

## INDSF501 DESIGNING SOFT FURNISHING

### What does soft furnishing means?

Soft furnishings may be defined as those components of your house that beautify the interiors and provide a pleasant atmosphere in the house. Soft furnishings are cushions, curtains, and furniture covers.

Learning Unit 1: Identify types, styles and materials of soft furnishing

Learning Outcome1.1: Identify soft furnishing

- **Types of soft furnishing:**

- ✓ **Curtains:** a piece of material suspended at the top to form a screen, typically movable sideways along a rail and found as one of a pair at a window.

- ❖ **Types of curtains will depend on:**

#### **Materials**

- **Cotton curtain:** Cotton is a popular choice for many different applications. Cotton is semi-sheer, so it lets in lots of light while still providing a moderate level of privacy. Cotton curtains are often layered with other fabrics to create a complete window treatment. You'll see cotton curtains in many different styles, and it's a viable choice for any room in the home. Cotton curtains are also easy to clean, which makes them even more versatile.
- **Velvet curtain:** Velvet curtains are another popular material. This material is best if you're looking for the most privacy possible. The heavy material also keeps out drafts and reduces outside noise. Velvet is a popular choice for bedrooms with light-sensitive sleepers. **Linen curtain:** Linen curtains are a bit heavier than cotton, while still maintaining an easy, casual vibe. They let in a moderate level of light while providing an additional level of privacy. Linen can be a bit more difficult to clean than cotton. It's probably not the best choice for dusty environments as the rough texture of linen can act as a magnet for dust.
- **Lace curtain:** Lace is a sheer fabric, which makes it the best choice if you're looking to create a light, bright and airy window treatment. Lace provides the least amount of privacy of these materials while letting in the most light. Lace is most popular in kitchens, living rooms, or any other area of the home where you'd like to let in lots of light. Lace curtains can also be paired with heavier fabrics to create a more versatile window treatment.
- **Silk curtain:** Silk is a beautiful and luxurious fabric that is used to produce a broad range of different types of curtains. It's semi-sheer and depending on how thick the silk is, it may let in lots of light, or a limited amount of light. Silk is a popular material in classic and contemporary

curtain styles. Silk is difficult to clean, and usually, requires professional help for cleaning. So, you may want to consider the upkeep costs before investing in silk curtains.

- **Burlap curtain:** Burlap has a similar look and texture to linen, but it's much heavier weight than linen is. This fabric is casual and plain, and it provides a great deal of privacy while allowing minimal light or no light at all when you close the curtains. Burlap is easy to clean and it looks great in casual applications.
- **Synthetic curtain:** Synthetic materials have become extraordinarily popular for curtain production. Synthetics are cheaper to produce than natural fibers, and they're usually easy to clean as well. Synthetic fabrics can mirror the look and feel of any of the natural fabrics listed above. They're usually a cheaper option than natural materials as well. So, if cost is a concern, or if you're looking for an easy to clean option, synthetic curtains may be the best choice for you.

### **Curtain Pattern**

- **Patterns:** Patterned curtains are popular in every style of window treatment. Patterns can be a great way to express your personality or achieve a specific look with your curtains. Patterned curtains are typically cotton, lace, or synthetic. But, you'll also see some patterned curtains in linen or burlap varieties, or embossed velvet curtains as well.
- **Solids:** Solid curtains are a great way to accent other colors or patterns in your window treatments. They also create a clean and modern look.  
Solids are popular in all types of curtains, especially modern and casual styles.

### **Curtain Length**

- **Sill:** Sill length curtains are perfect for windows that you open all the time. This length is usually a great choice for kitchens, bathrooms, and smaller window sizes. Sill length curtains are hung so that the curtain ends even with the window sill, or just above it.
- **Apron:** Apron length curtains are a great way to elongate the look of your windows. These curtains are used on smaller windows, like in kitchens, bathrooms and some bedrooms. Usually, the rod is hung a bit higher than the actual window and the curtain extends several inches below the window sill. When closed, apron length curtains can make your window area appear larger than it is.
- **Floor:** Floor length curtains are great for floor to ceiling windows and sliding doors. Floor length curtains traditionally break just above the floor, by less than an inch. Floor length curtains are also popular for smaller windows that are rarely or never opened to create the illusion of a floor to ceiling window.
- **Puddle:** Puddle length curtains are extra-long floor length curtains. They're several inches longer than the size of the window and they break dramatically on the floor, similar to the train

of a wedding dress. This style is especially popular if you're looking to create a dramatic or romantic window treatment.

### **Curtain Style**

- **Casual:** Casual curtains are a popular choice in bedrooms, bathrooms, and kitchens. Casual curtains will lend themselves to an easy, not-too-serious vibe. These curtains often feature grommet and eyelet or tab top attachments, and they're rarely used with a valance.
- **Classic:** Classic styles are universally popular in any room in the home. Classic curtains are often used with valances and additional accessories to create full window treatments.
- **Contemporary:** Contemporary curtains provide a fresh interpretation of classic styles. They're most commonly available in shades of grey and earthy tones that are inspired by nature. Contemporary curtains often feature rich textures and provide a sophisticated look that isn't overly styled or pretentious.
- **Modern:** Modern curtains generally reflect modern design in general. Modern designs are usually minimal and often incorporate metal along with eco-friendly materials as well. While solid colors are ever popular with modern curtains, bold patterns with clean lines or abstract elements are also very popular. Depending on the style of the room, modern curtains can create a powerful design statement.

### **Attachment Style**

- **Rod Pocket:** Rod pocket curtains feature a pocket that's sewn into the top of the curtain. To hang these curtains, you feed the curtain rod through the curtain and out the other side of the pocket. These curtains are popular with a valance. They're also used without a valance to create a casual look. Usually, rod pocket curtains look best in fabrics like cotton or linen. The pocket sometimes features decorative embellishments like embroidery.
- **Grommet and Eyelet:** Grommet and Eyelet curtains have large eyelets in the top of the fabric that is reinforced with grommets. This style of curtain is especially popular in contemporary or modern styles. Grommet and eyelet curtains allow you to add an additional flourish of style in place of a valance.
- **Tab Top:** With tab top curtains, loops of fabric are sewn into the top of the curtain. The curtain rod hangs through the loops. Sometimes, these curtains feature decorative embellishments like buttons. Tab top curtains are most popular in casual styles, and they're also used in more contemporary country styles as well.
- **Hidden Tab:** Hidden tab curtains are like a cross between rod pocket and tab curtains. With this style, the tabs used to hang the curtain are kept out of view, behind an additional piece of fabric, that's usually decorative. The fabric on top of a hidden tab curtain is often pinched pleated to add

an additional level of style. You can use these curtains with or without a valance. Hidden tab curtains are popular in traditional, country or contemporary styles.

### **Opacity**

- **Sheer:** Thin, semi-transparent fabrics are the basis of sheer curtains. These curtains provide the most daylight in a room when the curtain is closed. Sheer curtains also provide the least amount of privacy, and they serve any additional purpose beyond being decorative. This kind of curtain is most popular in living rooms and dining rooms.
- **Semi-Opaque:** Semi-Opaque curtains are like a blend between sheer curtains and blackout curtains. They allow some daylight into the room when they're closed. They also provide more privacy than sheer curtains. These curtains are a popular choice for any application.
- **Blackout:** Blackout curtains allow the least amount of light to enter a room when they're closed. These curtains are made of heavier weight materials and often have built-in linings. Blackout curtains provide the most privacy, and they often have additional features beyond their decorative purpose. People often use blackout curtains in bedrooms, dens, theaters, or any other area where keeping out natural light is a concern. Sometimes, blackout curtains are used behind sheer curtains to provide additional features and a more polished look than what you can achieve with a simple curtain liner.

### **There are other types of curtains**

- **Blinds:** A window blind is a type of window covering. A typical window blind is made up of several long horizontal or vertical slats of various types of hard material, including wood, plastic or metal which are held together by cords that run through the blind slats. Window blinds can be maneuvered with either a manual or remote control by rotating them from an open position, with slats spaced out, to a closed position where slats overlap and block out most of the light.
- **Panel Pair:** Panel pair curtains feature two separate curtain panels. This type of curtain is popular in classic and contemporary styles. With a panel pair, you place a curtain on either side of the window. To close these curtains, you'd pull each panel together. Panel pair curtains can be tied back to create a symmetrical look for your window treatment.
- **Single Panel:** With a single panel curtain, one panel covers the entire window. The panel can be pulled to either side to open, and it can be tied back to create a modern, asymmetrical look. These types of curtains are popular in modern and casual styles.

- **Window Treatment Set:** A window treatment set includes everything you'll need to create a full window treatment. A window treatment set almost always includes one or two curtains and a valance. Some window kits also include accessories like tiebacks and a curtain rod.
- **Valance:** A valance is a short curtain that hangs at the top of your curtains. These are an optional decorative addition. Valances are a great way to complete a look. These curtains are available separately, or as part of a window treatment set.
- **Window Scarf:** A window scarf is similar to a valance. It's a long, thin piece of curtain fabric that is hung from the top of the window. Window scarfs are a great way to create a dramatic look with your window treatment.
- **Liner:** Curtain liners are another optional add-on, and they're used to provide an additional level of versatility to your curtains. Many people opt to add a liner with sheer curtains, so they have more options when it comes to privacy, and light allowance. Curtain liners often have additional features as well. For example, they may be thermal, or noise-blocking.
- ✓ **Cushion:** A cushion is a soft bag of some ornamental material, stuffed with wool, hair, feathers, polyester staple fiber, non-woven material, or even paper torn into fragments. It may be used for sitting or kneeling upon, or to soften the hardness or angularity of a chair or couch.

#### **Types of cushions**

- **Bench cushion:** like church pew cushions, bench cushions are meant to cover plain wooden surfaces with a cushion to give your backside some relief against the hard, flat seat.
- **Chair cushions:** are even made for the ubiquitous, rented Chiavari chairs that are used for large events and weddings. The cushion has ties that attach it to the back leg chair supports.
- **Floor cushion:** Even today floor cushions are a terrific way to eat at a low table, Japanese style, or to accommodate guests and children who prefer a down-low viewpoint. They will hold their shape and provided some much-needed comfort from a wood, tile, laminate or even carpeted floor.
- ✓ **Bedding:** Bedding, also known as bedclothes or bed linen, is the materials laid above the mattress of a bed for hygiene, warmth, protection of the mattress, and decorative effect. Bedding is the removable and washable portion of a human sleeping environment.
  - **Bed cover:** a bedcover is a covering for bed and can be coverlet or bedspread
  - ❖ **Coverlet:** is a quilt that cannot cover the pillow
  - ❖ **A bed spread** is designed to cover the entire bed, up over the pillows, and down to the floor.
  - **Bed sheet:** A bed sheet is a piece of linen or cloth that is used to cover the mattress and is the sheet that the person directly lies on

- Blanket: A blanket is usually one thick layer of fabric made in wool used for body covering.
- Duvet: A quilt can be called a blanket by those who don't know any better. A duvet is a cover made like a large pillowcase. A quilt is a coverlet for bed made of two layers of fabric with some soft substance, as wool between them
- ✓ Rugs: A rug is a piece of thick material that you put on a floor. It is like a carpet but covers a smaller area. can be defined also as a floor covering of thick woven material or animal skin, typically not extending over the entire floor.

The following are the types of rugs:

#### A) Space for covering

1. Hallway Runners: As the name indicates, hallway runners are designed to fit the space located in a hallway. They're available in different lengths, and they feature a very narrow width.
2. Door Mats: Door Mats are available in many styles, and you usually find them at the front and rear doors. They allow entrants to clean their feet before entering.
3. Outdoor Rugs: Outdoor rugs are designed to be heavy-duty, and weather resistant. You'll typically find these rugs on patios and decks.
4. Kids' Rugs: These are the rugs you'd outfit a child's room or play area with. They feature kid-centric colors and patterns. Often, the rug is interactive and encourages children to incorporate the rug into their play.
5. Bath Rugs & Mats: These rugs are a popular addition to bathrooms, in front of the tub or shower. Bath mats provide sturdy footing, and an absorbent surface to step onto after a shower.
6. Stair Runners Similar to hallway runners, these rugs are long and very narrow. They're designed to provide sure footing when walking up or down stairs.
7. Kitchen Rugs: Kitchen rugs are a popular and functional decor item that you may find in kitchens throughout the world.

#### B) Production Method

1. Hand rugs: Hand woven rugs are created by skilled craftsman using his or her hand and are truly a work of art. As you'd imagine, they are typically the most expensive style of rug.
2. Machine rugs: Commercial weaving machines or power looms create these rugs, and they can mimic all of the different styles of hand woven rugs. This production style is the most prevalent and affordable style of rug.

#### C) Construction Styles

1. Tufted: Fibers loop through a rug's backing to create a tufted rug. Depending on the construction style, the fibers are either left looped, as in a shag rug or cut evenly across.

2. **Knotted:** This style is typically associated with Persian rugs. You create a knotted rug by knotting the fiber of the rug together. Once the machine or rug maker creates each knot, it's cut.
3. **Flat woven rugs:** are similar in construction to knotted rugs. However, instead of cutting each knot after it's created, a flat woven rug continues with the initial thread to create more knots, without cutting. They are similar in style to knotted rugs, but rug makers can produce them more quickly.
4. **Hooked:** With this style of rug, the backing of the rug features a checkerboard-like pattern. The fiber is then hooked through the holes in the backing to create the rug.
5. **Braided:** A classically American style, braided rugs are created by braiding long sections of cloth and sewing them together. You'll usually find these rugs in round or oval shapes.
6. **Shag style:** Shag rugs boast long, thick shag that offers the ultimate in softness underfoot. These are dense rugs, great for softening the tone and walking space of any living room.

#### **D) Rug Shape**

1. **Rectangular:** Rectangular rugs are among the most popular and versatile style of rug. These rugs are most commonly used in living rooms, dining rooms, and bedrooms.
2. **Runners:** Runners are a type of rectangular rug characterized by a narrow width. They are most commonly used in hallways, or down flights of stairs.
3. **Square**
4. **Square:** Square rugs serve a similar function as rectangular rugs. Depending on the shape of the room you're decorating, they may be the best option for you.
5. **Round:** This shape is commonly seen in settings similar to rectangular and square rugs. You'll also find round shapes as accent rugs in the center of a room.
6. **Oval rugs:** are also versatile, and you'll find them in many of the same settings a rectangular rug would be used. They vary in width to fit different applications such as hallways. Traditionally, they're used in living or dining rooms.
7. **Octagonal:** This style of rug is typically used as an accent piece or under a table in a dining room or eats in kitchen.
8. **Slices:** Rug slices are usually half-moon shaped rugs. You'll find rug slices in homes as doormats, bath mats or kitchen mats.

#### **E) Materials**

1. **Wool:** Wool is among the best, most popular materials to construct a rug from. Wool is a natural fiber that's derived from sheep. It's soft and durable. It's also easy to clean, resists staining, and

it feels cozy and luxurious. Usually, you'd use a wool rug in high traffic areas like living and dining rooms

2. **Cotton:** Cotton is often used to create flat-weave rugs and world styles like kilims and dhurries. Cotton is cheaper than wool, but it's also less durable and doesn't feel quite as luxurious. Cotton rugs are best for casual areas and kitchens.
3. **Silk rugs:** are luxurious and have a beautiful sheen. They aren't the most durable of the natural materials, but they may be the most beautiful.
4. **Leather & Animal skin:** Rugs made from animal skins are beautiful, durable and inviting. Rug makers create these rugs from entire animal hides, small sections of hide which have been stitched together or in the case of leather, woven strips.
5. **Chenille:** is a material that can be created from wool, cotton, silk or synthetic fibers. chenille fabrics are designed to resemble the fur of that animal. Chenille is luxurious and lustrous. Depending on the material the chenille is crafted from, the fabric can be extremely durable.
6. **Synthetic fabrics:** are designed to mimic the look and feel of natural fibers such as wool, cotton or silk. These types of rugs are prized for being highly affordable while mimicking the look of more luxurious and expensive fabrics.
7. **Acrylic:** is a plastic based material, often found in modern carpets and rugs. The fibers are stain resistant, strong, and can be dyed and patterned like cotton or wool.

✓ **Bean bag:** A bean bag is a sealed bag containing dried beans, PVC pellets, expanded polystyrene, or expanded polypropylene. The bags are commonly used for throwing games, but have various other applications. Bean bag can be either filled with air or foam or beads

❖ **Types of Bean Bag Chairs: Shapes, Sizes, and Filling**

▪ **Shapes**

A. **Round** - These are **the most common types of bean bags**. The material is a large round bag that is shaped like a ball. It has enough space within to collapse and mold itself depending on the shape of the person sitting in it.

B. **Square Chairs** - **There are also bean bags that have a more defined shaped. They have shaped cushions and sometimes even armrests attached to them. They offer a more traditional sitting experience for adults.**



- C. Gaming Chairs - **Many gamers enjoy playing while perched in a bean bag chair. These come in various types, but often include a structured seating area and built-in speakers to relay audio from the television directly to the person in the chair**
- D. **Novelty Chairs** - You can find bean-bags for kids that come in all kinds of fun shapes and designs. There are chairs shaped like animals, sports equipment, and even emojis.
- E. Large and Long - If you're trying to seat several people, some bean bag chairs come in massive sizes that stretch out and offer multiple seating options.
  - Bean Bag Sizes
    - A. **Kids Sizes** - The ideal bean bag chairs for children are small and mainly for kids
    - B. **Teen Bean Bags** - For the young adults in your life, up to 5'2", there are larger bean bags that range between 130 and 140 in circumference.
    - C. **Adult Bean Bags** - Large bean bags are meant for adults up to six feet in height. They have a size between 140 and 150 inches around and are great for full-grown people.
    - D. **Massive Bean Bag Chairs** - If you really want something huge, you can find bean bags up to 180 inches in circumference. These are for very tall people or for multiple users.
  - Bean Bag Fillers
    - A. **Polystyrene beads** - These are small beads that can be moved and shifted easily within the confines of a bean bag.
    - B. **High quality shredded foam bean bag refill** - bean bag filler is made from a Shredded foam and Styrofoam mix, which helps to keep your bean bag chairs very full, fluffy and comfy for a long time.
    - C. **Virgin bead bean bag refill** - Is Expanded Polypropylene. These are beads that are popular in Asia. They are extremely powerful. If you try to crush them, they will simply return to their original size.
- ✓ **Sofas:** A sofa is a long, comfortable seat with a back and usually with armrests, which two or three people can sit on.

### **Different Types of Sofas classified by Function**

1. The Ottoman: The ottoman is typically used as a coffee table, and in other countries it's known as a footstool. This piece traces back in the Ottoman Empire, where it used to be a centerpiece for seating in what we call the "living space" today. Overtime it has become smaller and acts more of a complementary furniture piece to the sofa.

2. The Armchair: benches, chests and stools were the common seating pieces. Now armchairs come in all shapes and sizes, almost like a luxury sofa for a single person.
  3. The Loveseat / Sofa: the loveseat is pretty much the same as sofa aside from it being smaller. In other countries we refer to them as a 2 seater or a 3 seater
  4. The Sectional / Modular Sofa: Sectional / Modular sofas are definitely another type of sofa, or arguably a combination of sofa pieces put together to create the ultimate living room seating arrangement.
  5. **Sofa beds** / Futons / Clik-claks: the sofa bed serves a dual function for homes who like to have guests over.
- ✓ Wall hangings and tapestries: A flat decorative object, such as a tapestry, rug, or antique map, hung against a wall.

### **Types of Wall Hangings**

1. Tapestries: It is one of the traditional works of art which were used to depict events or stories in the ancient days. It is a woven piece of fabric which includes various designs and patterns that express a story or tale.
2. Quilt: Though basically used as bed covers, the quilts were also used to cover and decorate homes and offices. Can be used as wall hangings. It can be hung neatly on tapestry rods or quilt hangers to embellish homes spaces. Today there are different types of paintings available in these quilts which are magnificent pieces of art.
3. Metal: Another type of decoration includes the metal hangings made of different types of metals which include steel, aluminum, wrought iron.
4. Wood: Wooden hangings are hugely popular with various styles, sizes and finishes. Wooden hangings are available in the form of carved hangings, modern letter hangings and sculptured pieces of art.

### **Learning Outcome 1.2: Identify style of soft furnishing**

- Styles of soft furnishing

- ✓ Modern: *Modern is a broad design term that typically refers to a home with clean, crisp lines, a simple colour palette and the use of materials that can include metal, glass and steel. Modern design employs a sense of simplicity in every element, including furniture. A word that's commonly used to describe modern style is sleek, and there is not a lot of clutter or accessories involved with a modern style.*
- ✓ Traditional: Traditional design style offers classic details, sumptuous furnishings, and an abundance of accessories.
- ✓ Rustic style: is a design emphasis on rugged, natural beauty. It embraces nature-inspired textures, simple and earthy colors, and ultimately unpretentious, organic warmth. ... A rustic design style in the interior design world is a design which is dominated by natural materials such as raw wood, stone, and metal. *Rustic design is drawn from natural inspiration, using raw and often unfinished elements including wood and stone.*
- ✓ Contemporary style: provides a softened, rounded look to combat the stark lines of the modern design era. Developed in the latter half of the 20th century, soft contemporary interiors contain neutral elements accentuated by bold color, the overall focus being the basics of line, shape and form.
- ✓ Minimalist: is defined by one major principle: keep it simple! Simplified shapes, Simplicity is the key to pinpointing this style. Color palettes are neutral and airy; furnishings are simple and streamlined, and nothing is excessive or flamboyant in accessories or décor.
- ✓ Antique Style: is old fashioned and elegant. It involves the use of old or artificially aged decor. Antique uses natural materials: wood, more rarely stone and forged elements, natural fabrics. The interior should look as if it was designed several decades ago.

### **Learning Outcome 1.3: Identify materials of soft furnishing**

- Material using in soft furnishing
- ✓ Leather: *Leather is a durable and flexible material created by tanning animal rawhide and skins. Leather is used to make a variety of articles, including footwear, automobile seats, clothing, bags, book bindings, fashion accessories, furniture as well as soft furnishing.*  
The following are the types of leather:

- Full grain: Full-grain leather refers to hides that have not been sanded, buffed, or snuffed (as opposed to top-grain or corrected leather) to remove imperfections (or natural marks) on the surface of the hide. The grain remains to allow the fiber strength and durability.
- Embossed grain: Is leather that has been stamped using heat and high pressure to create a pattern or design in the hide.
- Split sued: Split suede is a type of leather which the saw wet blue hide is being split into 2 layers so that it can be used to re-tan the leather.
- ✓ Microfiber: Microfiber is synthetic fiber finer than having a diameter of less than ten micrometers, which is itself about 1/5 the diameter of a human hair. Microfiber fiber, usually produced using polyester, polyamide, or a combination of the two.
- ✓ Nylon
  - Polypropylene: Polypropylene (PP) is a thermoplastic “addition polymer” made from the combination of propylene monomers. It is used in a variety of applications to include packaging for consumer products, plastic parts for various industries including the automotive industry, special devices like living hinges, and textiles.
  - Polystyrene: Is a synthetic resin which is a polymer of styrene having lightweight rigid foams and films
  - Teflon: Teflon is a brand name of a chemical coating, polytetrafluoroethylene called PTFE. it can be used to coat materials like wires or fabrics to make them waterproof
  - Polyvinyl chloride: Polyvinyl chloride known as PVC is produced from synthetic plastic polymer, after polyethylene and polypropylene. The rigid form of PVC is used in construction for pipe and in profile applications such as doors and windows.
- ✓ Polyester: Synthetic polyester is made using a chemical reaction involving coal, petroleum, air and water.
  - PET (Polyethylene terephthalate)
  - PCDT (poly1,4 cyclohexylene dimethylene)
- ✓ Cotton: is a plant that grows the soft, fluffy fibers that are used to make the fabric also known as cotton.
- ✓ Silk: Silk is a natural protein fiber, some forms of which can be woven into textiles.
- ✓ Wool: Wool is the textile fiber obtained from sheep and other animals, including cashmere and mohair from goats.
- ✓ Sisal: Sisal is a natural fiber derived from the long, green leaves of the 'agave sisalana' cactus plant.

- ✓ Natural fiber: Natural fibers are defined as substances produced by plants and animals that can be spun into filament, thread or rope and further be woven, knitted, matted or bound.
- ✓ Synthetic fiber: Synthetic fibers are fibers made by humans through chemical synthesis, as opposed to natural fibers that are directly derived from living organisms

#### **Learning Outcome 1.4: Identify finishes and accessories of soft furnishing**

- Types of accessories in soft furnishing.
  - ✓ Eyelet: An eyelet is a small piece of metal that is used to reinforce a hole in a piece of fabric such as curtains
  - ✓ Curtain rods: A curtain rod, curtain rail, curtain pole, or traverse rod is a device used to suspend curtains, usually above windows or along the edges of showers or bathtubs.
  - ✓ Tiber clips: Curtain Tiber clip is a device attached to eyelet to hold curtains; Tiber clips are used as curtains hooks.
  - ✓ Curtain bracket: Those type of curtains are curtains used during cold winters, there are a set of heavy-duty curtains which can greatly reduce the amount of heat lost from your windows
  - ✓ Tassel: a tuft of loosely hanging threads or cords knotted at one end and attached for decoration to soft furnishings, clothing, or other items.
  - ✓ Trimmings: Trim or trimming in clothing and home decorating is applied ornament, such as gimp, passementerie, ribbon, ruffles
  - ✓ Button: There are a variety of button materials in various sizes which are perfect for jewelry making, embellishing, soft furnishings.
  - ✓ Ribbon: Ribbon is edging trims used as soft furnishing accessories for soft furnishings embellishments.
  - ✓ Rail: Is a fixed strip of plastic or metal from which a curtain hang.
  - ✓ Bead: A bead is a small, decorative object that is formed in a variety of shapes and sizes of a material such as stone, bone, shell, glass, plastic, wood or pearl and with a small hole for threading or stringing put to soft furnishing for decoration
  - ✓ Ornaments: Is any accessory which is added or of which it is a part of soft furnishing, used to beautify its appearance.
    - ✓ Valance
    - ✓ Cornice
- Pattern
  - ❖ Gingham: is a pattern of modified stripes consisting of crossed horizontal and vertical lines forming squares
  - ❖ Quatrefoil: is a decorative element consisting of a symmetrical shape which forms the overall outline of four partially overlapping circles of the same diameter.
  - ❖ Tartan: is a pattern consisting of crossed horizontal and vertical bands in multiple colors.

Learning Unit 2. Select soft furnishing types, styles and materials

#### **Learning Outcome 2.1: Select soft furnishing**

**The selection of soft furnishing selection will depend on the function of soft furnishing**

- Soft furnishing functionality
  - ✓ Curtain

- ❖ Light control
- ❖ Aesthetic
- ❖ Dust retention
- ❖ Wind control
- ❖ Noise control
- ✓ Rugs / carpet
- ❖ Noise control
- ❖ Ambiance
- ❖ Aesthetic
- ❖ Cold insulation
- ❖ Cultural
- ❖ representation
- ✓ Cushions
- ❖ Body comfort
- ❖ Aesthetic
- ✓ Bean bags
- ❖ Body comfort
- ❖ Aesthetic
- ✓ Bedding
- ❖ Aesthetic
- ❖ Cold insulation
- ❖ Ambiance

### **Learning Outcome 2.2: Select style of soft furnishing**

**The selection of soft furnishing will depends on style of soft furnishing**

- Characteristic of soft furnishing style
- ❖ Modern:
  - ✓ Simple and unadorned
  - ✓ Natural materials and earthy tones
  - ✓ Clean Lines
  - ✓ Uncluttered Spaces
  - ✓ Natural light and unadorned windows.
  - ✓ Simple, functional furniture

- ✓ Monochrome color palette.
  
- ❖ Traditional
  - ✓ Use of classic raw materials
  - ✓ Rich in classic and outdate materials
  - ✓ Much accessories
  - ✓ Elements that are rich with history
  - ✓ rich colors that are very inviting
  - ✓ A lot of designs
- ❖ Rustic :
  - ✓ Simplicity
  - ✓ Naturalness
  - ✓ Rudeness
  - ✓ The lack of modern materials: metal, plastic, synthetic fabrics
  - ✓ Earth colors (shades of brown, green, gold, gray)
- ❖ Contemporary:
  - ✓ Simplicity
  - ✓ subtle sophistication
  - ✓ Deliberate use of texture, and clean lines.
  - ✓ Focusing on color, space, and shape
  - ✓ feature softened and rounded lines
  - ✓ Neutral elements and bold color, and they focus on the basics of line, shape and form.
- ❖ Minimalist
  - ✓ Simplicity in lines, form, space, detail, decorations, colors and materiality.
  - ✓ Avoid the bright and bold colors and generally stick to the neutral color palates like whites, beiges and grays.
- ❖ Antique
  - ✓ Use of old or artificially aged furniture and decor.
  - ✓ Natural materials: wood, more rarely stone and forged elements, natural fabrics.
  - ✓ Bright, noble, calm.
- Advantages and disadvantages of soft furnishing style (confer to the notes of design furniture)

### **Learning Outcome 2. 3: Select material of soft furnishing**

#### **The selection of soft furnishing is based also to the material**

- Characteristic of soft furnishing materials.

Soft furnishing materials are characterized by:

- ✓ Aesthetics
- ✓ Durability
- ✓ Softness
- ✓ Hardness
- ✓ Flexibility
- ✓ Sound and thermal insulation
- ✓ Cleanliness
- ✓ Waterproofing
- ✓ Wear resistance
- ✓ Comfort and ambiance

- The Advantage and disadvantage of soft furnishing materials.

Advantages

- ✓ Available
- ✓ Most are cheaper
- ✓ Ease to clean
- ✓ Used to create comfort into space
- ✓ Gives warm
- ✓ Provide pleased and elegant look
- ✓ Some are used as element of entertainment.

Disadvantages

- ✓ Some are not available and expensive
- ✓ Some are difficult to repair and maintain
- Application of soft furnishing materials.

The application of soft furnishing materials deals with what the materials used for.

Some materials of soft furnishings are used to make.

1. Curtains: cotton, silk, wool, synthetic fibers
2. Rugs: Cotton, wool, leather, synthetic fibers
3. Cushions: Cotton, foam, wool, synthetic fibers
4. Beddings: Cotton, wool, synthetic fiber
5. Sofa: Leather, cotton, synthetic fiber, wool
6. Wall hanging: wood, metals, stones

Learning Unit 3. **Develop design concept**



### **Learning Outcome 3.1: Select the soft furnishing color**

- Introduction to Principles of color theory

I. Color psychology: **Color psychology** is the study of colors descriptions as a determinant of human behavior.

Color psychology and meaning.

The use of color for the different persons can reflect their behaviors and fillings. The following are the meaning of some colors:

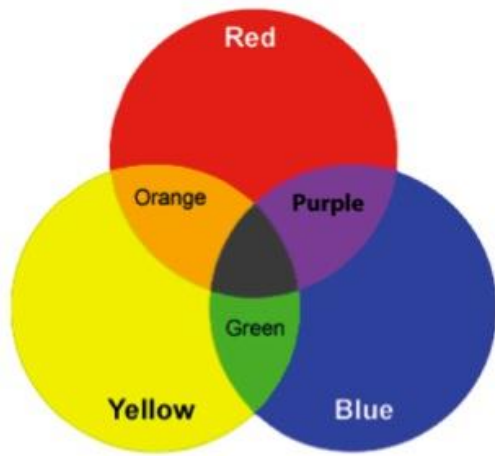
1. Red is the color of energy, passion, action, ambition and determination
2. Yellow is the color of the mind and the intellect.
3. Green is the color of balance and growth
4. Blue is the color of trust and peace
5. Orange is the color of social communication and optimism
6. Indigo is the color of intuition
7. Purple is the color of the imagination
8. Pink is unconditional love and nurturing. Pink can also be immature, silly and girlish.
9. Brown relates to security, protection, and comfort and material wealth.
10. Silver it is fluid, emotional, sensitive and mysterious.
11. **White** is purity, innocence, wholeness and completion.
12. **Gold** is the color of success, achievement and triumph. Associated with abundance and prosperity, luxury and quality, prestige and sophistication, value and elegance
13. **Gray** is the color of compromise - being neither black nor white. It is unemotional and detached and can be indecisive.
14. **Black** is the color of the hidden, the secretive and the unknown, creating an air of mystery. It keeps things bottled up inside, hidden from the world.

II. Basic color relationship

Color Basics

- Three Primary Colors (Ps): Red, Yellow, Blue.
- Three Secondary Colors (S'): Orange, Green, and Violet.
- Six Tertiary Colors (Ts): Red-Orange, Yellow-Orange, Yellow-Green, Blue-Green, Blue-Violet, Red-Violet, which are formed by mixing a primary with a secondary.

The basic colors can be define as primary color, i.e. the necessary colors needed to produce other color



### III. Color combination

Color combination means to mix color in order to produce a defined desired color.

The following is the examples of color combination:

1. Black and white: grey
2. Red and blue: Purple
3. Red and yellow: Orange
4. Blue and yellow: green
5. Red and black: brown
6. Red and violet: pink

The color can be combined using color wheel or color relationship depending to the color theory.

### IV. Color wheel/Palette

tte: Is a circle with different coloured sectors used to show the relationship between colours.

The color parate in software is the circle of color in software used as tool where the color to be used in design is founded.

Color wheel or paratte is divided into following sectors:

- ✓ Primary color
- ✓ Secondary color
- ✓ Tertiary color
- ✓ Complementary colors
- ✓ Analogous colors

**Primary color:** are those which cannot be created by mixing other **colors** in a given **color** space.

**Second color:** A secondary color is a color made by mixing of two primary colors in a given color space.

**Tertiary color:** are the resulting **color** formed when an equal amount of a primary and a secondary **color** are mixed

Complementary color is also called opposite color. **complementary colors** are the opposite hues on the **color** wheel.

**Analogous colors:** are groups of three **colors** that are next to each other on the **color** wheel, sharing a common **color**, with one being the dominant **color**, which tends to be a primary or secondary **color**, and a tertiary.

Examples: Red, orange, and red-orange are

### **Learning Outcome 3.2: Create the soft furnishing catalogue**

#### **What is a catalogue in design?**

**Catalogue** is a graphic **design** product that presents your products or services to your potential clients.

- Steps of soft furnishing catalogue creation

#### **I. Inspirational images selection**

When you are making a soft furnishing catalogue you have to think deeply on the pleased pictures or images you have to include in your catalogues depending on the types of soft furnishing you are going to show in that catalogue.

#### **II. Color palette development**

You have to choose and develop a color palette which corresponds to the color scheme you have been given by your client.

#### **III. Textures and patterns selection**

The textures and patterns are the design elements that sometimes go together. So, depends on the types of soft furnishing, you have to select and show them in the catalogue.

#### **IV. Soft furnishing material Sample Collection**

While developing a catalogue you have to remember to insert some tangible soft furnishing materials to be used as sample when the presentation time will come.

Examples of soft furnishing you can insert into catalogue:

A small sample of cotton textile, silk fabrics, leather...

#### **V. Soft furnishing material Sample arrangement in the catalogue**

After collection of all samples to be used in your catalogue, you have to arrange them in that catalogue.

## Learning Outcome 3.3: Develop the prototype

### What is a proto?

A **prototype** is an early sample, model or release of a product created to test a concept or process. Prototype is testing or preliminary model produced to present the new idea of the functionality of the produced product.

### Advantages of the prototyping model

Using a prototype model can bring multiple advantages, including:

- ✓ Customers get a say in the product early on, increasing customer satisfaction.
- ✓ Missing functionality and errors are detected easily.
- ✓ Prototypes can be reused in future, more complicated projects.
- ✓ It emphasizes team communication and flexible design practices. Users have a better understanding of how the product works.
- ✓ Quicker customer feedback provides a better idea of customer needs

### Disadvantages of the prototyping model

- ✓ The main disadvantage of this methodology is more costly in terms of time and money
- ✓ Reveals errors as you present to the client

### Types of finishes to be used

The following are the finishes used to the prototype.

- ✓ Textures (rough or smooth)
- ✓ Patterns

You can use the following materials to create textures or patterns

- ✓ Paint
- ✓ Varnishes
- ✓ Sand
- ✓ Saw dust
- ✓ Glue
- ✓ Lacquer
- ✓ Primer
- ✓ Sealers
- ✓ Acrylics

### Types of materials to be used

The types of materials used to create prototype defer from the types of soft furnishing you desire to produce.

- ✓ Woven
- ✓ Leather
- ✓ Cotton
- ✓ Wool
- ✓ Silk
- ✓ Wood
- ✓ Paper
- ✓ Glue
- ✓ Card board
- ✓ Fabrics
- ✓ Metal
- ✓ Plastic bases materials

### **Principles of scaling a prototype**

- ✓ Maintains accurate relationships between all important aspects of the model
- ✓ Prototype interaction must be reliable in relation to the original object's interaction with the real world
- ✓ The scaled prototype represents the physical appearance of a finished product.

### **Techniques of producing textures and pattern using different media**

- ✓ Create patterns using paint by stamping the surface.
- ✓ Create patterns by using brush in different direction of the surface.
- ✓ Use brush or roller and create patterns using paint
- ✓ Create patterns using spreading compressor.
- ✓ Create patterns by using card broad cards with paint.
- ✓ With glue applied on surface, you can create rough textures by spreading sand or saw dust on the surface of prototype.
- ✓ Create patterns by using stickers

### **Techniques of assembling prototypes component**

Prototypes components are the different scaled parts of prototype you have to join together to have a complete final prototype.

When you are assembling prototype, you may use one of the following techniques:

- ✓ Gluing
- ✓ Welding
- ✓ Soldering
- ✓ Bolting
- ✓ Sewing

#### **Learning unit 4. Implement the design**

##### **Learning Outcome 4.1: wearing of PPE**

- Types of PPE:
  - ✓ Helmet
  - ✓ Gloves
  - ✓ Safety shoes
  - ✓ Overcoat/overall
  - ✓ Ear protection
  - ✓ Masks
  - ✓ Goggles
- Classification and function of PPE:
  - ✓ Respiratory protection
  - ✓ Eye protection
  - ✓ Hearing protection
  - ✓ Hand protection
  - ✓ Head protection

##### **Learning Outcome 4.2: cut of components**

- Portable cutters
  - ✓ Knife
  - ✓ Scissor
  - ✓ razor
- Stationary cutters
  - ✓ Band knife
  - ✓ Press cutting
- Manually operated power knife:
  - ✓ straight knife
  - ✓ band knife

- ✓ Round knife
- ✓ Die to cut
- ✓ Drill
- Computerized methods of fabric cutting:
  - ✓ Computer controlled knife cutting
  - ✓ Cutting by a laser beam
  - ✓ Cutting by water jet
  - ✓ Cutting by the plasma torch
  - ✓ Automatic blade cutting

### **Learning Outcome 4.3: Assembly of components**

- material assembly techniques
  - ✓ Wool: Sewing, gluing
  - ✓ Rayon: Sewing, gluing
  - ✓ Polyester: Sewing, gluing
  - ✓ Silk: Sewing, gluing
  - ✓ Nylon: Sewing, gluing
  - ✓ Microfiber: Sewing, gluing
  - ✓ Polyester: Sewing, gluing
  - ✓ Wood: nailing and gluing
  - ✓ Leather: Sewing, gluing
  - ✓ Metals: screwing, gluing, welding
- Differentiation of assembling types
 

The assembling of soft furnishings materials will differ from the types of materials to assembly.

As we have seen the types of techniques used to assemble prototype components, those made in fabrics, are assembled by sewing, metals welded, bolted. Wood are glued and nailed etc.

### **Learning Outcome 4.4: apply of accessories and finishes**

- **Application of accessories on soft furnishing**
  - ✓ Eyelet: is hole used to hold curtain rod
  - ✓ Curtain rod: is a device which used to hold curtain
  - ✓ Tassel: tassels are trims used at the end of soft furnishings such as curtains, cushions for decor
  - ✓ Ribbon: ribbons also are trims added to the end of soft furnishings for decor
  - ✓ Rail: rail is rod used to hold curtains

- ✓ Valance: this is a short curtain placed above window for sunlight limitation
- ✓ Bread: breads are small balls used at the ends of soft furnishings to décor them
- ✓ Trimming: adornment or embellishment trims added to the end of soft furnishing for decor
- ✓ Tie back clips: Those are hooks attaches to eyelet to hold curtains
- ✓ Ornaments: are the embellishments added to soft furnishings to improve their look.

#### **Learning Outcome 4.5: Install of soft furnishing**

- Installation of soft furnishing:

Installation of soft furnishing will vary depend on its type.

##### ❖ **Curtain**

The following are the steps you have to follow when installing curtains.

Before you hang your curtains, you'll want to measure your window's dimensions and carefully install a curtain rod. Hanging your curtains correctly depends on a strong, level rod.

#### **1. Measuring Your Window**

- ✓ **Calculate the length of your window.**
- ✓ **Determine your window's height.**
- ✓ **Measure the height of your floor to the top of your window frame.**
- ✓ **Mark your intended bracket locations.** Use your measurements to determine the right length or height of your brackets.
- ✓ **Make sure your measurements are level.** Crooked curtains can ruin the overall look of a room. Use a level and measuring tape to make sure your marked lines are straight.

#### **2. Installing a Curtain Rod**

- ✓ **Drill holes into the marked areas.** Screwing in your brackets without pre-drilling holes will make your wall at-risk for hairline fractures. Use a drill to make small holes, as holes too large for the screw can leave your rods loose.
- ✓ **Use a stud finder to determine how many wall anchors you'll need.** If you have wall studs installed next to the drilled areas, you will not need to install wall anchors.
- ✓ **Install wall anchors.**
- ✓ **Screw in the brackets.** After your wall anchors are secure, place the brackets up against the wall and place your screws into the pre-drilled holes.



- ✓ **Make sure the brackets can support the rod.** After the brackets have been installed, hang the rod overhead (or screw your rod into the bracket) to make sure your brackets can handle the curtain rod's weight.

### 3. Adding Your Curtains

- ✓ **Remove your rod to hang the curtains.** Once you're certain that your brackets can hold your rod, remove it to attach your curtains.
- ✓ **Add the curtains onto the rod.** Some curtains are attached to the rod by curtain rings while others are threaded directly through the rod.
- ✓ **Put the rod back into place.**
- ✓ **Fold your curtains if they remain too long.** Take your curtains to a local seamstress or fold the fabric yourself. Cut your fabric slightly longer than your desired length, then pin your fabric up with needles.
- ✓ **Check your curtains for crookedness.** If the curtain rods are uneven, your curtains may appear crooked (bent) or uneven.

The following other types of soft furnishings does not require installation, you have to place whatever and wherever you want regarding to your desire and application

- ❖ Cushion
- ❖ Bedding
- ❖ Rugs
- ❖ Beanbag

### **Learning Outcome 4.6: clean of the workplace and storage of tools and equipment**

- Cleaning medium and tools
  - ✓ Soft brushes
  - ✓ Soap solution
  - ✓ Solvent
  - ✓ Broom
  - ✓ Mopes
  - ✓ Clothes
- Types of cleaning
  - ✓ Air pressure cleaning
  - ✓ Cleaning with cloth rugs