



Domestic Cleaning & Maintenance Guide Carpets & Rugs

Introduction

Your new carpet is a major purchase and to maintain its appearance longer, prevention is better than cure. To enhance and prolong the appearance of your carpet a regular maintenance & cleaning schedule is important. Using the correct equipment to maintain your new carpet is as important as the maintenance itself. Choosing the correct vacuum cleaner can make a difference to the appearance of your carpet. Please read these instructions thoroughly before attempting any cleaning or maintenance procedures.

Barrier Matting

Dirt & grit from outside is one of the biggest causes for soiling of carpets. At all entrances suitable barrier matting is vital. A coir or ribbed door mat is good for the removal of particles of dirt or grit but these mats are not absorbent when it comes to removing water. In wet weather an absorbent mat in addition to the coir or ribbed mat will reduce soiling of carpets in entrance areas. Remember if you have a wood or tiled floor in your hall the stairs or living room carpet will be the area that soils if the entrance matting is ineffective.

Regular Vacuuming

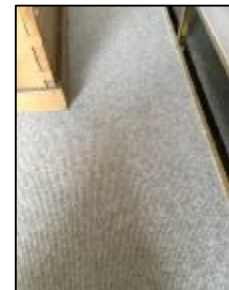
Vacuuming a carpet or rug regularly at least 2-3 times per week is strongly advised. Wool & man made carpets or rugs can be vacuumed as soon as they are installed. There are conflicting reports on which type of vacuum is best. Which is best, an upright or cylinder cleaner? A vacuum cleaner with an adjustable rotating brush is best as this will remove deep rooted dust & grit but will also remove any loose fibres. Cut pile carpets can be successfully cleaned with a powerful suction only cleaner but loop pile carpets can shed fibres that cling to the loops and need the additional adjustable rotating brush usually only found on upright cleaners.



Loop pile carpet
Suction only cleaner

If a variable height rotating brush vacuum is used then the part drawn fibres can be removed successfully. It is important to set the brush as high as possible to be effective.

IF THE BRUSH IS SET TOO LOW IT CAN FAIL TO REMOVE THE FIBRES AND COULD HARM THE CARPET FURTHER.



Loop pile carpet
After rotating brush
vacuum used

Continued Over



Domestic Cleaning & Maintenance Guide Carpets & Rugs - Continued

Spillage & Stains

In busy households it is inevitable that the carpet will suffer from spillages that could result in stains if not treated properly. For any spillages it is important that they are dealt with swiftly. The earlier you treat the stain the more likely it is going to be successful.

- Absorb liquids immediately with an absorbent cloth such as kitchen paper, toilet paper, cotton towel etc. Dab the liquid DO NOT RUB.
- Solid substances (ie yoghurt or similar) remove with a spoon or the back of a knife.
- Always work the stain from the outside inwards to avoid spreading the stain.
- For tea, coffee wine etc dilute with cold water absorbing the liquid until the liquid on the absorbent cloth is clear.
- For oil based spills such as cream, butter, food etc a diluted stain remover for oil based stains should be used. ALWAYS TRY A TEST AREA IN AN UNOBTUSIVE AREA FOR COLOUR FASTNESS BEFORE USING ANY CLEANERS IN PROMINENT PLACES.
- For difficult or stubborn stains we would advise calling a professional carpet cleaner advising them of the substance spilt and any method tried to remove the stain prior to their arrival.

Please note the above details are general maintenance for wool and synthetic polypropylene or nylon carpets but if in doubt contact a professional cleaner before attempting stain removal on specialist or delicate pile.

IMPORTANT

Floor coverings that are made from Viscose or plant fibre such as sisal or seagrass should not be cleaned using water based cleaning products as these fibres can be harmed if made wet. For these fibres consult a professional cleaner before attempting to remove stains. For liquid spills dabbing with a kitchen towel will not harm the fibres further.

Branches

Putney - email: putneybranch@mr-carpet.co.uk

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