

**IS 15768 : 2008 TEXTILES — RESISTANCE TO IGNITION OF UPHOLSTERY FABRICS
USED FOR NON-DOMESTIC FURNITURE**

Upholstery fabric is defined as the textile fabric used for covering furniture such as sofas, chairs, ottomans, beds, tables, and other furniture items, including seats and beds used in railways, ships, automobiles, airplanes etc. Fire-resistant upholstery fabrics are essential for enhancing safety in public spaces, helping to prevent fires from spreading and reducing toxic smoke emissions. This protection is crucial in areas with high population densities like offices, hospitals, and educational institutions, where it helps safeguard lives and property.

BIS has published IS 15768 : 2008 for Resistance to ignition of upholstery fabric which outlines the requirements for the resistance to ignition of upholstery fabrics used for non-domestic furniture to enhance safety in public spaces.

The upholstery fabric is expected to be resistant to fire and to minimize the risks after the fire has occurred. Above mentioned expectations are thoroughly covered in the standard.

The standard prescribes performance requirements for ignition resistance like the **smoldering cigarette test, match flame equivalent test and crib tests for different hazard levels (low, moderate, high)**. The standard also prescribes important requirements like **durability of flame-retardant property, toxicity index and visibility due to smoke released on combustion**. Each fabric shall also carry a permanent label indicating nature and composition of the upholstery material, the word **‘fire resistance’** and **‘for use in public places/building’** along with other relevant information.

The government of India has also issued a Quality Control Order for the above-mentioned standard making it mandatory for manufacturers to comply with the standard.