

Frank Knighton Sofa Buying Guide



Part exchange

Part exchange your old suite
call for details.



Made to measure

Sofa's and chairs custom made
to suit your requirements.



Nationwide delivery

Contact us to find out available

Welcome to Frank Knighton Suite Choices



Buying a new sofa, chair or suite is an exciting time. When making an investment such as this for your home, it is important you understand everything you need to know before buying. This will help you choose the right sofa for you, your family and your home.

This **sofa buying guide** will take you through everything you need to know to find the perfect sofa. It also includes a helpful checklist that you can print off and take with you when you visit one of our [showrooms](#).

Types of Sofa

There are many types, shapes and sizes of sofa, each with their own unique advantages and features. Here is a quick outline of the main types, as well as potential pairings if you are wanting to create a suite.

Two Seater Sofas

One of the most popular choices, and a default for most smaller properties, is the classic two seater sofa. They are more compact than larger three-seater models but offer the same comfort and visual beauty.



The benefits of a two-seater sofa

- They are extremely comfortable
- They are compact and don't take up too much space
- They are easier to move and deliver
- Works as part of a suite

Three Seater Sofas

Three-seater sofas take up much more room than two-seaters, but they are certainly worth it. They are stunning to look at and offer comfort for the whole family. If you have a smaller living room, you may need to choose a two-seater, but there are plenty of reasons why three-seaters are so popular.



Three-seater sofas offer ample seating on their own and can be combined with a single recliner chair or even a smaller two-seater sofa for a luxurious suite.

The benefits of a three-seater sofa

- Exceptional comfort for three people
- Luxurious and eye catching
- Works as part of a suite

Corner Group Sofas



Corner group sofas take a traditional 2 or 3-seater sofa and include an additional protruding section at a right angle to the main section.

They offer exceptional seating space and are commonly used to wrap around corners and make the most

of room space. Corner sofas come in a wide variety of types, each with their own unique advantages.

The benefits of a corner group sofa

- Stunning to look at
- Large seating capacity at a lower cost than multiple sofas
- Ideal for families
- Perfect for relaxation

Recliners



There is nothing more relaxing than a reclining sofa or chair. Kick back and experience unrivalled comfort with both manual and electric reclining options available on all sofa and chair sizes.

Our bespoke range includes electric recliner chairs with great customisation options. The leather recliner chairs listed come with four different grades of leather to choose from too.

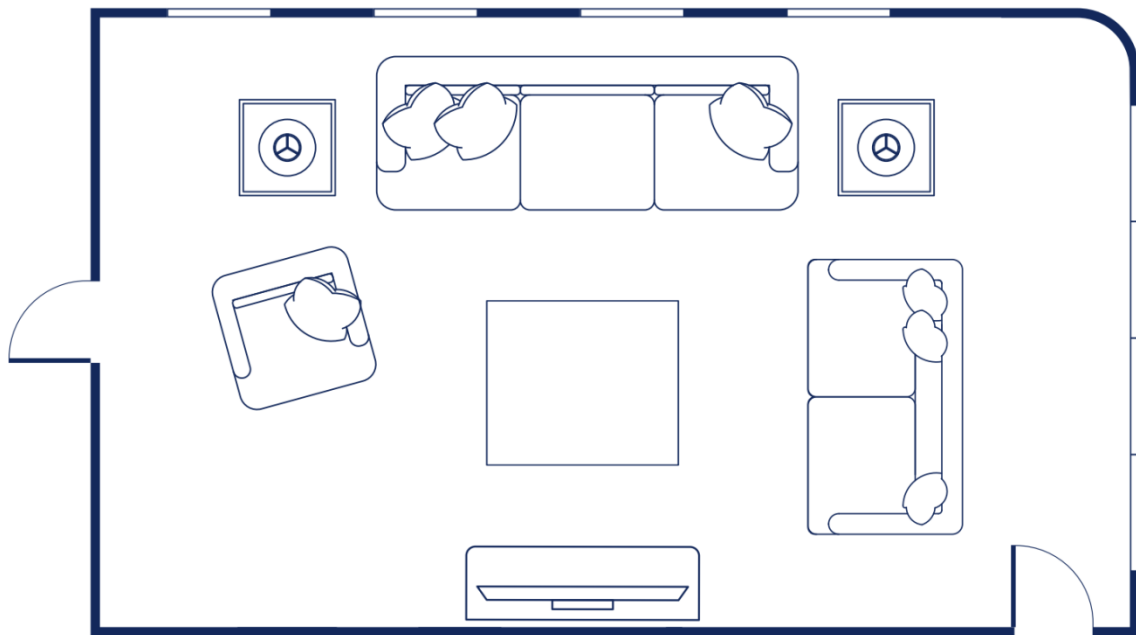
The benefits of a recliner

- Exceptional comfort
- Available for any sofa type
- Helps sooth aches and pains
- Extra mobility

Sofa Buying Checklist

Measure your living room

Measuring correctly for your new sofa or suite is one of the most important things you need to do before going shopping. Looks can be deceiving, but it is very easy to overestimate how much space you have. Taking accurate measurements **before** visiting a showroom is crucial.



How to measure your room space

To correctly measure your sofa space, you need to take the following with a tape measure:

- The length of your space
- The depth of your space
- The height of your space (if applicable) – this should be taken in case you have shelving or other obstructions above your space.

For a sofa bed, you will need to take into account the additional width required for its extension. With a corner group sofa, you will need to measure for the second part.

For a reclining chair or sofa, you will need to plan for additional space in front and behind, as it will usually extend forwards and backwards when in recline mode.

It makes sense to take measurements of your **whole room**, with all furniture and other obstructions included. This is helpful because there may be more than one suitable space for your sofa

Remember skirting boards

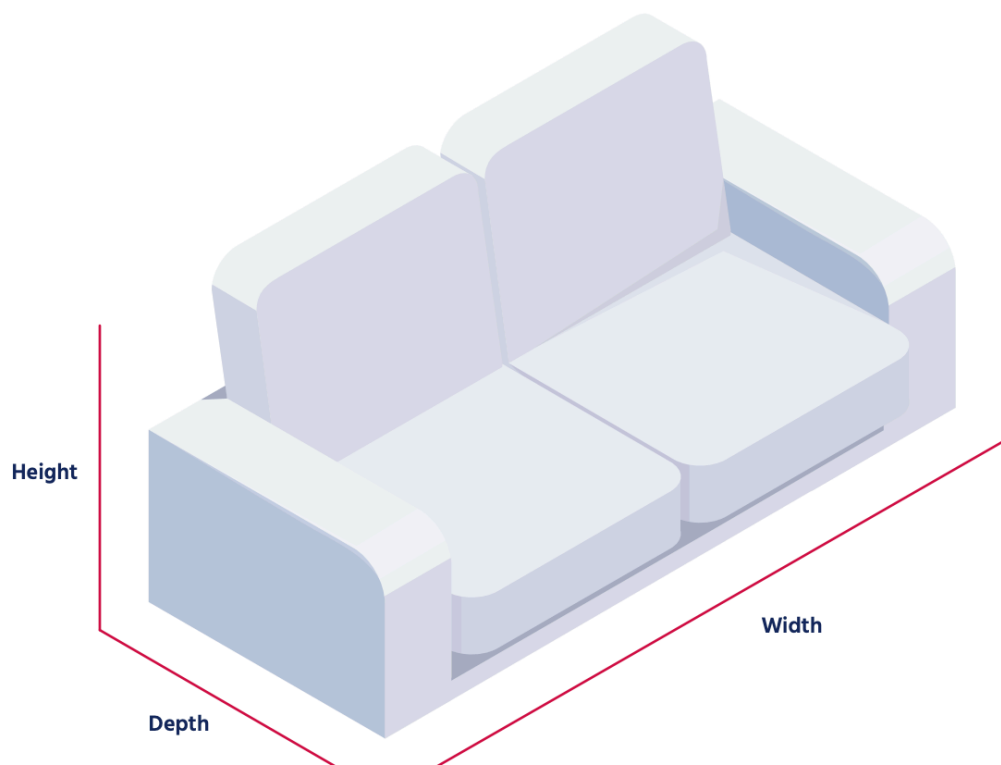
If you have skirting in our room, be sure to measure from the outer edge of your skirting board, not the wall. Skirting can remove an inch or two from your true room width.

Measure obstructions

If your room has any areas which are obstructed, these will need to be included in your measurements. This is particularly important if the obstructions are immovable or will remain in place once the sofa has been set down. These obstructions can include radiators, shelving, plug sockets, mantelpieces, storage and other furniture items.

Measure your existing sofa

If you are replacing an old sofa with a new one, taking accurate measurements of your existing sofa is a great way to determine the required size for your replacement.



Height

Your height measurement should be taken from the floor to the highest point of the sofa. For most sofas, this will be the top of the back cushions.

Length

For most sofas, this is the longest dimension. The length is measured from the outermost point on one side to the other.

Depth

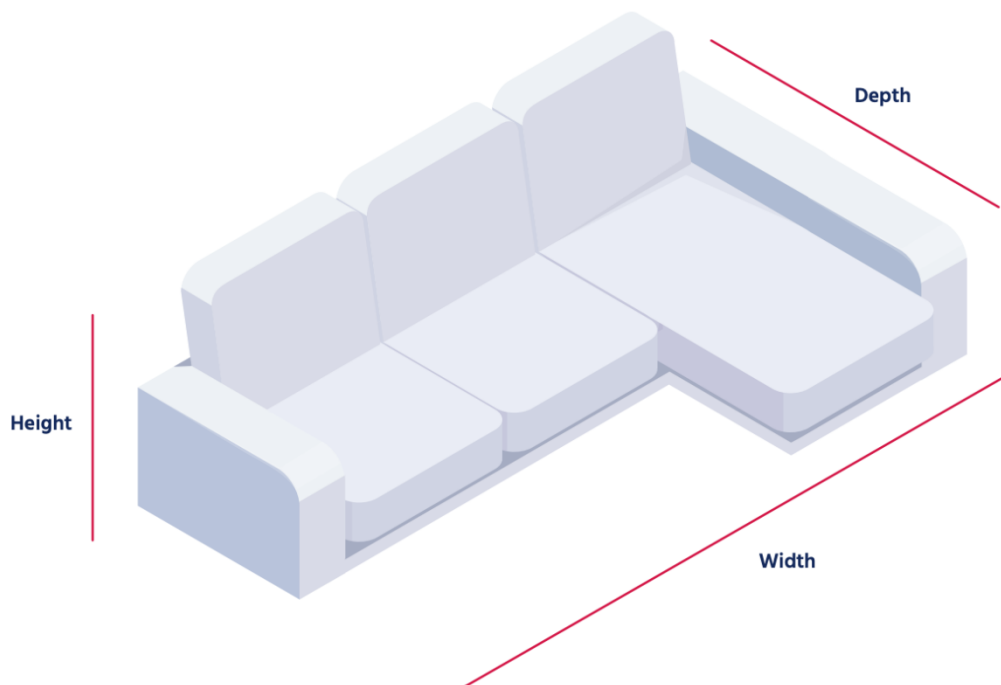
Measure from the very back of the sofa to the edge furthest forward. If you have cushions which protrude further than the main frame, take these into consideration too.

Diagonal height

Another useful measurement is the diagonal height, which is measured from the top corner at one side, to the bottom corner opposite.

Measure your single piece corner sofa

Some corner sofas are delivered whole, which means they have to be measured as a whole rather than in separate parts. This is simple to measure.



In addition to the main height, length and depth measurements. Take an additional measurement of the second length. This is the rear side of the smaller section.

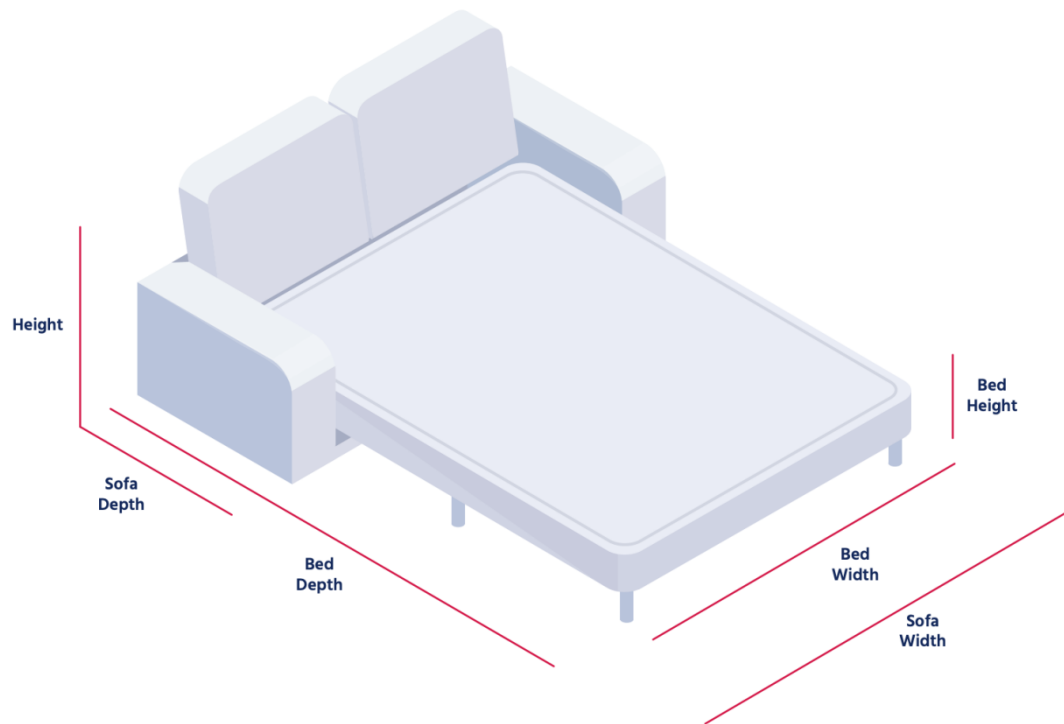
Measure your two part corner sofa

Part 1 of your corner sofa is the main section, which is a similar basic shape to a regular sofa. Part 2 is the section which points out at one side.

You should measure the length and depth of this separately separate, and then add these together to form the full shape.

Measure your sofa bed

Measuring a sofa bed is quite similar to measuring a regular sofa. Measuring length and height are the same – when measuring the depth, simply open up the sofa bed fully and measure from the back of the sofa to the very foot of the bed.



Identify other obstructions

Once you know the size of the space you have for your new sofa, you will also need to map out any other potential obstructions.



This includes:

- Plug sockets
- Radiators
- Shelving

Blocked plug sockets can be easily rectified with an extension cable.

Shelving can cause a problem, especially if it is head height when you are seated. If shelves are obstructing your ideal position, consider moving them to accommodate the new sofa.

Blocking a radiator with your new sofa can cause a few issues. Your sofa will block much of the heat of the radiator and make it less effective. There may also be potential safety issues if your sofa is right up against a radiator.

What is your colour scheme?

When heading to a showroom to choose your new sofa, we recommend taking details of your colour scheme along with you. Having an idea of what colours you are looking for is helpful, but there may be other colours you had not considered.



By taking some samples of your existing colour scheme along with you (this could simply be photographs), our in-store advisers will be able to tell you what can go with it perfectly.

Accessibility of your room

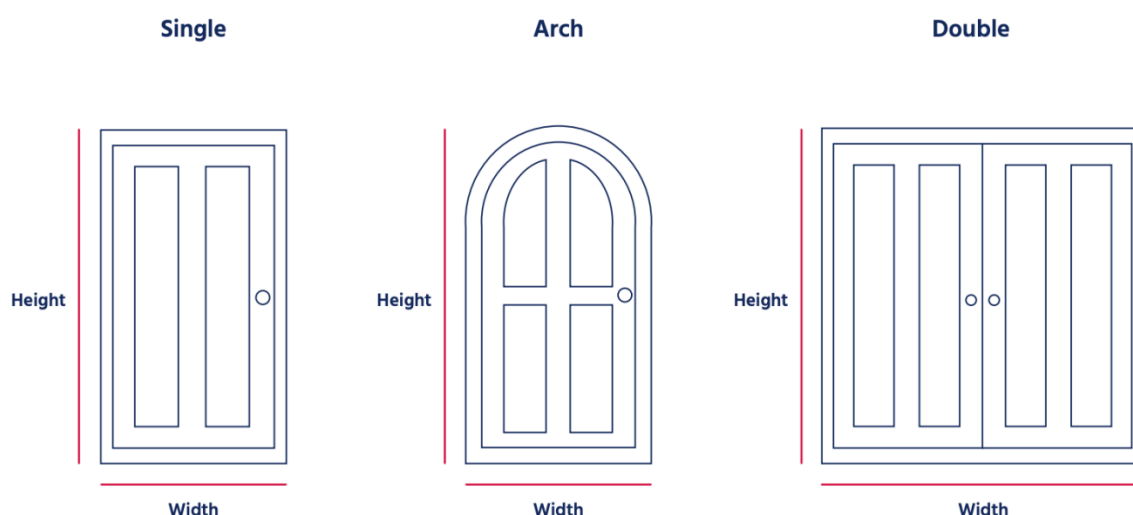
If you have chosen your perfect sofa, you will need to get it in place. This means understanding and measuring all obstructions you may have to get it past when delivered. The most common obstructions for your sofa include:

- Your main door (front or back)
- Hallways
- Stairs
- Lifts

If any of these apply to you, you must make sure each is measured. It is your responsibility to check that a sofa can be safely delivered and put in place once purchased.

Measuring your doors

All doorways your sofa needs to pass through should be measured. You should measure the height of your door from the ground floor to the lowest point at the top of the door frame. The width can be measured from the inner most points of the inner frame.



Measuring your hallway

If your sofa needs to be carried through a hallway to its placement, you will need to carefully measure it well in advance. Measure the width from the inner wall to the outer wall, using the innermost edges of each side.

You should also measure the height of your hallway; the sofa may need to be flipped vertically to move it past certain sections. Measure from the floor to ceiling.

Allow for additional space if your hallway is an awkward shape, as you may need to pivot to get around corners.

Measuring your stairs

If you need to move your new sofa up a flight of stairs, you will need to measure the dimensions carefully and accurately. This includes stairwells, which are measured slightly differently.

Measuring a flight of stairs

To measure the width of the stairs, measure from the opposite wall to the inside of the stairs. If you have a handrail, this may cause an obstruction, so you must take this into consideration and measure to the innermost part of the rail.

The height of your stairs may vary depending on your ceiling. To correctly measure this, you must measure vertically from the step to the **lowest** point of the ceiling.

Measuring a stairwell

Measuring a stairwell requires you to consider the depth of the intermediate landing, in addition to the standard stairs measurements. This is the flat section which allows the stairs to change direction.

Leather or Fabric?

At Frank Knighton, we offer an exceptional range of different sofas in both fabric and leather. Which material you choose is up to you, but which is best suited to you?

Leather sofa characteristics



Pros of a leather sofa

- Leather sofas are durable and can last much longer than an average fabric sofa.
- Leather sofas are good at maintaining shape for many years.
- Cleaning is simple; a quick wipe and dust is all you will need for most household messes.
- Leather sofas are hypoallergenic. This means they are much less likely to cause any allergic reactions.
- Leather sofas look fabulous and help give a room a premium look.

Cons of a leather sofa

- Leather sofas are generally more expensive than fabric counterparts; however, they will likely last longer when looked after.

Fabric sofa characteristics



Pros of a fabric sofa

- Fabric sofas are generally cheaper than their leather counterparts.
- Fabric generally offers a greater variety of colours and patterns than leather.
- They are equally comfortable in summer and winter and are less affected by room temperature.
- Fabric sofas are cosy and welcoming thanks to the softness of the material.
- Fabric sofas are more resistant to pets who may like to climb on them with claws out.
- Fabric sofas can be professionally reupholstered easily if you wish to change or update the appearance of your sofas.

Cons of a fabric sofa

- Fabric sofas are less resistant to spillages and stains than leather. They are easy to take care of but will naturally require a bit more work in busy households.
- Fabric sofas are less suitable than leather for families that suffer from allergies.
- Fabric sofas require more regular maintenance to keep them beautiful and healthy.
- Fabric will also retain odours more than leather, so pet owners or smokers should bear this in mind.

Need advice?

If you're struggling to choose between a leather or fabric sofa. Why not give us a call on **01159 329590** or pop into one of our showrooms? Our expert staff will be able to help you pick the right sofa material for you and your home.

Choose your favourite brand

Frank Knighton stocks customisable sofas, chairs and suites from some of the biggest brands in the world. We aim to provide the best possible customer experience, confidence and satisfaction. We will never compromise, which is why we only work with the most reputable and trusted brands available.

La-Z-Boy

One of the world's most iconic furniture brands. **La-Z-Boy** is synonymous with comfort, class and quality. We are the largest official stockist in the region, and we offer full bespoke customisation.



Parker Knoll

Parker Knoll sofas are quintessentially British and are known for quality craftsmanship and timeless design. We offer fully customisable, bespoke Parker Knoll sofas.



G Plan

Well known, well-loved and well worth it. **G Plan** has a rich history of over 100 years spent delivering lasting quality and comfort. Enjoy full customisation options when you order with Frank Knighton, including lumbar support and height adjustment.



Alstons

Alstons have a proud 60 year heritage and outstanding reputation for build quality, design and exceptional comfort. We offer a fully bespoke range in both fabric and leather.



Whitemeadow

Whitemeadow takes tremendous pride in crafting the highest quality tailored products and putting the customer first every time. We stock a delightful range of Whitemeadow furniture at great prices.



Natuzzi Editions

Experience #ABSOLUTEComfort with **Natuzzi Editions**, characterised by authentic Italian design. Frank Knighton offers fully customised designs, colours and covers.



ROM

ROM manufactures sofas with classic design featuring a contemporary twist. You get true individuality at a price you will love. Personalise your **ROM** sofa down to the finest detail for a sofa that is uniquely your own.



Sherborne

Sherborne craftsmanship has been perfected over three family generations. The result is elegant, finely tuned designed and outstanding comfort. Enjoy full customisation including seat positions, lumbar support and height adjustment.



Frank Knighton Suite Choices

Frank Knighton manufactures a range of stunning, premium sofas, suites and chairs. All are totally made to measure and cover a multitude of styles



Total Customisation

At Frank Knighton, we are proud to offer a fully bespoke service on a number of our sofas, suites and chairs. This means your order is made to measure and tailored to you and your own unique preferences.

Custom Lumbar Support

Lumbar support helps promote good posture and is very important for a healthy back. Poor lumbar support can create a lot of stress on your lower back; this can both cause and exacerbate lower back pain.

At Frank Knighton, we can tailor the lumbar support of your new sofa to your own requirements, so your new sofa will fit your back perfectly. Before ordering a new sofa, suite or chair, consider what you require in this department, and let us know so we can customise it for you.

Custom Seat Positioning & Height Adjustment

Customising your seating position can help you accommodate for the specific needs of those who will be using your new sofa or suite. For example, taller people may wish for a seat to be positioned higher, while someone with shorter legs may want this to be lower so that their feet can touch the floor. Bespoke seat positioning can also help people with back problems, making it easier to sit down and stand up. Lift and raise technology can also assist with this.

Custom materials and colours

Many of the sofas and suites we stock are available in a vast array of colours and patterns. For example, our La-Z-Boy Augustine range can be ordered in one of 18 different materials, with 11 sizes and types to choose from. This gives you nearly unlimited options to create your perfect configuration.

Can't find it on our website? Come and speak to us

If there is a specific sofa configuration you are looking for, but you can't see it on our website, don't worry! We will still be able to help you. Give us a call on **01159 329590** or pop into one of our showrooms? Our expert staff will be able to help you pick the right sofa for you and your home.

Configuring your perfect sofa

When we say fully customised sofas and suites, we mean it! From sizes, configurations, materials, personal adjustments and extras, you are in control when you order with Frank Knighton.

Selecting your shapes and sizes

When you make an online enquiry for your chosen sofa or suite through our website, you can tailor each and every aspect to your own preferences and needs.



You can select multiple options too. So if your perfect suite consists of a two-seater sofa and twin reclining armchairs, you can enquire about exactly that and get an accurate price.

Choosing your perfect colours and materials

As well as configuring your suite by item, you can also choose from a beautiful range of colours, textures and material options (including leather and fabric). On our website, you can see high-definition, fully textured examples of what is available.



Dolce Cloud Leather



Dolce Charcoal Leather



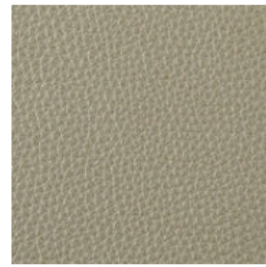
Dolce Coffee Leather



Mezzo Vintage Tan



Mezzo Fog



Mezzo Silver Haze



Mezzo Parchment



Sinatra Flax



Alpine Mocha



Inspiration Stone



Cagney Flax



Cagney Marble

The above is just a handful of examples of what is available to you. There are countless more across our range. You can choose whichever you like, or even mix it up a little and choose multiple options for different components of your suite.

Need assistance? We're here to help

If you are unsure about any stage of buying the perfect sofa, our dedicated and friendly team of industry experts is always happy to help. Whatever question you may have, you can always speak to us for obligation free advice.

We know sofas and we truly care about customer service.

Call us

If you have a query and would like to speak to us over the phone, call us today on **01159 329 590**

Send us an email

If you prefer to email, you can also email us at sales@frankknighton.co.uk or through our website contact form. For more visit www.frankknighton.co.uk/pages/contact-us.

Visit one of our showrooms

If you prefer to speak to someone face to face, you can always pop in to one of our three fabulous Frank Knighton showrooms, where our friendly staff will be on hand to help. Our showrooms can be found in:

Ilkeston - Factory Showroom

Wood Street, Off Station Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, DE7 8GE

Derby

Unit 1-2, Ascot Drive, Derby, DE24 8ST

Nottingham

Castle Boulevard, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, NG7 1FN

Your requirements

(Fill this section out and bring it along with you)

Your existing sofa

Height:

Width:

Depth:

Diagonal Height:

Your room

Length:

Width:

Height:

Your doors

The following should apply to the smallest door frame that your sofa will need to be carried through by yourself or the delivery team.

Height:

Width:

Your hallway (if applicable)

The following should apply to the smallest door frame that your sofa will need to be carried through by yourself or the delivery team.

Height:

Width:

Does your home or room have any obstructions?

(Please provide details below)