

How Your Linen is Cared For

from uncut fabric to arrival at your event



1. Precision Cutting

Would you be surprised to learn that the linen you hire for your event may actually begin life in a far-flung corner of the world? 88 Events' buyers source fabrics from all over the world so that could mean silks from Asia or more modern fabrics from Europe and the traditional mill houses of Lancashire!

Once we take delivery of the raw fabric, our skilled pattern makers and cutters engineer precision made pieces of fabric that are then passed down the production line to the second stage of the manufacturing process.

2. Machine Sewn

The second stage of the manufacturing process is where the real stars of the operation come in. 88 Events' machinists have over 100 years of sewing experience between them and they put all of this knowledge to good use by machine sewing the complex patterns passed to them from the cutters.

The various pieces of each cloth or chair cover are sewn together with loving care and attention to detail to produce tablecloths that hang beautifully and perfectly fitting, tailored chair covers.

3. Warehouse Packing & Distribution

When the machinists have completed the finished articles, each piece is sent to the laundry and pressed on an industrial roller in the case of tablecloths or hand-ironed for chair covers. The laundry staff then folds each piece using specialist folding techniques ready for the warehouse staff to place each article on the appropriate shelf.

Next, the warehouse team carefully pack your order which is then labelled ready to be loaded onto our dedicated van or specialist courier service. Specialist packing techniques have been developed, tested and re-tested over the years to ensure that your linen arrives in as perfect a condition as possible ready to be placed on the tables and chairs.

4. Laundered with Love

After your event, our vans and couriers return your hire goods back to us. Each order is individually counted and checked for damages. In the unlikely event that there are any missing goods, David's team inform the office who will advise you instantly of any discrepancies.

It's now time for your goods to be laundered. The linen is loaded into industrial washing machines that use a specialist technology called Ozone. This technology means we can wash the linen at really low temperatures and with lower volumes of water and detergent so that we can protect the environment as much as possible. This is done under the watchful eye of Donna - our laundry supervisor. Donna's team then press your cloths and hand iron your chair covers ready to be folded and placed back on the shelves ready for our next happy customer to experience the love and care that has gone into producing the linen you hired for your event.

Like David, Donna is an extremely fussy person and point blank refuses to pass anything she does not deem in pristine condition so any pieces with tricky stains are examined carefully and re-washed until they are clean.

Q1 At the first stage of the manufacturing process, every metre of uncut fabric is quality checked for colour variations or flaws. Any problematic sections are discarded and recycled to be used for future sample patterns. The uncut fabric is then laid up using a specialist laying machine, marked with the various pattern shapes and precision cut.

Q2 Once sewn, each piece is tested for strength of stitch and fit. Anything that is not deemed suitable for use at your event is held back, analysed for weakness and re-engineered to ensure it is 100% correct before making its way to the third stage in the process.

Q3 The warehouse team count out your order, pack and then check, double check and sometimes triple check your order to ensure that everything is there just as you ordered it. David, 88 Events' warehouse manager is one of the most pernickety men on the planet. He is the first in and last to leave every day and makes it his personal mission to ensure your order is delivered on time and with the correct items in place.