Set display checklist: dust and light

Tick each line before a built set goes on show. The full guide, with the reasons, is one scan away.

WHERE IT GOES

- [ ] No direct sun on the spot at any time of day (check morning and afternoon).
- [ ] Not above a radiator, beside a heater, in a conservatory or a hot loft: nothing above 40°C.
- [ ] Away from the kitchen, cigarette smoke and hairspray (greasy dust).
- [ ] The set fits the shelf depth with no overhang, with a little clearance in any case.

LOAD AND SAFETY

- [ ] Set weighed, and under the maker's shelf limit (check glass shelves: some take only 3 kg).
- [ ] Tall unit anchored to the wall with its restraint and fixings that suit the wall.
- [ ] Heaviest sets on the lowest shelves; nothing heavy over a bed or sofa.
- [ ] Children can reach play sets without climbing; display-only sets are higher or behind doors.

DUST PLAN

- [ ] Favourite or fiddly sets enclosed: glass-door cabinet, acrylic door or a case.
- [ ] Open shelves: soft brush once a month; air blower for gaps between studs.
- [ ] Hand vacuum only with a stocking over the nozzle. No new dryer sheets.
- [ ] Deep clean only when the set comes down: by hand, water no hotter than 40°C, air-dry out of the sun. Never a dishwasher or washing machine.

LIGHT PLAN

- [ ] A plain acrylic case is a dust cover. Count on UV protection only if the seller states a UV-filtering grade.
- [ ] Window shaded if the shelf can't move: blind, lined curtain or UV-filtering film.
- [ ] Display LEDs kept back from the set and switched off when the room is empty.
- [ ] Hidden-face check booked for six months' time (log on page 2). Rotate the most exposed sets first.

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Six-monthly display check log

One row per set or shelf. Lift a few bricks and compare covered faces with exposed ones.

HOW TO DO THE HIDDEN-FACE CHECK

1. Pick a white or blue part on the side of the set that faces the light.
2. Lift a brick or plate above it and compare the face that was covered with the face that was not.
3. Darker or yellower exposed faces mean too much light: move the set, shade the window or rotate it.
4. Unsure? Compare with a newer set: some off-white parts are a production tone, not damage.

Set or shelf	Where	On show since	Check date	Faces OK?	Dusted	Rotate by

brick imagination

BRICKIMAGINATION.CO.UK · the full display guide: scan the code

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