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Carpet Maintenance

Maintaining your quality purchase will repay you by keeping its beauty for many years.

Vacuum regularly. Even in ordinary use, carpets receive a lot of abuse - pounding feet, dirt, grit, dust, oily cooking vapors and spills of all descriptions. By frequently vacuuming with a good machine, you can remove and prevent dry soils from building up to an unsightly level.

Remove spills immediately.

Professionally clean as needed. Do not apply stain repellent treatments that contain silicone because they tend to accelerate carpet soiling. Keep doormats clean. Exercise preventative maintenance by placing absorbent mats at the most frequently used entrances to your home. Change or launder when these mats become soiled.

The vacuum cleaner dust bag should be changed when half full. Filters in your heating and air conditioning systems should be changed regularly.

Vacuuming

Make sure your vacuum's belt is in good condition - and that the beater actually rotates when in contact with the carpet. Height adjustment is correct when the beater contacts the pile enough to lightly vibrate the carpet several inches away from the machine, but not enough to cause a significant slowing of the motor. Vacuum across the traffic pattern occasionally, rather than in the traffic direction, to prevent matting.

Cleaning Your Carpet

While vacuuming removes most dry soil, the oily soil of cooking vapors, air pollution and grime tracked in from the street present a decidedly different type of problem. These particles of oily soil deposited on carpet fibers can cause gradual - but significant - dulling of delicate pastel colors. The color isn't actually lost. It's hidden under a dirty film. If this type of soil is allowed to accumulate, it literally glues the pile fiber together, resulting in matting, packing or ridges. Equally worrisome, it begins to attract and hold dry soil. If allowed to remain too long, it becomes gummy and difficult to remove.

For Dry Cleaning Only Products:

We recommend a dry cleaning agent such as Capture[®], Host[®] and Dri-Mate[®] or the WoolClean Spot Dry RemoverTM available from Wools of New Zealand. Test area first. Vacuum brush should barely skim surface carpet to trap soil just under pile. (Any further aggressive brush setting will cause carpet to pill).

Dry Foam and Absorbent Pad

Fluffy detergent foam is worked into pile by a variety of machines. Once dry, the residue is vacuumed out. This method uses little water, dries fast and cleans the surface well; however, overbrushing can damage some carpets.

Steam Cleaning (Hot Water Extraction)

Extraction of the cleaning solution and soil leaves little residue and no pile damage, although caution is required to prevent over-wetting. Avoid using too much detergent. Follow up with plain water. Recommended for all carpet types, this method is most effective when performed by a professional using an external hot water extraction unit.

Caution: The rotary brush wet shampoo method is not recommended for residential carpet as damage may result. Moreover, some do-it-yourself products in aerosol cans may cause rapid re-soiling due to excessive residues. Test on a scrap first. If the dried product feels sticky, don't use it. And avoid all cleaning agents containing an optical brightener (fluorescence) such as those found in many laundry detergents and some carpet cleaning systems.