



Carpet Care Instructions

Spot and Spill Removal

No carpet is stain-proof, although many are treated to be stain resistant, which allows you time to to correct the problem. Absorb as much liquid as possible - quickly - with paper towels, replacing them as they become saturated. Use a blotting action, never a scrubbing motion, to prevent fuzzing the carpet surface. Remove food spills by gently scraping with a spoon or dull knife. Always follow up with water to remove detergent residue that may become sticky and cause rapid re-soiling.

STAIN	REMOVAL	STAIN	REMOVAL
Alcoholic Beverages	A	Grease (Food)	A
Asphalt	D, F	Ink (Ballpoint)	D, F
Beer	A	Ink (Permanent)	D, F
Berries	A	Ink (Washable)	A, F
Blood, Wet	A	Lipstick	D
Blood, Dry	C	Milk	A
Butter	A	Mustard	A
Chewing Gum	E	Nail Polish	Remover
Chocolate	C	Paint Latex, Wet	A
Coffee	B, F	Paint Latex, Dry	D
Cola Drinks	A	Paint Oil	D, F
Cosmetics	A	Rust	F
Crayon	D	Tea	A
Deicer (Calcium Chloride)	A	Urine	B, F
Excrement	A	Vomit	B
Food Dyes	A	Wax	E
Furniture Polish	A, D, F	Wine	C
Grease (Auto)	D, F		

The following recommendations should be used for spot cleaning. The letters are keyed to the stain, and all instructions should be followed in sequence. Some stains are marked "F" indicating that professional knowledge and equipment will be needed.

- A. Absorb as much as possible with white paper towels. Apply detergent solution made of $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon (no more) of a clear liquid dishwashing detergent in a quart of water. A spray bottle is a convenient way to store this. Blot repeatedly with white paper towels. Rinse thoroughly with clean water.
- B. Same as A, but treat with white vinegar (one part white vinegar to one part water) before using detergent.
- C. Same as A, but treat with household ammonia (one tablespoon of ammonia to one cup water) before using detergent.
- D. Blot as much as possible with white paper towels. Apply a volatile commercial solvent such as Carbona, Energine, or K2R to towels or spotting cloth and repeat blotting. Use sparingly! Do not pour or spray directly on the carpet pile as damage to the backing or adhesive underneath may result; apply the solvent to the towels to transport it to the carpet. Repeat as much as necessary. Protective gloves should be worn, as the solvent will quickly remove oils from the skin and may result in irritation. Provide adequate ventilation! Do not use flammable solvents! Follow procedures in A.
- E. Freeze stains such as chewing gum and candle wax with ice or a commercially available product. Then shatter with a blunt object.
- F. Professional cleaner

Warning

Certain products found in most homes can cause irreparable damage to your carpet. Bleaches, tile cleaners, mildew removers, oven cleaners, and drain openers are very strong chemicals that can discolor or dissolve carpet fibers. Acne medications containing benzoyl peroxide, a very powerful bleach, are capable of permanently damaging your carpet and most other fabrics as well.

Vacuuming

The most important step in caring for your carpet is vacuuming. Vacuum thoroughly and frequently, particularly in high traffic areas. Keep in mind that walking on soiled carpet permits the soil particles to work their way below the surface of the pile where they are far more difficult to remove. Frequent vacuuming removes these particles from the surface before this happens.

For a room with light traffic, vacuum the traffic lanes twice weekly and the entire area once weekly. Those areas with heavier traffic require that the traffic lanes be vacuumed daily and the entire area twice weekly. Up to three passes of the machine will suffice for light soiling, but five to seven passes are necessary for heavily soiled areas.