

CIRCULARTEX QUICK GUIDE

FOR CHOOSING UPHOLSTERED
FURNITURE FOCUSING ON
CIRCULAR ECONOMY



trace
a transition towards
circular economy

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This guide is for you who want to change or update the interior of a public or private company or organization, and for you who want to extend the life of your existing furniture, and who at the same time want to do this based on the principles of circular economy.

Upholstered furniture and especially textiles are the focus of this guide. Textiles are often a visually dominating element, which can have a big influence on the desire to invest in new interior. If the principles of circular economy are applied, it is possible to extend the life of existing upholstered furniture through, for example, maintenance, cleaning, or reupholstering.

The purpose of this guide is to guide you through the considerations you should have based on your needs and circular economy.

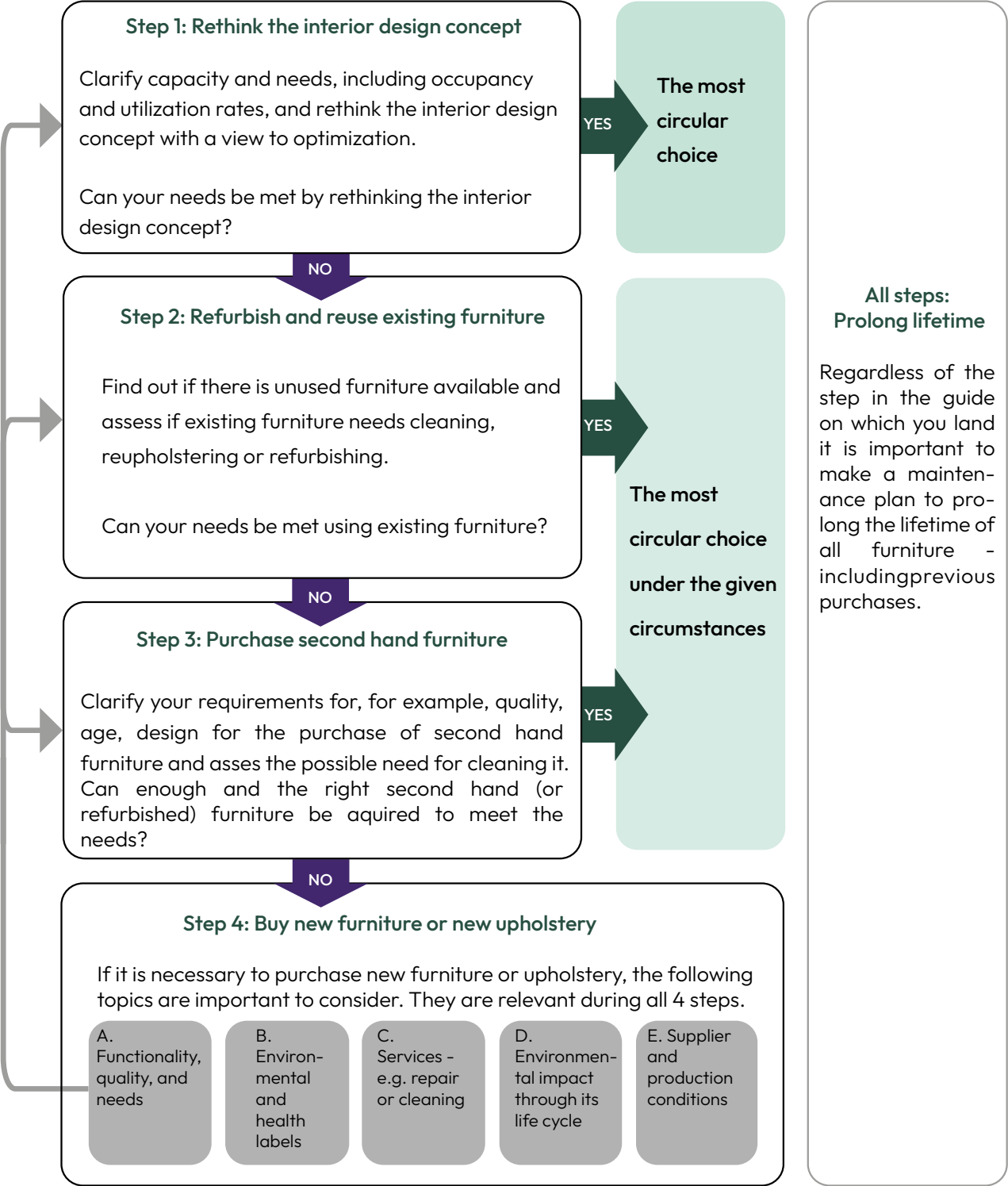
Remember that you can always contact furniture manufacturers, textile manufacturers, or textile service companies directly. They have experts who can guide you in your specific project. If you need more information about the project please contact project manager Louise Møller Haase at Louise@create.aau.dk

In addition to this QUICK GUIDE, a longer version has been developed: 'a guide for choosing upholstered furniture focusing on circular economy'.

DECISION TREE

FOR CHOOSING UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE

There can be several circular solutions when choosing an interior, a decision tree was therefore developed, which prepares you for the considerations you should make before and when you buy new upholstered furniture. Start at **Step 1** in the decision tree, and read more about the individual steps on the following page.



We have summarized the guide's main points in the points below, which can be used to guide the conversation between the company's decision-makers and suppliers/manufacturers for the furnishings.

STEP 1: RETHINK THE INTERIOR DESIGN CONCEPT

Uncover capacity and needs, including occupancy and utilization rates, and rethink the interior design concept with a view to optimization.

STEP 2: REFURBISH AND REUSE EXISTING FURNITURE

Find out if there is unused furniture available and assess if existing furniture needs cleaning, recoating or refurbishing.

STEP 3: PURCHASE USED FURNITURE

Clarify your requirements for, for example, quality, age, design for the purchase of used furniture and the need for cleaning and cleaning of the used furniture.

STEP 4: PURCHASE NEW FURNITURE

If your needs cannot be covered by Steps 1-3, and you therefore have to buy new upholstered furniture or new furniture textile for reupholstery, it is important that you choose the upholstered furniture or textile that matches your needs and the principles of circular economy.

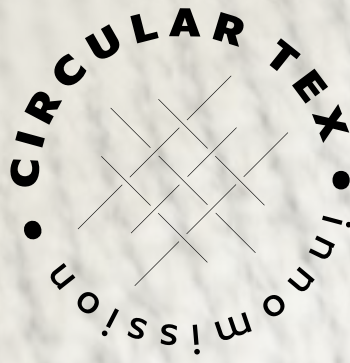
Additionally, the following topics should be considered (this applies to all four steps):

- A. Functionality, quality and needs
- B. Environmental and health labels
- C. Services
- D. Environmental impact through the furniture's life cycle
- E. Supplier and production conditions

ONGOING MAINTENANCE (APPLIES TO ALL STEPS)

Active and regular maintenance is important to keep the appearance of the interior textile or furniture and extend its life, therefore it is essential to have a maintenance plan drawn up that covers the following elements:

1. Effective vacuuming
2. Stain removal
3. Choice of cleaning methods
4. Regular cleaning



This guide has been prepared as part of the CircularTex project, which is financed by the Innovation Fund Denmark through one of the four mission-driven innovation partnerships, TRACE (Circular economy with a focus on plastics and textiles). The purpose of CircularTex is to develop and test new textile solutions and value propositions for markets that will lead to an extended lifetime and thus contribute to a slowing of textiles. You can read more about the project [here](#).

The guide has been developed by researchers from Aalborg University and three business partners; Gabriel A/S, Holmrís B8 and CarpetCare. The three companies have each contributed a great deal of knowledge and expertise in their field, and together their expertise covers the entire value chain. You can read more about the companies on their websites: [Gabriel A/S](#), [Holmrís B8](#) and [CarpetCare](#).

Gabriel[®]

Kurt Nedergaard
Rikke Lyhne Jensen
Pernille Elbrønd Neve
Louise Agersnap Scherer

HOLMRIS B8

Frank Nielsen
Claus Tapaninen Olsen



**AALBORG
UNIVERSITET**

Louise Møller Haase
Rikke Dorothea Huulgaard
Heidi Simone Kristensen
Mette Alberg Mosgaard
Sofie Nygaard Rønnov Olesen
Sara Nielsen
Belinda Nors



Jacob Hald
Michael Birn