

## PLASTICIZER MIGRATION

This is an issue that occurs when some types of cleaners have been applied to and/or left on the vinyl material for an extended period of time without being rinsed by a clear water wipe. Typically the sides (where they have not been cleaned) are still soft and pliable to the touch whereas the "seat" surface is hard and brittle indicating plasticizer migration has occurred. This is a process where the plasticizers (the molecular hinge that allows materials to maintain their flexibility) are drawn to the surface. When the plasticizers migrate to the surface, the material becomes brittle and liable to cracking.

For prevention of this, every cleaning should be followed by a rinse wipe with clear water to remove any chemical residue that could build up on the surface. For example it would be like washing your dishes and not rinsing them. Once the damage has occurred the only recourse is to re-upholster the item. Unfortunately you cannot reverse the effects of plasticizer migration.



Obvious examples of plasticizer migration show the tell-tale cracking and the material is hard to the touch.

