

Maintenance Recommendations for Wool Rich Pile Carpet Residential/Apartments

Maintenance of carpet should be to a set plan and commence as soon as it is installed. The object of maintenance is to preserve the appearance as closely as possible to its original appearance throughout its useful life. Correct and regular maintenance will increase the life of the carpet, cleaning however, should be proportional to the degree of soiling and foot traffic that the

carpet receives. It is not always necessary to treat the entire location to a wet cleaning operation, when only relatively small areas are soiled.

There are three main aspects of carpet maintenance which are as listed;-

Regular vacuum cleaning Spot Cleaning Periodic Wet cleaning

REGULAR VACUUM CLEANING

The most important aspect of the carpet maintenance is to remove hard gritty soil particles which not only look unsightly but can also damage the fibre within the pile. Such loose particles of soil can account for some 80% of the total soil deposited on a carpet, and the longer it is allowed to remain in the carpet pile, the more it will work into the structure and become increasingly difficult to remove. Ideally, therefore, vacuum cleaning should be carried out daily, and commence as soon as the carpet is installed.

There are two main types of vacuum cleaner, those with suction only, and those fitted with a rotating brush or beater bar. Whilst the former has a more gentle action and least disturbs the pile, a vacuum cleaner fitted with a beater bar/ brush is preferred, as the pile is agitated, and this helps to dislodge the soil particles.

Vacuum cleaners should be well maintained, and emptied regularly if they are to operate effectively, carpets must always be thoroughly vacuumed prior to any wet cleaning operation.

SPOT CLEANING

Efficient spot cleaning is essential to good carpet maintenance, and prompt treatment of spillages will pay dividends, as many dried- in stains become very difficult, if not impossible, to remove.

The general procedures outlined below should be followed when dealing with spillages;-

- Act quickly the longer the spillage is on the carpet the more difficult it will be to remove
- 2 Remove as much of the spillage as possible, absorb wet spillage's by pressing on a white cloth or paper towels.
- Work from the outside of the stain towards the centre, which will avoid spreading the stain
- 4 Remove as much as possible of solid/semi-solid stains by tapping/breaking /scraping gently from the pile.
- Applications of small amounts of a **Woolsafe approved agent** to stains has proved best for removal, and avoids over- wetting of the carpet pile.
- In the case of more persistent stains, professional cleaning should be considered.

WET CLEANING

This should be carried out by a professional carpet cleaner who will have suitable equipment. We would advise foam or spray application of detergent with vacuum extraction, which will remove deep seated soil, and can be used with water alone, to remove the detergent residues.

Note; Any hot wet treatment -(including steaming,) may result in some degree of untwisting of the pile yarn.

All cleaning agents should carry the Woolsafe Approved logo as these will not be alkaline, nor contain any bleaching or artificial brightening agents.

The carpeted area should be allowed to dry completely before being subjected to further foot traffic.

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