution.
earth pigments	Coloring matter mined from the earth such as ochre, sienna and unker.
edge roll	Fabric tube filled with fibrous padding materials to roughly round or triangular cross sections. It is used to soften frame, platform and spring edges. It is sometimes made by hand but is available ready-made. Ready-made edge roll is often paper core with burlap covering.
edge wire	Heavy gage (generally 8 or 9 ga.) wire, especially made for spring edges.
edge wire clips	Clips stamped from strip steel used to fasten edge wire to springs.
emulsion	Suspension of tiny particles of water in oil, or oil in water, with the aid of an emulsifier.
emulsion paint	An oil, resin, varnish or lacquer which is emulsified so that it can be mixed with water.

enamel

Finishing material creating a hard, durable waterproof finish. It is made by adding pigments to varnish to give it color and opacity.

excelsior

Shredded wood made of basswood or poplar and sometimes used as foundation padding in less expensive furniture.

exposed wood (show wood)

Furniture parts which are finished and intentionally left exposed during upholstery processes.

extender

Material used as a filler in paint or glue to provide body and increase coverage.

## F

feathering

Lightly brushing thin coat of finish, using only tips of bristles, to yield a blending action.

fiber mat

Processed fibers of the sisal plant formed into a mat for padding.

filler

Material used to repair defects in wood. Examples are plastic wood, wood putty, water putty and stick shellac.

flattening agent

Substance used in paints, varnish and lacquers to reduce gloss in finish and give it a rubbed appearance.

flow (finishing)

Quality of a material to spread or move evenly into a uniform and level coating.

fluting

Concave (inside curve) band formed in an edge, cylinder, molding or surface.

foam cement

Specially made adhesive to stick foam cushion padding to seat material.

foam plastic

Soft, cushioning material used as padding in upholstery. It is produced from polyurethane plastic.

foam rubber

Soft, cellular and highly resilient material providing cushioning effect useful in upholstery. It is produced from rubber latex.

French polish

This term refers to a type of glossy surface produced as a result of using certain finishing materials. The ingredients include white shellac, boiled linseed oil, and denatured alcohol.

French provincial furniture

The kind built and used during the reigns of Louis XIV to XVI. It has simple, curved lines and is devoid of ornate carvings and gildings.

furniture nails

Decorative nails made of brass or steel used to attach gimp or outer covering to furniture.

## G

gather

Forming folds in fabric by drawing it along a thread or drawstring.

gage

Diameter or thickness of material such as wire used in springs and sheet metal used for fastening plates.

gimp

Thin, narrow, decorative material used to cover tacks or staples around edges of covering material.

gimp tacks

Tacks with small, round heads used to fasten cloth gimp or tack covering invisibly around exposed portions of furniture frames.

glide

Metal or plastic fastener with large, smooth surface used on bottom of furniture feet as an aid in moving furniture about.

gloss

Finished surface with high luster and good light reflecting qualities.

glue blocks

Small pieces of wood attached with glue or metal fasteners to strengthen joints.

glue injection

Method of tightening loose joint. Drill small hole, about 3/32 in diameter into loose joint. Force liquid glue through hole into joint with glue syringe. Tighten joint with clamps.

## H

hair

Curled hair from hogs, cattle or horses used as stuffing.

hand rub

Using cloth pad or felt with rottenstone or pumice and oil to smooth top coat finish by hand.

hanger bolt

Threaded fastener used to attach leg to table with an attaching plate.

harmony

Design term implying that characteristics of parts in an object are in conformity or agreement.

helical spring

Short, lightweight coil springs with a hook at either end often used to anchor sinuous springs to furniture frames.

hinge

Piece of hardware used to fit parts together so that one can swing free of another as a door or window.

hog ring

Upholstery fastener resembling hog ring. It is used to install burlap, seat covers and other upholstery materials.

holiday

Spot or place missed during finish application.

I

innerspring

Coil springs individually sewn in muslin or burlap pockets and fastened together in strips or ready-made units. These are used in furniture seats, backs, cushions, arms and mattresses. Also called Marshall unit.

inspection

Method of quality control. Skilled workers carefully inspect products during all upholstering processes to assure quality control of materials and work.

interchangeability

Parts or devices made to dimensions of close tolerances, often by mass production, which will fit into more than one assembly.

J

jute

Plant from which processed fibers are made into burlap and webbing. Plant grows in India.

## K

kapok (silk floss)

Silky fibers grown in seed pods of a tree called "ceiba pentandra." The tree grows best in Java. Kapok is excellent padding for pillows.

## L

lac

Natural resin used to make shellac. It is exuded from an Indian insect which lives on sap from certain trees.

lacquer

Hard, durable finishing material made of nitro-cellulose. Drying occurs by evaporation of its solvents.

lag screw

Heavy, round shanked wood screw with a square head.

laminated

Product made by bonding thin layers (plies or laminations) of material together with an adhesive.

leather

Made from hides and skins of domestic animals. It is used for final covering on truly fine upholstery.

leveling (finishing)

Formation of a smooth film, free of brush marks, on a finished surface.

linseed oil

Valuable vegetable oil obtained by processing flax seeds. This oil, in its boiled form, is used alone as an excellent finish. It is also extensively used in oil base paints and finishes.

low profile springs

Springs which provide spring action slightly above or even with rail level. Sinuous, rubber webbing, and strap and helical springs are examples.

## M

Marshall unit

See innerspring.

mass production

Production of parts or products in quantity, often for wide distribution.

material

Supplies needed such as webbing, burlap, springs and nails, to construct a part or product.

mesh

Openings formed by crossing or weaving a series of parallel threads or wires as in a sieve.

metalene nails

Decorative nails, generally made of steel, often used to install vinyl gimp trim.

mineral spirits

Petroleum distillate used as a solvent in oil base paint and varnish as a substitute for turpentine.

modern furniture

See contemporary furniture.

moss

A padding material sometimes called Spanish Moss, refined from an air plant which lodges on trees in southern United States, particularly Louisiana and Florida.

muslin

Lightweight cotton cloth sometimes used as first covering over padding materials.

N

naphtha

Volatile petroleum solvent used as a thinner to reduce enamel, oil-base paint and varnish.

natural resins

Gums and resins, used in finishes, which are obtained from trees or from fossilized vegetable matter.

O

oil stain

Stain having an oil base. It is of two classifications, penetrating or pigmented.

orange peel (finishing)

Spraying defect resembling the texture of an orange peel caused by improper mixture or application of finish.

oxidize (finishing)

Chemical reaction caused by materials uniting with oxygen. This is part of the curing and drying process of such finishes as varnish, enamel, and oil-base paint.

P

- padding** Soft, resilient materials installed over springs or used as foundation for an upholstering piece.
- paint** Common term referring to all protective coatings. More specifically, it is a mixture containing pigment and vehicle which can be spread in a thin film on surface.
- panel** Preupholstered section of covering material used to cover exposed tacks, folds or frame, as on the front of overstuffed arms.
- paste wood filler** Material used to fill open grained wood in preparation for other finish. It consists of ground silicon (silica), linseed oil, thinner, drier, and coloring.
- pictorial sketch** A method of sketching resulting in a view of an object which appears approximately as it would by eye.
- pigment** Powdered substances which provide color and body for finishing materials.
- pillow springs** Light gage wire springs made for arms and backs of furniture.
- pintacking** See slip tack.
- plan of procedure** Necessary operations, listed in a logical sequence for making a product.
- plastic coating** Application of certain synthetic finishes such as polyurethane varnish.
- plastic wood** Manufactured, doughlike material used to repair cracks, holes and defects in wood.
- plywood** Manufactured product made with cross-banded layers (plies) of veneer or solid center stock bonded together with glue. An odd number (3, 5, 7, etc.) of plies is used.
- pneumatic** Related to, or operated with air pressure.

**pretacked strips**

Tacking strips with tacks inserted 1 or 1 1/2 in. apart. Heads of tacks are covered with hardboard or steel strip. It is used for blind tacking leather or vinyl covering instead of blind stitching as with cloth fabric.

**process**

Planned operation performed in the development or fabrication of a problem or product.

**proportion**

The ratio of the dimensions of a piece.

**pull**

Device used as a handle to open a drawer or door.

**pumice**

An organic substance made by pulverizing lava rock. It is used as a fine abrasive to smooth the final coat of certain finishes.

Q

**quality control**

Inspection and supervision of material and work quality during all upholstering processes to strive for excellence in finished products.

**quilting**

Decorative stitching around designs or prints through cover fabric with thin layer of padding and muslin backing.

R

**reduce (finishing)**

To lower the viscosity (thickness) of a finishing material with a thinner or solvent.

**regulator**

Needle-like tool used to pierce through muslin cover and move stuffing materials beneath to lessen irregularities.

**remover**

Solvent for dissolving old paint or other finish film so that it can be removed from wood or metal surfaces.

**resilience**

Capability of a material placed under stress to return to its original shape.

**retarder (finishing)**

Substance added to a finishing material to prolong its curing and drying time.

return tie	Short end of spring twine that is tacked to frame and is returned and tied to top edge of spring next to frame.
ripping tool	Chisel-like tool used to strip upholstery materials from furniture frames.
rottenstone	Fine rubbing and polishing compound made with decomposed siliceous limestone. It is used to smooth the final coat of certain finishes.
rub	See hand rub.
rubber cement	An adhesive especially adaptable to porous materials. It remains flexible, yet holds parts firmly together.
rubberized hair pad	Curled, refined hog and other animal hair which is formed into rubberized sheet padding.
rubbing oil	Mineral oil especially prepared for rubbing top coat finish with pumice or rottenstone.
runs (finishing)	Abnormal flow of finishing material usually caused by excess application.
<u>S</u>	
safety first	Slogan often used around an industrial plant, construction site, or school laboratory. It implies that safety is of utmost importance in considering any task.
sealer (finishing)	Finishing material used to seal the pores of close grain wood. It is also used over stain or filler to prevent bleeding.
sealer stain	Finishing material which combines a sealer and stain together.
set (finishing)	Initial hardening of finishing material prior to drying to complete hardness.
sheen	Luster of a rubbed, finished surface.
shellac	Natural finishing material made by dissolving refined lac in denatured alcohol.

show wood	See exposed wood.
silencer	Strip of webbing, cloth or padding material used to help prevent noise in springs from rubbing against frame.
silicon carbide (SiC)	Synthetic compound (bluish black in color) made by fusing coke and silica at high temperatures. It is an extremely hard material used on tools where sharp, durable, cutting edges are needed. It is also crushed and used for abrasive paper and grinding wheels.
sillex	Hard stone (flint or quartz) which, when finely ground, is used in paints and paste wood filler.
sinuous springs	Wire springs which alternately curve one way and then the other in a winding or zig zag fashion.
sisal padding	See fiber mat.
skewer	Short wire tool with sharp point on one end and round loop on the other end. It is used to temporarily hold materials in position prior to sewing, tacking or stapling.
skiving	Thinning leather edges at an angle to form a taper in preparation for attaching.
slip seat	Upholstery seat constructed for easy removal from its frame.
slip tack	Tack driven partway into a surface to provide temporary fastening.
solid base	Upholstery base constructed with flat surface of wood or plywood.
solids (finishing)	Material remaining in a paint after its liquids have evaporated. Solids are usually given by percentage of weight in a paint.
Spanish moss	See moss.
spirit stain	An aniline dye mixed with denatured alcohol to color wood.

splat	Wide, flat, vertical section used in the center of a chair back.
splayed	Pertains to the leg of a chair or table which angles outward in two directions from its seat or top.
spray gun (finishing)	Device which atomizes (forms a fine mist) finishing material so that it can be applied by spraying in thin, uniform coats.
spring	Device made in several types, generally of steel wire, which is designed to render resilient support in upholstery seats, cushions, backs or arms.
spring bar	Coil springs mounted on a steel bar support.
spring edge	Heavy wire, usually 8 - 9 gage, fastened to top edges of coil springs with metal clips or twine lashing to provide uniform action and support.
spring and roll edging	See edge roll.
spring twine	Twine, generally made of jute, especially made to hold springs in position.
stain	Compounds of several types and a variety of colors, used to color material surfaces prior to application of other finishes.
staple	"U" shaped fastener, driven with a stapler, used to install upholstery or a variety of other materials.
steel wool	An abrasive material made in several grade sizes of thin shavings or shreds of steel. It is packaged in pads and rolls.
stick shellac	Shellac in stick form used to fill imperfections in wood surfaces around knots and other defects. It is available in a variety of colors.
stretcher	Inexpensive fabric attached to expensive covering material to provide a fastening extension which is hidden in completed product.
stripping	Term referring to: (1) removing used fabric or other materials from furniture frame prior to reupholstering or (2) removing unwanted finishing material from wood surfaces and edges prior to refinishing.

stuffing iron

Tool used to force loose stuffing material into corners and crevices which cannot be reached by hand.

synthetic

Manufactured material made by combining or as a by-product of other materials.

## T

T cushion

Seat or back cushion shaped like a capital T. Usually found on seats of furniture where arms are shorter than seat section.

T-pin

Short wire tool with sharp point on one end and T shape on other end. It is used as a small skewer.

tack rails

Parts of the wood upholstery frame whose purpose is to support upholstery fabrics. Stretched materials are tacked or stapled to them.

tape

Cloth or flexible steel rule used to measure and lay out upholstery materials.

tapestry

A fabric in which the pattern is woven with colored weft threads. Only heavier weights are used as upholstery coverings.

tempera colors

Finishing medium which is mixed with water for application. Pigments or colors are usually mixed with an albuminous vehicle.

template

Piece of cardboard, metal, hardboard, or other material used as a guide to cutting, transfer of pattern, or checking accuracy of work.

tensile strength

Resistance of a material to longitudinal (pulling) stress.

thinner

Liquid for reducing viscosity (thickness) of a finishing material.

top coat (finishing)

Finish used over base or sealer coat.

touch-up (finishing)

Repairing of color defects in finish by blending in shades of new finish with light coats.

tow

Fiber of the flax plant. Packs easily making firm foundation padding. Less resilient than most padding material.

traditional furniture

Furniture created in Europe, particularly during the 18th and 19th centuries. It is named for the rulers who ordered it built or for the craftspeople who originated it. Typical decorations include gilt, fretwork, carvings, claw and ball feet and extravagant fabrics.

trestle

Equipment used to support frames at working height during upholstery processing.

triacetate

Synthetic fibers made by breaking down cellulosic materials (such as wood) with acids.

trial assembly

Dry (without glue) assembly of parts to check accuracy and function before final (bonding) assembly.

tufting

Use of covered buttons in pattern formation, pulled tightly to hold cover and stuffing in position. The surface is decorated with raised areas (tufts) and well defined, pleated lines.

tung oil

Drying oil (also called Chinawood oil) used in water resistant paints and varnishes. Also used as finish by itself similar to linseed oil and turpentine. It is obtained from the nut of the Tung tree.

turpentine

Volatile solvent used to reduce varnish, enamel and oil base paints. It is manufactured by distilling gum obtained from certain pine trees.

tweed

A heavy fabric of mixed color in plain, twill or herringbone weave.

twill

Type of weave having a characteristic diagonal ribbed pattern.

twine

Heavy cord used for various purposes in upholstery. Spring twine is used for tying down heavy upholstery springs. Jute twine is designed for tying down lighter springs. Flax (stitching) twine is used for sewing springs to webbing, fastening buttons and for all kinds of hand sewing.

U

upholstery pin

See skewer.

upholsterers' tacks

Made of steel with flat heads and used to hold upholstery materials to frames.

upholstery covered buttons

Used as decoration and to hold final covering and padding materials in position.

V

varnish

Durable, water resistant finishing material composed of copal gums or synthetic resins, a vehicle, usually linseed oil or tung oil, and a thinner, often turpentine.

varnish stain

Generally an interior varnish with pigments added so that both stain and varnish are applied at once. This kind of finish is usually used for coating economically priced furniture.

vehicle

The carrying agent (liquid) of a finishing medium.

velour

Soft, tightly woven, smooth fabric with a short, thick pile. Usually made of cotton, wool or mohair.

velvet

Pile woven fabric in which the pile is short and thick. Usually made of silk or synthetic fiber pile with a cotton back.

velveteen

An imitation velvet made with cotton fibers. May be woven in colors and patterns.

veneer

Thin sheet of wood, often laminated to core stock to make plywood or paneling. It is cut, sliced, or sawed from a log, cant, or flitch. When united in plywood it is sometimes referred to as a ply.

venting

Providing for free passage of air through upholstered furniture.

vinegar

An effective spot remover for upholstery fabrics. It should be used in a 10 percent solution with water.

vinyl coverings

34 Nonwoven fabrics manufactured from plastic usually attached to a knitted backing cloth.

W

- wadding** Thin layer of cotton between soft paper used in the same way as cotton mat.
- warp** The threads which run lengthwise and parallel to finished (selvage) edge of woven yard material.
- wash coating** An extremely thin coating of sealer, usually shellac or lacquer sealer, applied over stain or paste wood filler to prevent bleeding of stain into successive coats of finish.
- water putty** Dry powder which is mixed with water and used to stain wood and other materials.
- water stain** Colored pigments which are soluble in water, and are used to stain wood and other materials.
- water white** Clear, transparent as water. A term used to describe an exceptionally clear finishing material.
- webbing** Used to support padding materials or springs. Jute webbing, a closely woven strap or tape, is made with jute fibers. Other webbing is made of rubber, plastic, wood and steel.
- webbing pliers** Tool with wide jaws used to grip and stretch out webbing, leather and other materials.
- webbing stretcher** Tool used to stretch webbing taut for fastening to furniture frames.
- webbing tacks** Special tacks for fastening webbing to furniture frames.
- weft** The threads carried by the weaving shuttle and running at right angles to the warp threads and selvage.
- welt** Cord filled fabric strip often sewn along seams in final covering to improve appearance and increase durability.
- welt cording** Light cord, usually 3/32 in. or 1/4 in. diameter, sewed inside fabric to make welting (piping). Cording can be made of paper or of textile fibers.
- wood bending** Forming wood by twisting or curving.

wood stain

Any of the several agents used to color wood.

woof

See weft.

wool

Protein-base fiber obtained from sheep. Once used extensively in manufacture of upholstery fabrics, now largely replaced by synthetic fibers.

working drawing

An orthographic drawing, drawn to scale, usually with two or more views.

Z

zefran

Trade name for an acrylic fabric, moderately expensive, which is often used as upholstery material. It has the texture of wool and feels soft and warm to the touch.

zig zag

See sinuous. ✓

Adapted from Upholstery Methods by Zimmerman. Published by Goodheart-Wilcox.

## UPHOLSTERY MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

### 1. Essential upholstery materials and supplies.

A. Dowels, pegs, and glue blocks.

B. Metal Components, strapping, braces, plates, hanger bolts, and glides.

C. Adhesives.

- 1) rubber cement
- 2) foam cement
- 3) contact cement
- 4) plastics cement
- 5) aliphatic cement
- 6) white liquid resin glue
- 7) animal glue
- 8) plastic resin glue
- 9) resorcinal resin glue
- 10) casein glue
- 11) screws

D. Upholstery fabric materials.

- 1) webbing
- 2) burlap
- 3) muslin
- 4) denim
- 5) cambric

E. Upholstery fasteners.

- 1) tacks - #1 - #24
- 2) gimp tacks
- 3) metalene nails
- 4) furniture nails
  - a. decorative
  - b. attaching gimp
  - c. attaching coverings
- 5) staples
- 6) sinuous (No-sag on zig-zag) nails
- 7) buttons
  - a. clasp
  - b. eyelet and string
  - c. nail
- 8) glue gun (electric) attach double welting, gimp, fringe, panels, dowel joints, corner cleats

F. Spring and related parts.

- 1) coil springs
  - a. hog rings
  - b. edge -wire clip

2) Marshall units

3) Sinuous Spring (zig-zag)

- a. helical springs (tension springs)
- b. sinuous spring clips
- c. metal connecting links

4) torsion corner springs

- a. support edge wire on "T" shaped frames

G. Paddings.

1) sisal on fiber mat

- a. platform
- b. arms
- c. backs

2) white wadding (cotton)

3) rubberized curled hair

- a. foundation padding
- b. padding over springs

4) foam rubber

5) foam plastic

6) cotton mat

7) dacron - polyester

8) moss (spanish moss)

9) kapok

H. Twine and Thread

1) spring twine - waxed or polished

- a. fasten seat and back springs for position

2) stitching twine - flax or linen-waxed

- a. stitch springs to webbing
- b. burlap to springs
- c. padding to burlap

3) tufting twine

- a. attach buttons

4) sewing thread - cotton and nylon

- a. sew welt strips (cording)
- b. cushion seams
- c. corner folds
- d. upholstered backs

I. Edging materials and trim.

1) spring or edge roll - fasten to frames for smooth edges along springs, seats, and arms.

2) blind tacking strip - blind tack outside arms, sides, and back

3) gimp - fabric on plastic

4) welt cord - covered for decorative seams

II. Essential Upholstery Tools and Equipment

A. Webbing stretcher

- 1) for fabric webbing
- 2) for metal webbing

- B. Stretching pliers - fabric webbing
- C. Hog ring pliers - fasten clips burlap over springs, etc.
- D. Spring clip pliers - close 3 prong clips on springs.
- D. Ripping Tools.
  - 1) ripping chisel - remove old coverings
  - 2) staple lifter
  - 3) claw tool - tack puller
- F. Hammers
  - 1) nylon tip - furniture nails
  - 2) magnetic - tack hammer
  - 3) magnetic split end - tack into deep corners
  - 4) mallet - rawhide, wood, or rubber  
for striking handles or tools - dismantling frames
- G. Upholsterers shears
  - 1) general heavy duty
  - 2) trimmers snips
  - 3) thread clip
- H. Measuring and layout tools
  - 1) cloth measuring tape - curved surfaces
  - 2) metal straight edge - mark straight cutting lines
- I Upholstery needles - stuffing tools - pins.
  - 1) straight needles - 4 to 20 inches
  - 2) double pointed
  - 3) curved
  - 4) button tufter
  - 5) stuffing regulator - adjust padding
  - 6) stuffing iron - hard to reach corners
- J. Upholstery pins
  - 1) upholsterers pin or skewer - hold materials for blind stitching
  - 2) "T" pin
- K. Staplers
- L. Bolt cutter
- M. Clamping devices
  - 1) hand screw
  - 2) "C" clamp - smaller tasks
  - 3) spring clamps - irregularly shaped work

- 4) steel bar clamp - assemblies
- 5) band clamps - round or irregularly shaped pieces

N. Working surfaces and supports.

- 1) trestles (saw horses) pad top.
- 2) cutting table (6 foot wide)

O. Heavy duty machine - stand etc.

P. Cushion stuffer or filler.

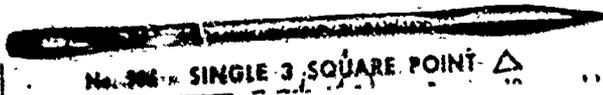
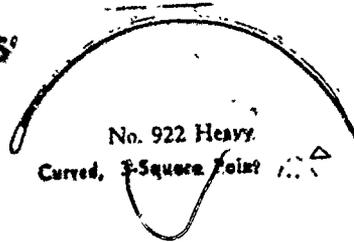
- 1) hand sets (24" + 36" 48")
- 2) foot operated

Q. Button covering machine.

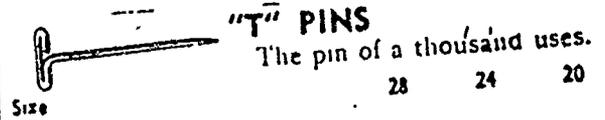
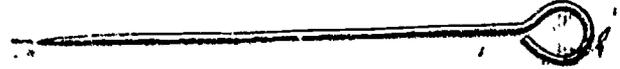
R. Bench Vice.

# UPHOLSTERY TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

## UPHOLSTERERS' NEEDLES



## UPHOLSTERERS' PIN OR SKEWER



## REGULATORS

Length, inches	6	8	10
926 - Light, Each	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.60	\$ 2.20

*got*

## CLAUSS SHEARS

WITH SPECIAL BOLT & NUT  
POLISHED BLADES



Stock No.	Full Length	Length of Cut	Wt. Lbs. 6 Pack	List Each



#150 Supremagnet - 7 oz. head.  
Mag. face 5/16" - non-mag. face

## TACK CLAWS



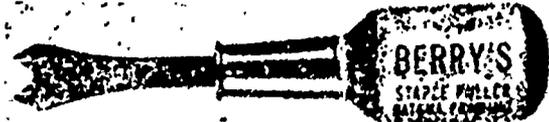
#120 Tack Lifter - Rugged, with fine points for getting under either tacks or fancy nails. Nicely shaped wooden handle.

## RIPPING TOOL



#50 Ripping Chisel - plastic handle, giving much longer service.

## NEW! BERRY STAPLE LIFTER



A top quality tool of heat-treated alloyed steel. This one tool removes staples of all sizes with a simple twist of the wrist.  
How it Works - Slip either blade under staple and pry it partly up. Quickly twist handle to right, pulling staple completely free.

## SATEEN UPHOLSTERERS' TAPE



## WEBBING STRETCHER



Old Style Webbing Stretcher - rock maple wood with extremely hard polished steel pins.

SPRINGS IN UPHOLSTERY



**UPHOLSTERY SPRINGS**  
WIDE CENTERS

No.	Height	Per Lb.	50 Lbs. Per Lb.
1	6"	<del>\$1.20</del>	<del>\$0.82</del>
2	8"		
3	10"		
4	11"		

**PILLOW SPRINGS, KNOTTED**

13 Gauge — 25 Lb. Bundles

Height, inches	6	8
Per Lb.	\$1.30	\$1.30
25 Lb. Bundles	Per Lb.	\$1.10

**SEAT SPRINGS** Knotted one end.

For Trucks, Cars, Etc.	Height, inches	4	6
	Gauge of wire	10	10

**TORSION CORNER SPRINGS**

3 PRONG EDGE CLIP OR BW CLIP

3 1/2" legs.

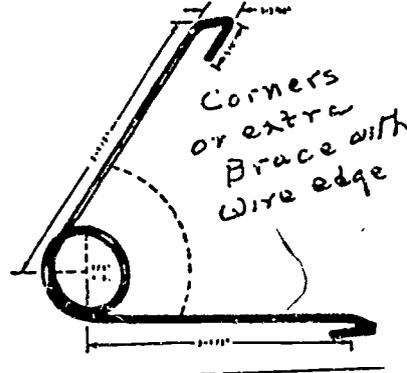
CK CLIP

Ideal for use in supporting edge wire on T shaped frames. 6 1/2 inch.

*Used with Round Springs (above)*

**STANDARD TORSION SPRINGS**

(3 1/2" legs) 1,000 per Carton



**SPRING EDGE WIRE AND TUBES**

9 Gauge

No. 9—Straight Bars, 12 ft. 100 Lb. Lots

**BORDER WIRE TUBES**

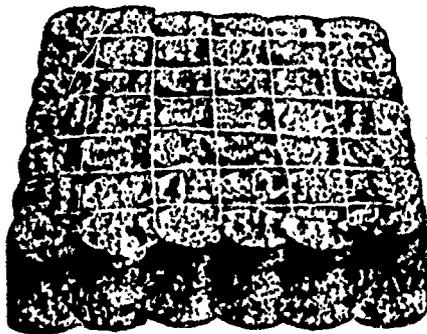
No. 9 Size 2 1/2"

Tubes, useful in joining short lengths of wire

**CUSHION SPRINGS**

15 gauge wire.

Marshall Type  
Muslin Covering



All Hand Tied—3 In. Diameter

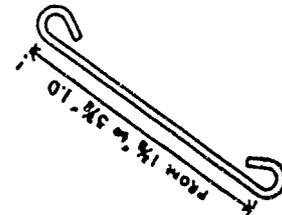
3 1/2 In. High

Hog Ring—3" Diameter

3 1/2 In. High

18" x 18" (6 x 6) ....
18" x 21" (6 x 7) ....
21" x 21" (7 x 7) ....

18" x 18" (6 x 6) ..
18" x 21" (6 x 7) ..
18" x 30" (6 x 10) ..
21" x 21" (7 x 7) ....
21" x 30" (7 x 10) .

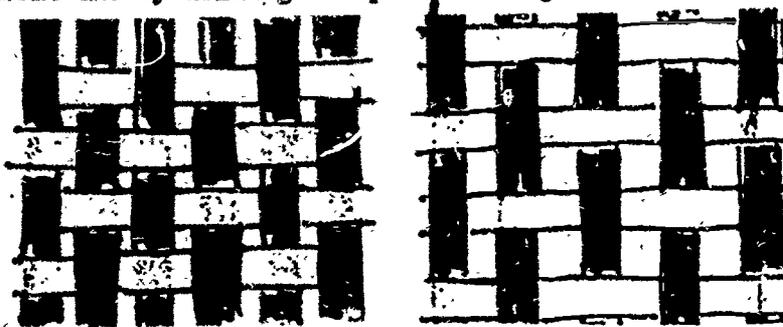


CONNECTING LINKS

## FURNITURE FABRICS.

Furniture fabrics include both slipcover and upholstery materials. In general the difference is that slipcovers are made of lightweight or medium weight fabrics and are removable; upholstery fabric is heavier and is permanently attached.

The most important factor in determining the durability of furniture fabrics is the tightness of the weave. This can be determined by closely examining the fabric and by holding it up to the light.



The most satisfactory upholstery fabric would be a heavy, stable fabric with a tight flat weave made from a strong fiber. It would be soil resistant and would not wear, snag, stretch, shrink, sag, or fade. All of these qualities probably will not be found in one fabric; however, they should be used as a guide in making the final decision. Different uses will demand different priorities for these qualities.

Slipcover fabrics should have the same characteristics as upholstery fabrics with the exception of weight. Slipcovers are usually made of medium weight material for ease of handling.

Cording used in seams of slipcovers and upholstery is usually the first place to show wear. If the fabric chosen is not especially durable, longer use of the covering may be obtained by omitting the cording. Plain seams give a neat and attractive appearance.

### FIBER

Nylons, polyester, and olefins are strong fibers for furniture fabrics, but many cottons, acetates and the new modified rayons in the proper fabric construction may give equally satisfactory service. The nylons, polyester, and olefins are all easily cleaned, but melt easily, creating a problem with careless smokers. Olefins are naturally spot and stain resistant. Rayon fibers are much improved in recent years, and the modified rayons are stronger and more stable than regular rayons. Linen used alone is too brittle to give long wear for furniture covers. Check a fiber chart for trade names and comparative characteristics of all the fibers.

### FABRIC STRUCTURE

Furniture fabrics may be woven by one of several methods or may be knitted. Each type of fabric differs in characteristics and in appearance.

## WOVEN

Examine woven fabric for closeness of weave and for length of yarns on the surface of the fabric. A firm, closely woven fabric should wear better than a loosely woven fabric with long loose yarns than can be snagged easily. Check the closeness of weave by holding the fabric up to the light. Some loosely woven fabrics made of heavy yarn may have a high aesthetic appeal but would not be as durable as other fabrics. An applied backing will give greater stability to loosely woven fabric. Fabrics with raised designs are more difficult to clean and care for than the smoother fabrics.

The weaves most commonly used for upholstery fabrics:

**PLAIN WEAVES** - Made of interlacing two sets of yarns, one alternating over and under the other. Basketweave, homespun, monks cloth, and some tweeds are examples of this basic weave and its variations.

**PILE FABRICS** - Made with cut or uncut loops of yarns that stand up on the surface. Height of pile may vary. Examples are velvet, velveteen, and plush.

**TWILLS** - A basic weave that creates a diagonal line or rib on the surface of the fabric. Diagonal may be set at sharp or blunt angles.

**JACQUARDS** - Yarns are interlaced in an intricate manner to produce elaborate designs. Examples are brocade, with a embossed appearance; brocatelle, with high relief designs; damask that is reversible with different colors on the reverse side; matelasse with a raised or quilted effect; and tapestry, a heavy fabric with designs depicting current or historical scenes.

## KNITTED

All types of knits are relatively new for upholstery fabric. These fabrics offer better fit and can be produced with less labor and therefore at lower cost. They may stretch and snag if given rough treatment. Some knits are laminated to a foam backing for greater stability.

## OTHER FURNITURE COVERINGS.

In addition to fabric upholstery, many pieces of furniture are covered with other materials such as leather, vinyl, and the new urethane-coated fabrics.

## LEATHER

Leather is a luxurious and expensive furniture covering. It is soft and pliable, very durable, resistant to abrasion, and easy to care for. A finish is usually applied for resistance to alcohol, to perspiration and other stains, and to cracking. Be sure to follow the care instructions on the label. Leather is available in a variety of colors and textures.

## VINYL

The most important characteristic is easy care. It can be easily dusted and washed with a solution of mild soap or detergent. Strong, harsh, cleaning agents should not be used because they will cause stiffening and cracking.

Good quality vinyls are durable and resistant to abrasion, but they may show scratches.

The durability of vinyls is mainly determined by the type of backing. Unsupported vinyls have no backing and therefore are susceptible to puncturing and tearing. Supported vinyls have a knit backing giving them added strength. Expanded vinyls have a layer of foam between the face and the fabric back giving them softness as well as strength. These stronger vinyls are recommended for furniture covering.

Vinyls are available in a wide variety of attractive colors, patterns and textures. Some are flame resistant.

The major disadvantages of vinyls is their discomfort. They are hot in summer and cold in winter.

#### URETHANE-COATED FABRICS

These are so new on the market that they cannot at this time be properly evaluated. They are said to be very soft, pliable, and also breathable, making them more comfortable for use than the vinyls. Urethane is applied to a fabric backing in such a manner as to form many minute perforations in the urethane, permitting the fabric to "breathe".

#### SPECIAL FINISHES

Spot and stain-resistant finishes are applied to most upholstery fabrics. Some finishes resist only water stains, some resist both water and oil stains, and some also resist dry soil. These finishes in no way affect the wear of the fabric.

Fabrics with these finishes should be given the same care as other upholstery fabrics. If spots are not moved immediately, they may be more stubborn than if no finish had been applied.

#### BACKING

Many upholstery fabrics have an applied backing of acrylic, rubber or a thin layer of foam. These give added stability to the fabric and are especially advantageous on loosely woven fabrics. Olefin fabrics often have an applied backing to avoid yarn slippage. This backing may be given a soil-resistant finish to protect the padding from stains because olefin yarns have a wicking ability that permits liquids to flow through the fabric.

#### PRICE VS. DURABILITY

Upholstery fabrics come in a wide range of both price and quality; however, the two are not necessarily related. Some fabrics with intricate and unusual design or special weaves are more expensive to manufacture than other fabrics. These fabrics may be more aesthetically appealing but not necessarily more durable. Each manufacturer has his own grading system based on price, not on durability of the fabric. The consumer therefore must learn to be his own judge of durability by comparing fabric weight, fiber, construction, backing and finish.

Reprinted from "Furniture and Window Fabrics" by Regina Rector, An Extension publication of the New York State College of Human Ecology, Cornell, Univ.

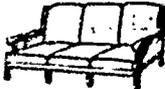
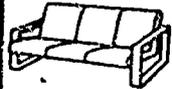
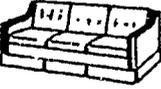
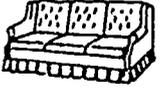
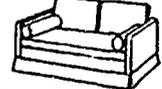
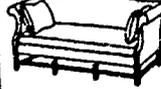
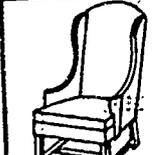
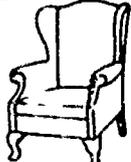
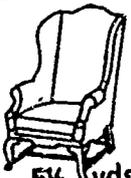
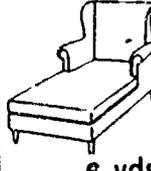
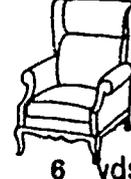
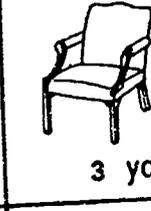
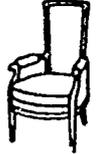
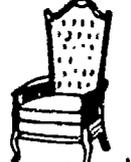
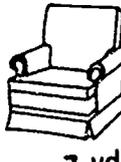
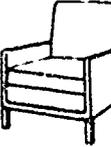
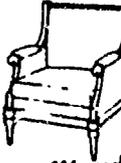
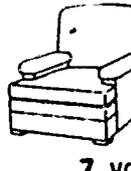
 5 yds	 5 yds	 10 yds	 10 yds	 10 yds	 12 yds	 14 yds	 16 yds	 11 yds	 11 yds
 12 yds	 10 yds	 10 yds	 2½ yds	 6 yds	 6 yds	 4 yds	 10 yds	 3 yds	 5½ yds
 5 yds	 6½ yds	 5½ yds	 5½ yds	 6 yds	 6 yds	 4 yds	 7 yds	 2½ yds	 3 yds
 1½ yds	 2½ yds	 4 yds	 7 yds	 5 yds	 5 yds	 6½ yds	 5 yds	 8 yds	 4 yds
 5 yds	 4½ yds	 7 yds	 3½ yds	 6 yds	 6 yds	 6½ yds	 6½ yds	 2½ yds	 1½ yds
 2½ yds	 1½ yds	 1½ yds	 2½ yds	 1½ yds	 3½ yds	 4½ yds	 4½ yds	 4½ yds	 1 yd

Fig. 3-25. Estimated vinyl or cloth covering yardage needed to reupholster various pieces of furniture. (Uniroyal Corp.)

## UPHOLSTERY

### Removing Old Cover

To remove the fabric from a chair, it is necessary to start from the bottom and work in reverse as to the building up procedure.

#### I. Order of removal

A. Bottom - remove coverings from bottom to provide an opening for further work.

1. Remove tacks that hold the outside back, outside arms, inside arms and seat.
  - a. These tacks are located on the top of the seat rail.
  - b. Caution: Attempt not to remove the spring tying twine if the seat appears to be in good condition.

B. Sides and back

1. These areas may be hand stitched or tacked - remove so that you can get to the other areas.

C. Use of tool to aid in removing old covering:

1. Use the ripping tool and the mallet to remove the tacks.
  - a. The mallet is used to strike the ripping tool which is designed for this type of use.
    - 1) Always strike away from you when removing tacks to prevent accidents and self injury.
    - 2) Use the correct tool for the job to save and protect the tools.

#### II. Observations as you remove fabric:

A. Notice how cover has been put on, record data in notebook - if work has been professionally done.

1. You will find the bottom cover (probably black cambric, because the glazed surface is more dust resistant) was tacked back from bottom edge and slashed to chair legs for fitting.
2. The rear back and outside arm cover may have been back-tacked to top using cardboard strip.
  - a. Save pieces - they may serve as pattern reference.
3. Arm Panels and decorative front arm pieces, nailed to the arm front.
  - a. Remove to free arm covers.
4. Entire chair covers may have to be removed.
  - a. Look under the seat to determine condition of springs and worn webbing.
    - 1) Irregular surfaces
    - 2) Broken springsThe above indicate that webbing and spring work is necessary, so remove all covering to recondition.

## Upholstery - Removing Old Cover - continued

### III. Frames

- A. Beginning Upholsterers - not recommended that they attempt to re-design or remodel too much from the frame they start with.
  1. Occasional chair frames - simple in construction not needing much reshaping.
- B. Check frames for:
  1. Termites (page 189-Pope) found it is necessary to:
    - a. Fumigate the frame with  $\frac{1}{2}$  kerosene and  $\frac{1}{2}$  turpentine. Apply generously, fill holes with Paris Green and wood filler, or,
    - b. Replace with new piece of wood.
  2. Weak joints.
    - a. Replace dowel joints and
    - b. Reglue, using clamps to hold it tight.
  3. Loose screws.
    - a. Remove - fill with glue and sawdust or plastic wood filler. (Plastic wood tends to be a bit brittle when used in tacking again.)
    - b. Reset screw or use larger screw.
    - c. May be necessary to make new anchor hole - use hand drill to make pilot hole.
- C. Use braces in repair work.
  1. Metal braces come in various sizes and shapes. Excellent for loose or weak joints.
  2. Braces can be shaped to the desired form.

### IV. Repair of joints:

- A. Frame
  1. Spread joints apart - scrape off old glue and reglue with wood-loc glue.
    - a. Let set for 20 minutes or longer with clamps tightly holding joints together.
    - b. If you are working on the frame, the clamps can be left in place while any pounding is done.
- B. Protect exposed wood from clamp injuries.
  1. Screwheads are sometimes concealed under ornamental wood/buttons.
    - a. Remove button carefully and save.
    - b. Remove screw.
    - c. Fill with glue and replace with longer screw.
- C. Squeaky old rockers.
  1. Remove by applying oil at joints and give entire frame an "oil coat" to enliven the wood.
    - a. Use screws and braces for joints.

### V. Repairs in exposed woods.

- A. Dents in wood. May be removed by placing a damp pad over dent, then placing a hot iron on dent to create steam which will cause the wood fibers to "lift".
- B. Small scratches.  
Use a small piece of walnut meat for dark woods.  
Rub it over scratch and it will usually disappear.

Refer to bulletins in file from Johnson Wax for furniture refinishing.

## CONSTRUCTION PROCESSES IN UPHOLSTERY

The construction processes in rebuilding upholstered pieces are primarily the same. The following outline is designed to aid the student in planning his work both in class and at home. This outline is recommended to be used along with the work sheets for the various parts of construction.

### I. WEBBING

- A. Jute fiber. Comes in 3 to 3½ inch strips or No-Sag (which covers the entire surface).
  - 1. Placed on the bottom of the frame when springs are to be used.  
Webbing Tacks are used for tacking to rail.  
Webbing is interlaced for extra firmness.
- B. Metal Webbing. Used to reinforce each row of springs.
  - 1. Placed on bottom of the webbing beneath each row of springs.  
Webbing Nails are used.  
Where possible, place two nails at each end.

### II. SPRINGS

- A. Location
  - 1. Depends on size of opening.
  - 2. Type of chair and resiliency desired.
- B. Sew springs to webbing, using straight needle and sewing twine.
  - 1. Catch in four places, preferably through double thickness of webbing.
- C. Tie springs to height (use spring twine)
  - 1. Across each row of springs in each direction.
  - 2. Between each row of springs (not needed between spring and frame).
  - 3. Cross tie each row of springs, i.e., from one corner to the opposite corner, tying everything you cross.
- D. Formula for determining how much twine you will need for each row.
  - 1. 3 inches for the tacking knot, plus the distance across from one frame to the other over the springs, plus 1 inch for each knot (you tie everything you cross), plus 3 inches for the end tacking knot.
  - 2. For a return tie - desired in flat seat  
The same formula as above plus enough twine to return to the middle spring in the chair. Be sure to consider the extra knots you will make.
- E. Each spring will be tied in eight places for a large chair or davenport.
- F. Use #8 tacks for tacking spring twine.

### III. BURLAP COVERING

- A. Used to cover the springs and to give a base for the fillings to be used.
1. Tacked to the top of the chair seat rail.
  2. #4 tacks used and tacked through double thickness. Raw edge can be turned up - aids in giving more filling.
  3. If you plan to make a rolled edge - with this same piece of burlap - add 5 inches to the original measurement for each roll.

### IV. EDGE ROLL

- A. Made across all front edges of furniture to save wear of fabric to a hard edge.
1. Made of moss and rolled to size and tacked. (Use #8 tack.)
  2. Commercial Roll - can be purchased in several thicknesses. Use webbing nails to fasten
- B. Other areas. Edge roll gives shape to chair.

### V. FILLINGS

- A. Insulators - Sisal
1. Tough fiber placed over burlap covering springs to prevent wear.
  2. Cut to cover spring area.
- B. Resiliency Padding
1. Moss or hair  
Loose in form and requires a muslin covering to help form the shape.
  2. Rubberized hair (Paratex, Hair-flex, etc.)  
Cut to desired shape.  
Fillings will come to the first edge of the frame.  
Can be tacked, sewn or glued into place.  
(When tacking, separate the thickness and tack to lower half so the tack will be covered and will not cause an indentation of the filling. Use #4 tacks.)
  3. Foams. Many new and interesting foams are appearing on the market.
    - a. Foam Rubber. Glued to a tape, then tacked for security. Cut to shape desired or ordered for the desired shape.
    - b. Polyester Foams. Treatment the same as foam rubber.

### VI. COTTON PADDINGS

- A. Apply cotton padding to the second edge of the frame.
1. Never goes where it can be tacked through when applying the fabric. This sometimes is the cause of pull marks on the covering.
  2. Apply cotton over all fillings except foam. (In some cases cotton is applied over foam to help in shifting.)
  3. Can be tacked in place by separating cotton and tacking the lower half.

## VII. FABRIC

- A. Fabric is cut in rectangular forms from the measurements obtained before tearing the chair down.
1. Laying out pieces in paper form aids in handling small pieces of paper to represent the fabric. Label each piece carefully.
  2. Consider grainline and pattern in layout work. Make your grainline tell an interesting story.
  3. Fit by centering each piece to desired section. Center top and bottom, and tack (baste-tack only). Center sides and tack in place. Fit toward the corners. Cut to fit.

Note: For further instructions with fabric, see work sheet outline on Applying Fabric to Upholstered Furniture.

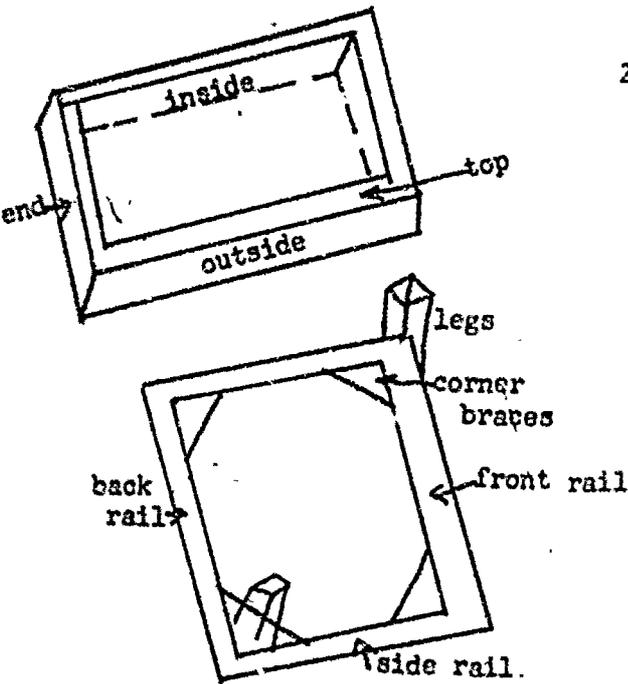
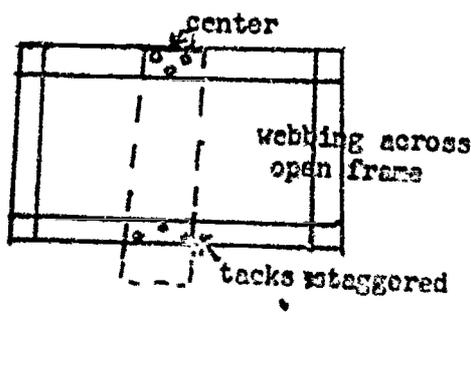
## Webbing, Application and Stretching

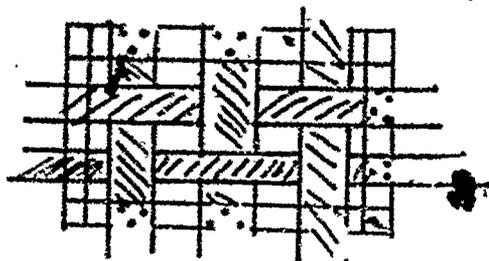
### Tools and equipment needed:

1. Upholstering hammer
2. Webbing stretcher
3. Shears
4. Trestles

### Materials needed:

1. Upholstery tacks, size 8-14 depending on condition of frame and the width of lumber.
2. Webbing - Jute, fiber. Strip - 3" or 3½"

What to Do	How to Do It
<p style="text-align: center;">Procedure</p>	
<p>Footstool frame rails</p>	
 <p>The diagram shows two views of a rectangular frame. The top view is a perspective drawing of a rectangular frame with labels: 'inside' (top edge), 'outside' (bottom edge), 'end' (left side), and 'top' (right side). The bottom view is a top-down perspective of the same frame, showing internal bracing. Labels include: 'legs' (top corners), 'corner braces' (diagonal lines), 'back rail' (left side), 'front rail' (right side), and 'side rail' (bottom edge).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Place the frame of ottoman or chair on trestles, bottom side up, preparation for installing the webbing.</li> <li>2. Determine the amount of webbing by measuring the distance across the frame from front to back and allow a 2" seam allowance.</li> </ol> <p>Measure the distance from side to side and allow the 2" seam allowance.</p> <p>The number of strips needed will be determined by the distance of the opening. Measure or fit the strips in this area, making sure that the area in the middle is protected. This area receives the most weight when the chair is in use. The frame will give good protection for the weight so do not crowd the frame area.</p> <p>(The footstool will require three strips of webbing from front to back rail, and two strips from end rail to end rail.)</p>
 <p>The diagram shows a top-down view of the frame with a vertical dashed line representing a strip of webbing. Labels include: 'center' (at the top of the dashed line), 'webbing across open frame' (text to the right of the dashed line), and 'tacks staggered' (at the bottom of the dashed line).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. The frame of the footstool is composed of two side rails and two end rails. Note from inset that each rail has 4 sides, namely, top, bottom, inside and outside.</li> <li>4. Use a marking pencil and mark off on the rails where the webbing is to be placed; start the first webbing at the middle of the back rail (mark centers of rails before starting).</li> <li>5. Fold end of the webbing back about 1½" and tack through both thicknesses</li> </ol>



Webbing interwoven and tacked

staggering the tacks. (Staggering the tacks prevents splitting of the wood.) Use 5 #12 tacks on the fold.

6. Now lay the webbing across to the opposite rail and insert webbing stretcher so that, as it is pushed down, the webbing is held in position. Drive down three #12 tacks, one on each side and one in the middle on the inner side of the rail. Again stagger the tacks, the end ones at the outer edge and the third one in to the inner rail edge.
7. Cut off webbing, allowing  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " to turn back and tack through both thicknesses, using 2 tacks to the side of the webbing but on the inner edge, the third tack is in the middle toward the outer edge. See diagram.
8. Be sure the crease is  $1/8$ " from the outer edge, so that it will not show when the bottom is properly covered, the final step in upholstering the ottoman.
9. Judge the location for the next piece of webbing. It is to be tacked halfway between the center strip that you just installed and either end rail. Tack the first end as before and stretch. Drive 3 tacks and cut the webbing; then fold the end over and drive three more tacks.
10. Repeat for the third strip of webbing, which is stretched across the back and front rails.
11. Judge the position of the two strips of webbing which are to be tacked from end rail to end rail. Tack one end as before, but be sure to interweave it with the first webbing you have applied.

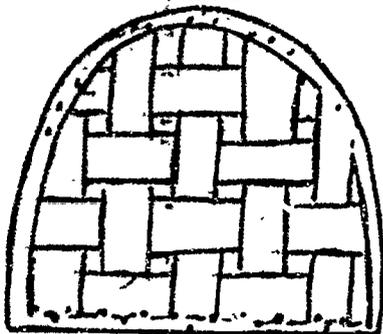
**Evaluation:** The purpose of interweaving the webbing is to cause the webbing to act as a whole, just as a piece of woven goods is stronger than the same threads laid in rows, one over the other. "Where there is unity, there is strength".

12. The webbed area will sound like a drum sound when properly applied. This is necessary to give it as much strength as possible. Webbing may have a tendency to stretch and thus sag in time.

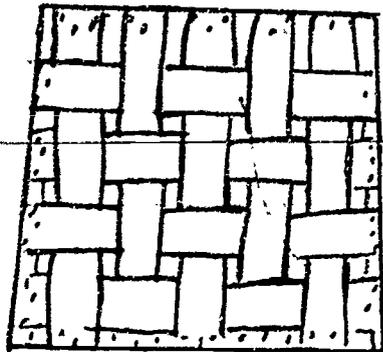
WEBBING (con't)

WEBBING (con't)

Bottom of chairs



2 1 c 1 2



2 1 c 1 2

Two types of chairs; one with straight back and one with a round frame.

"C" Center

1. SEATS in chairs and davenports should contain more strips of webbing than the BACKS.
2. Place a strip of webbing for each row of springs.
3. Measure the webbing after it is installed, remembering to include the number of inches turned back.
4. The rear strip of webbing is some distance from the rear or back of the chair frame, whereas the front strip is nearer the front rail of the frame. Most of the support is needed near the front of the chair, the area which holds the most weight. The back area holds a less amount of pressure.
5. Webbing must not be stretched to the breaking point, it must be capable of giving slightly under pressure and at the same time, must be taut enough to prevent bulging below the frame when the springs are tied down.
6. When the strips are stretched in a straight line, they serve as a guide for sewing the springs in a straight line to be tied.
7. It is advisable to start tacking THE STRIPS OF WEBBING NEAR THE CENTER OF THE FRAME OR THE CENTER STRIP. This method will give one an opportunity to get them more even and straighter. (See diagram).

## Essential Processes in Upholstery

### SPRING AND SPRING WORK

Springs are important for comfort, economy and stuffing, and as an aid in holding padded shapes.

#### I. Kind of springs found in upholstery work.

There is such a variety of styles, sizes and heights that careful consideration is needed in the selection of springs. Heavy-gauge springs are used for seat and couch work, smaller gauge wire for back or pillow springs. The larger the spring waist diameter, the greater the comfort. When springs have large top and bottom diameters, fewer springs are needed and greater resiliency is afforded. Placement apart is from 2 to 4 inches.

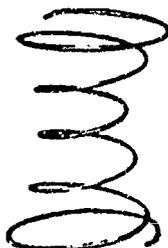
##### A. Seat Springs:

Seat spring sizes vary in diameter from 4 to 4½ inches, in height from 4 to 9 inches for ordinary work; 12 to 14" for unusual requirements. Waists vary from 2½ (large) to 2¼ (med). Springs most commonly used for medium and large furniture seats are 6, 8 and 9 inches high, depending on the frame and style.

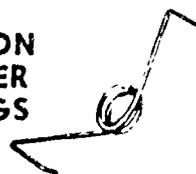
Seat springs 4-5 inches high may be used in dining room chair seats. Higher springs will require a tacking rail half the height of the spring to prevent spring swaying.

Style of springs vary. Some are knotted at both ends and are known as cushion springs, some knotted one end, and some open at both ends, in which case one end is bent down to avoid injuring the padding. Knotted ends are placed up unless they are to be placed at seat edges, where a wire-edge is desired.

For a spring edge, expand the spring coil end that is not knotted far enough to permit the spring to stand upright when tied and for the attached edge wire to be even with the seat edge. This may be for seat fronts or front and sides, or entirely around all four edges for stools. Only edge or corner springs are expanded. Others remain as they are. Coils should be expanded 1" or more, to almost reach the frame outside edge as the spring bottom is set against the inside seat rail. Edge wire should be attached before tying springs and expanding should be done before springs are attached.



**TORSION  
CORNER  
SPRINGS**



Ideal for use in supporting edge wire on T shaped frames. 6 ½ inch

**SPRING EDGEWIRE**



## SPRING CONSTRUCTION

### I. Number and size of springs.

After the webbing has been tacked in place and the piece of furniture has been turned over on its feet, the next step is to select the number of springs and to determine the size required.

A. The size of the opening will indicate the number of springs to use.

1. They should be equally distributed. Each spring will give freely under pressure without coming in contact with each other.

a. If crowded too closely together they will form a hard seat.

b. Too far apart will result in a weak or soft seat. (When you sit down you may hit the bottom of the seat.)  
(To remedy this you can use a smaller spring and use more of them.)

B. The size of the spring is governed by the resiliency required in the finished seat or back.

1. The less they are compressed in tying, the greater the resiliency.

a. The resiliency can never be greater than that permitted by the twine; the higher the tops of the springs, above the frame, the more resilient the seat.

b. In seats, the top of the tied-down springs should never, under ordinary circumstances, be less than 3" above the frame. This will permit the spring to be depressed without taking up all of the slack in the spring twine.

1) When tied lower than 3" below the boxing, the twine and burlap will soon tear away from the frame, and stuffing will fall out.

a) When necessary to tie lower than 3" above the frame, the twine should be brought to the bottom of the inside of the frame. Tacked under the bottom edge.

b) The weakest part of the spring is the waist or center. A spring with a wide center is softer than one with a narrow center, and if the spring is too narrow at this point, it may become weak and useless.

## II. Placing and fastening springs:

Open end springs, like the ones we used with the footstools, one end or the tip is bent toward the center when the spring is in place. This bent end should be on top. The tip is bent down as a prevention of wearing a hole in the burlap and thus permitting the stuffing to fall in the springs.

### A. Placing the springs:

1. Springs can be set about 2" from the front edge of of the frame and an open area be free all the way around.
2. Springs should stand directly in line in both directions. (Otherwise it is difficult to tie them down.)
3. Springs should be set to be free of each other. The distance they are apart will determine how closely they are at the top when tied.
4. The tip or bent down portion should face the inside of the open area.
5. Mark them in place so you can remove the springs for sewing and not get your spring twine encircled with all the springs. Work with stitching the spring the farthest away from you, e.g., the back left corner and work toward the front.
6. Spring edge is made by placing a wire edge across the front line of springs at the top of the spring. The distance the wire extends will vary from chair to chair as to the covering of the spring area.
  - a. When using a spring edge, the spring row at the front will stand directly against the front edge frame at the bottom, and the top of the spring will be bent forward to extend even with the front edge frame of the chair.
  - b. Position will be determined by the number of springs to be used.

### B. Fastening springs to webbing:

1. When placed in proper position, the springs are fastened to the webbing. This is done by sewing.
  - a. Springs must be sewn tightly to the webbing or they may wear out the twine and fall over. Care must be taken not to allow the springs to move while sewing.
    - 1) Use 4 stitches to each spring.
    - 2) Place the stitches so that the last stitch on a spring will be the point closest to the next spring.
    - 3) Using the straight needle, make a slip knot and proceeding to the next stitch, holding it firmly with a loop, proceed to all the springs making sure they are tightly tied.

4. Fastening springs to wood:

On furniture frames with wood slats or on a solid base, there are two methods of fastening springs.

- a. Using ordinary staples.
- b. Using upholsterer's tacks placed next to the bottom coil, one on each side of the coil. The heads of the tacks will prevent the springs from shifting.
- c. Regardless of the method of fastening, it will be necessary to place some sort of a silencer below the unfastened coils to prevent rattling when the coil is depressed and the spring hits the wood. The silencer may be a strip of webbing, burlap, or some other waste material.

## TYING SPRINGS TO HEIGHT

I. When the springs have been fastened in position, the next step is to tie them down to height. The life of the furniture depends upon the condition of the springs, which in turn depends upon the manner in which they have been tied down. Care must be taken that the springs stand straight and do not slip on the twine when tied down.

A. Tools and equipment:  
Hammer, shears, tack puller

B. Materials:  
Spring twine, tacks (#8)

C. Procedure:

1. Measuring spring twine.

a. Round or stuffed seats in chairs or stools. Measure the twine, allowing 3" for the first knot. The distance across, plus 3" for ending knot, plus 1" for each knot and you tie everything you cross.

e.g.      3" beginning knot      3"  
                 ending knot              3"  
                 distance across      16"  
                 4 knots                      4"  
    26" needed

b. Flat seats -- especially where reversible cushions are used, allow enough twine to make a return tie at each end. The return tie must be long enough to go over the top of the first spring, and be tied to the top of the second spring.

e.g.      one rather safe rule would be to measure  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times the distance across the area you wish to tie.

2. Cutting spring twine.

a. You can save time if after you are sure you have a sufficient length, you can cut the number of lengths of equal lengths, (3 lengths for 3 rows of springs).

b. Tack all of the pieces of twine on one end, e.g. the back edge of a chair or davenport, before tying the springs.

3. Fastening spring twine to the frame.

a. Place two baste tacks,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch apart, in line with each row of springs.

b. For round or stuffed seats, where no return tie is necessary, fasten the ends of each twine around the two tacks and drive the tacks down. To make the knot, make a loop of the twine and fold the loop back over itself and you form two rabbit ears and these then can be placed over the baste-tacks. Drive the

tacks down. A third tack through the cord between the tacks gives extra support.

- c. On flat seats where a return twine is used, fasten the twine around the two tacks at a proper place to allow for the return twine and drive the tacks down.
  - 1) This allows two lengths of twine to work with at each row of springs--the first the long one and the short twine for return twine.
  - 2) The long length will be the one used first.
  
4. Tying springs to height-----round seats.
  - a. Knot the twine to both sides of the top spring edge.
  - b. Hold the spring down to height as you tie and go on to second spring.
  - c. Loop the twine around the tack, holding the spring in position check for height and drive the tack down. Come around the other tack and drive it down.
  - d. Proceed in same manner until all rows are tied. It is easier to start with the middle row and proceed to each side. (~~It is easier to get the rows held down more even this way.~~)
  
5. Tying springs to height--flat seat.
  - a. For flat seats, especially where loose cushions are used. Loop the first of long twine around the coil that is the closest to the top of the frame (approximately 3 coils down). Proceed to the top coil of the first spring, continue to tie and knot across the rest of the springs until the last one (usually the one that will be closest to you). Tie the top coil and drop down to the coil most level with the frame, tie and go to the frame tacks. Tie by going in between the two tacks, around the right hand one, in front of both and around the left hand tack. Tack firmly.
  - b. Be sure to pull down to the desired height before driving the tacks down.
  - c. Follow with the return twine, drawing the outer coil down even with the middle spring. Tie the top of the outer coil. The knotting of the return twine over each loop will hold the spring in its permanent position.
  - d. It is suggested you make the return twine long enough to go to the middle spring in both directions. This gives the center section of the seat the most protection for the most weight.

## WIRE EDGE AND SPRINGS

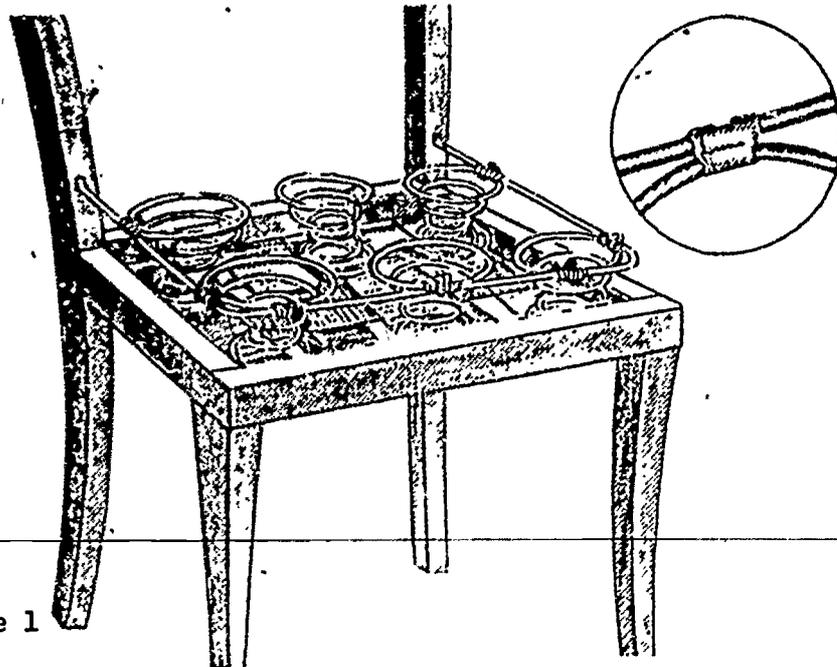
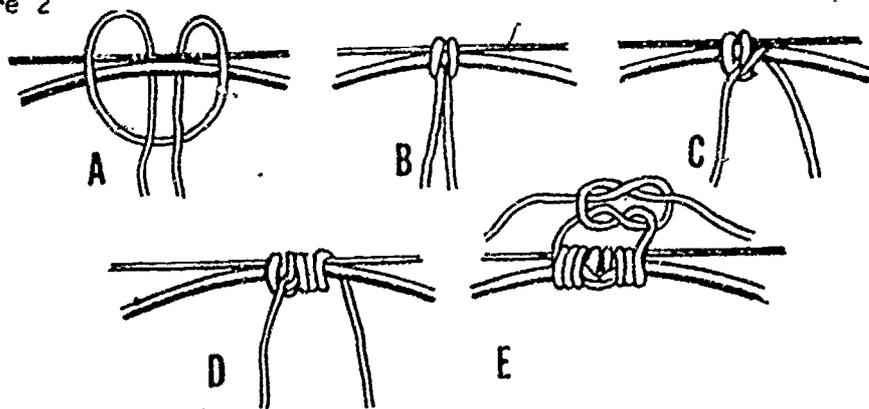


Figure 1

Figure 2



If furniture has an edge wire, Illus. 1, tie outer springs to edge wire or use metal clips to fasten springs to edge wire. Place clip over coil and wire, press together with pliers. Spring may be tied to wire with twine, Illus. 2. Cut twine 8" to 10" long. Make loop, Illus. 2A; pull tight. - B Insert one end C, between spring and wire. D - wrap coil and wire two or three times. Do same on other side, then tie both ends together with a square knot. - E

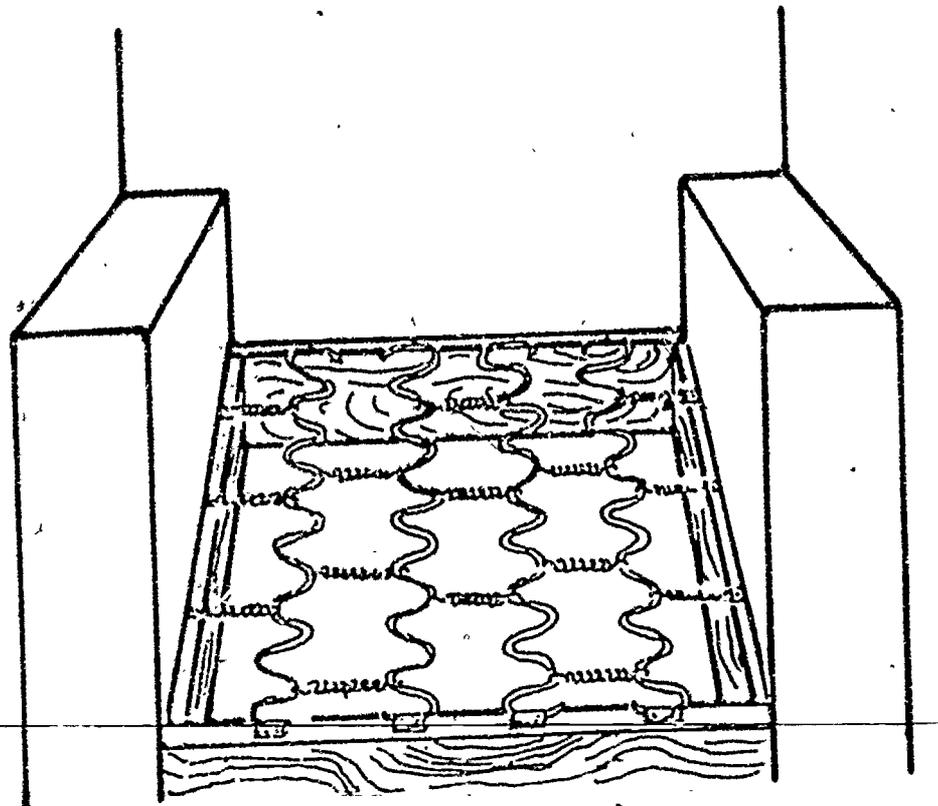
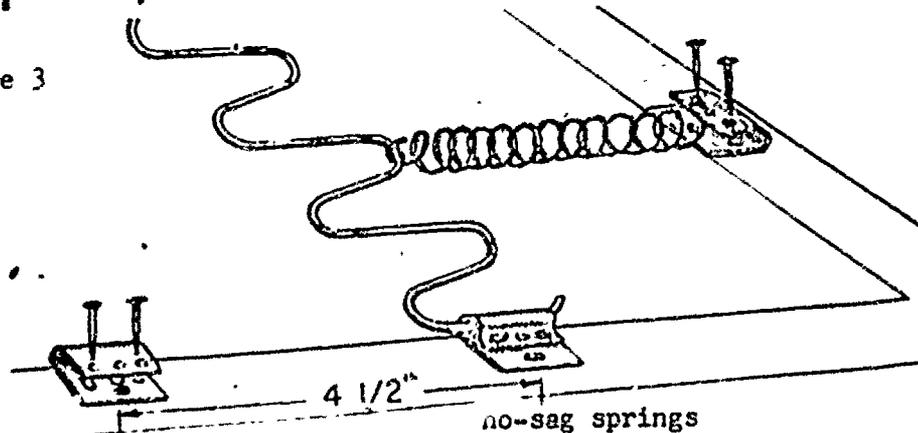


Figure 3



Another way of rebuilding a seat or back is with no-sag or sagless springs, Illus. 3. They require no tying. No-sag spring come in 12 ft. The lengths, are cut to length required and fastened to frame with clips supplied by manufacturer. Space clips  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " apart. Cover with burlap to size required and tack to frame. Foam rubber can then be used.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " to 3" core foam rubber is recommended on seat over no-sag springs;  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " to 2" core foam for back. Most upholstery supply houses now offer a specially strong, wire woven burlap, that can be used over conventional, or no-sag springs, when additional support is desired. If you are uncertain as to amount of no-sag springs you need, measure overall size of frame, and your upholstery supply house will recommend quantity required.

## ATTACHING BURLAP

Although it may be a simple procedure to tack a piece of burlap over springs, care must be taken not to pull the burlap so tight as to depress the springs. This would put all the strain on the burlap, which would soon tear away.

### Tools and Equipment

Hammer; shears

### Materials

Burlap; tacks, size 4

### Procedure

1. Measuring for Burlap.  
Measure the size of the opening, or measure over the springs at the widest point plus seam allowance.
2. Cutting the Burlap.  
Cut a piece of burlap large enough to cover the entire opening, reaching over the springs and down to the frame, allowing 1" for overlapping on each edge. (Starting with 2" on the tape line and measuring across the widest distance will be easier to determine the needed amount).
3. Centering Frame and Burlap.  
Mark the middle of the frame and the piece of burlap in front and back. This will permit getting the burlap on straight and having the same amount on both sides.
4. Tacking the Burlap.  
Allow over lap  $3/4$ " of burlap and tack the centers of the burlap on all four sides. Place tack the burlap in place using a limited number of tacks going from the center toward each corner. Fold edge back and tack through the two thicknesses.  
  
Pull the burlap tight enough without depressing the edges of the springs. Approximately 1" allowance "pinch" for ease.  
  
Tack the front edge in the same manner, getting the middle of the burlap edge on the middle of the frame.  
  
Tack the burlap on the ends and tack to the top of the frame rail.

### Questions:

1. What fabric is generally placed over springs?
2. Why is it so important not to pull this fabric so tight that the spring is depressed?
3. How much allowance should be made for overlap?
4. Why should the burlap and the frame be centered in front and back?

## Determining the Size of Tack for the Job

The size of tack to use for any purpose in upholstery work is established by trial and errors.

1. Start the test with the smallest size tack you think will do the job. There is no more disheartening sound than that of the splitting of a rail due to the driving of too large a tack.
  - a. Drive only one tack to hold the material in question and pull on the material until either the tack is pulled out or the material tears. If the tack is pulled out, it is too small. If the tack remains in the frame without splitting the wood, and the material tears, the tack is satisfactory.
2. Testing to determine the right size of tack to use in installing webbing.
  - a. Lay strip of webbing across the seat rail just as if you were to install this webbing.
  - b. Drive one tack through the doubled end of the webbing and into the frame. Start with a size #4 tack.
  - c. At other rail, insert webbing -- stretch and stretch. If tack pulls out, test with larger size. If tack remains stationary and webbing tears, the tack is of sufficient size. Always begin the test with smallest size that you believe could possibly hold, then work up to the last size which will hold.

	<u>Size Tack</u>
Webbing	#12 - #14
Springs - tying	#10 - #8
Fillings and fabrics	#4 - #6
Fabrics	#3 - #4
Panels - fine fabrics	#2½ - #3
Panels	#2
Grp finishes - exposed work	Gimp

## INSTALLING FINAL COVERINGS

### A. Measuring and cutting.

1. From charts.
2. Using old covers as patterns
3. Taking measurements from the furniture
4. Using small scaled drawings

### B. Marking and cutting

1. Label pieces

### C. Use of stretchers

### D. Sewing final covers

1. Attaching stretchers to sides and back sections.
2. Sewing welting strips together and to end
3. Sewing cording inside of strips to form welting
4. Sewing welting to upholstery panels
5. Sewing various cover sections together
6. Making machine sewn seams
7. Blind Stitching
8. Pin or stay tacking
9. Making corners
  - a. Pleated square corner
  - b. The round corner
10. Blind Tacking (concealed)
11. Fitting around posts
12. Pleating curves

### E. Order for installing covers - (usual)

1. Seat
2. Inside arms (or inside back)
3. Inside back (or inside arms)
4. Outside arms
5. Boxings (if any) front and sides
6. Outside back
7. SKirt, if needed -Box or kick pleat

### F. Buttons

1. Covering
2. Installing

C. Cushions - Round - Square - Rectangular - T-Shape - Half tee - Irregular

1. Measuring and constructing - cutting
  - a. old covers
  - b. measuxes
  - c. pattern
2. Use of casings - muslin over rubber
3. Boxings - measuring
4. Laying out and cutting foam for cushions
5. Altering padding shapes
6. Fitting boxing pieces
7. Making zippered rear boxing
8. Assembling boxings and covers
9. Attaching bottom cushion cover
10. Making inner spring cushions
11. Reversible cushions
12. Loose - filled cushions
13. Making compartmented casing
14. Attaching buttons to reversible cushions
15. Making "T" shaped cushions
16. Back cushions - semi-detached

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We would appreciate any comments on the content, the format and the usefulness of this material.

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