

CARPET CARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDE

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

NOTE: Like other fine furnishings, carpet requires proper care, and you should reference your residential warranty for specific care requirements. There are also a few simple steps you can take to insure the lasting beauty of your new carpet.

PREVENTION

Keep the dirt/soil out. Use walk-off mats at entrances and other areas to keep outside dirt and moisture from being tracked onto the carpet. Clean mats frequently. Keep your sidewalks and entrances free of excessive dirt.

VACUUM FREQUENTLY

The best way to reduce dirt accumulation and prolong the life of your carpet is to vacuum, vacuum, vacuum! Most dirt, even dust, is in the form of hard particles. When left in the carpet, these gritty, sharp particles abrade the pile as effectively as sandpaper. How frequently should you vacuum? That depends on the amount of foot traffic and household soil to which your carpet is exposed. More use means more frequent vacuuming. Shaw recommends a vacuum cleaner with a rotating brush or “brush/beater bar” to agitate the pile and mechanically loosen soil particles. The exception to this is for shag styled products with longer yarns which might tend to wrap around a rotating brush. For these styles we recommend a suction-only vacuum. Also, be aware that some vacuums have overly aggressive action which may damage the surface of your carpet. An inexpensive, less efficient vacuum can remove surface dirt but will not effectively remove the hidden particles embedded in the pile.

NOTE: For your vacuum to conform to the highest industry standards, make sure that it is certified through the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) Seal of Approval/Green Label Vacuum Cleaner Program. Visit <https://www.carpet-rug.org/> for details and listings.

GENERAL STAIN REMOVAL INSTRUCTIONS

SPOTS & SPILLS

Prompt attention to spots and spills is essential. Some spilled materials will stain or discolor carpet if not removed promptly. Other spills can leave a sticky residue that may result in increased soiling if not removed.

While bleach affects fibers differently, it can cause issues with the backing by causing delamination and can degrade the construction of the carpet. Bleach cannot be used as a cleaner. Over time, bleach can degrade the fiber.

Bleach spills: Blot the area of the bleach spill using a towel and rinse with water by using a wet towle. Be sure to remove all the liquid by blotting, never rub the carpet fibers as this can cause the yarn to untwist. It would be best to follow the blot/rinse technique by flushing and extracting using a portable carpet extractor.

No carpet is stain proof, although many are stain resistant, which allows time for removal.



SCRAPE: Remove as much of food spills as possible by scraping gently with a spoon or dull knife.



ABSORB: Absorb wet spills as quickly as possible by blotting repeatedly with white paper or cloth towels.