

Carpet care program



Avmor[®]

*A More Complete Clean
Pour une propreté absolue*



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Importance of chemical pH to carpet fiber

An important factor that affects the cleaning of stain resistant 4th and 5th generation nylon carpets is the pH of the detergents or shampoos used in the cleaning process.

The pH scale runs from 0 to 14. The number 7 is neutral, not acid or base.

The number 0 is a strong acid and the number 14 is a strong alkali.

On the pH scale each full number increase represents a tenfold increase of the acidity or alkalinity of the solution. (i.e. The pH of 1 is ten times more powerful than the pH of 2)

Importance of chemical pH to carpet fiber

In order to prevent damage on the carpet, the carpet cleaner should leave the carpet as close to 7, on the pH scale, as possible.

A cleaning solution with a pH of 10 or below is required by the manufacturers of all stain resistant 4th and 5th generation nylon carpets.

A water temperature below 150 degrees is required by the major fiber producers on most nylon carpets.

High alkaline detergents and shampoos will also damage wool carpet.

Carpet pile fibers are dyed in acids at pH 2. That is why alkaline cleaners may cause alkaline browning of light pile fibers.

The major types of carpet fiber

The five generations of NYLON CARPET are:

Delustered or dull fiber. Round fiber in cross-section. Soil-hiding. Multi-lobal or multi-sided fiber in cross section. These fibers produced static electricity.

Anti-static, multi-lobal, soil hiding.

Stain and soil resistant. Covered with a coating of fluorocarbon similar to Scotchgard or Teflon. Anti-static, multi-lobal, and soil hiding.

Stain resistant, anti-microbial, anti-static, multi-lobal, and soil hiding. These fibers are anionic or non-ionic cleaning solutions (not cationic solutions). Dry cleaning solvents may cause the stain repellent to lose its efficacy.

The major types of carpet fiber

Polypropylene:

A synthetic pile yarn fiber used extensively for outdoor carpeting.

Polyester:

Is an inexpensive carpet pile yarn that is used principally in residential installations.

Wool:

A minor (1% of the market) but important fiber in carpets is the oldest carpet fiber, wool. Wool is beautiful, expensive and must be maintained properly and carefully.

When cleaning wool carpet, extreme care should be taken to avoid over wetting and high alkaline cleaners. Improper chemicals on wool carpet can cause “alkaline browning discoloration”. Browning is an easily remedied condition when a “brown-out” treatment is applied to the carpet. Over wetting a wool carpet can cause jute bleeding discoloration from backing yarns used in carpet weaving processes.

Indoor air quality

To clean the carpet and to provide a safe indoor environment the following objectives must be maintained:

Minimize human exposure to particles, gases and bio-pollutants in the carpet. This includes reducing the release of pollutants during the cleaning process

Minimize foreign matter in carpet that will affect its appearance or quality immediately or later

Minimize damage to carpet resulting from the cleaning process

Maximize the removal of unwanted foreign substances from the carpet and the building

Preventive maintenance

Carpet hides dirt very well, and to get the best performance and durability from the carpet, it must be kept clean.

Preventative maintenance refers to reducing or preventing soiling of the carpet. The three elements of preventative carpet care are:

Catch dirt at the door

Remove loose soil frequently (vacuuming)

Spot carpets effectively

Did you know?

Approximately 70% of carpet soil is tracked in from outdoors via foot traffic. The rest of the building stays cleaner if dirt is collected and held at the entry point.

Interim maintenance

Interim maintenance cleans the carpet surface to brighten carpets and remove soils trapped in the top portion of the carpeting.

Interim Surface Cleaning (Bi-monthly or as required):

Rotobuff and spray cleaning

Rotary or dry foam generated shampooing

Recommended Accessories

Measuring Cup

175 RPM rotary floor machine with shampoo tank

Drive Pad

Synthetic low profile bonnet pads

Low pressure spray tank (30 – 60 psi)

Nylon Shampoo Brush

Bucket and wringer

Preventive maintenance

Routine Preventive Maintenance (Daily):

Strategic placement of entrance matting
Daily vacuuming
Spot and stain removal

Recommended Accessories

Quality water absorbing mats
Quality vacuum or pile lifter
pH paper
Hand spotting carpet brush
Bone scraper or spoon

Restorative maintenance

Restorative maintenance is composed of procedures that get deep down into the carpet and remove dirt and soils all the way to the backing. When routine maintenance no longer provides the desired look, then it is time to perform restorative maintenance.

Restorative maintenance (3 times/year or as required):

See routine preventive maintenance

Pre-spray

Extraction

Deodorizing and odour kill

Neutralizing

Protection

Recommended Accessories

Low/high pressure tank sprayer (30 – 250 psi)

Grooming rake or brush

Portable or truck mount extractor

Low pressure sprayer (30 – 60 psi)

Carpet cleaning methods

Carpet Bonnets or Spin Pads

Bonnet or pad cleaning features the use of a standard speed disk rotary floor machine (usually 175 rpm).

The chemical cleaning solutions formulated for the bonnet cleaning operation should be low suds and it should contain a high proportion of carpet cleaning solvents and a lower amount of detergents.

The solvents remove greasy soil and detergents clean the fibers.

A pH range of 7 to 9 is recommended for the cleaning chemical. The cleaning solution may be spray misted directly on the carpet area to be cleaned or applied through a shampoo tank.

Did you know?

Drying time varies depending on application. The spray type method has virtually no drying time, the tank method requires approximately 30 minutes to one hour dry time.

No vacuuming is required after a bonnet buffing cleaning procedure has been performed.

Carpet cleaning methods

Dry Foam Cleaning

In this process carpet shampoo solution is generated into a cleaning foam. This dry foam is massaged into the carpet using a brush attached to the foam machine.

The shampoo used in the dry foam machines breaks down greasy soils and absorbs some sandy soil that is removed through the vacuum process.

Carpet cleaning methods

Extraction Cleaning

Hot water extraction is the method of deep rinse cleaning the entire carpet.

Hot water extraction is a deep cleaning process that removes embedded soils that have been carried or blown into the carpet

It is important to use detergents that are not too strong (or too alkaline). A pH of 10 is preferred.

Tips

Vacuum the area to be extracted before using the extraction equipment.

Apply a traffic lane pre-spotter on heavily soiled areas prior to extraction.

Avoid over wetting the carpet. Prolonged dampness may promote growth of mildew and bacteria in the carpet.

Dry the carpets as quickly as possible. Speed drying is aided by using drying fans.

Types of carpet maintenance products

Shampoo Carpet: Emulsions of detergent and solvents specially formulated to clean carpet with the use of a single disk machine fitted with a shower-feed brush and a shampoo tank. Frequently mix-used term that refers to any carpet cleaning product.

Shampoo-Dry: Aerated or frothed cleaning solution used in carpet shampooing machines. Foam lather is brushed into carpet and removed with a vacuum.

Shampoo-Extraction: Cleaning solution that is used in the solution tanks of carpet extractors and “steam machines”.

Spotter: A wide variety of products designed to remove spots, spills and stains from carpets.

Carpet Deodorizer: Products designed to mask or eliminate odours that may be held in carpet fibers. May be applied directly to the carpet odour area or added to the solution in a wet cleaning process.

Types of carpet maintenance products

Carpet Protectors: They significantly reduce the amount of various types of soil accumulating on the carpet fibers. If a carpet is soiled it is necessary to clean it thoroughly with an extraction process before applying a carpet protector.

Considerations in selecting a Carpet Protector:

Resistance to dry soil

Resistance to water-based soil

Resistance to oil-based soil

Resistance to combinations of soil types

Durability

Water-solubility

Ease of application

Ease of correcting mistakes

Environmental impact

Trouble shooting

Problem	Correction
Buckling or Puckers	
A carpet may develop a series of ripples or ridges. This may be caused by dampness between the floor and the carpet after periods of high humidity or cleaning with moisture. It is also caused by an extremely low density foam or rubber pad which allows an extreme distortion of the carpet under foot traffic. Inadequate stretching of the carpet during installation will also cause buckling.	<p>Moisture problems are frequently eliminated when the carpet dries thoroughly. Drying may be aided with the use of carpet drying fans and proper ventilation.</p> <p>Buckling caused by moisture may be corrected when re-stretching the carpet by a competent carpet installer.</p>
Burns	
When carpet fiber is burned there is only one solution.	Cut off the darken burnt fiber. Charred tips may be cut with curved fingernail scissors. Otherwise, the burned area may need to be cut out and replaced by a carpet repair specialist or a do-it-yourself kit.
Fading	
All carpets slowly lose some colour over time. The colour loss is due to gradual natural and artificial forces in the environment. Although fading cannot be eliminated there are several strategies that will prolong the colour life in a carpet.	Vacuum the dirt in a carpet frequently. Replace HVAC filters regularly. Maintain the humidity at a low level. Reduce the carpets exposure to direct sunlight. If the carpet will be exposed to intense sunlight it is recommended to purchase solution dyed carpet pile fibers (nylon or olefin).
Footprints	
Most deep cut pile carpet will show footprints, shoe impressions and other signs of traffic.	Select low pile, dense loop construction carpet.

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Trouble shooting

Problem	Correction
Pile Crushing	
The pile of all carpets will become compacted or crushed with traffic.	Vacuuming and other forms of cleaning help to minimize and partially restore crushed pile. Grooming high pile carpet with a shag rake or a carpet brush will also help.
Shading	
The apparent shading of colour from light to dark is characteristic of dense, cut pile carpets. Saxony and plush carpets are particularly prone to colour shading. Shading is caused by the way light reflects from the surface of the carpet. The top of the carpet reflects less light than the sides of the carpet. When the carpet strands lean over they reflect more light from one direction than tufts leaning in the opposite direction because more tips are seen. This is generally viewed as a rich luxurious look to a carpet.	If a more uniform shading is preferred make the final vacuum strokes across a carpet all from the same direction. Also a shag rake may be used to give a uniform look. Purchase a carpet with a tight loop pile construction that will not show shading.
Shedding	
Cut pile carpets normally shed loose fibers during the first few days or weeks following installation. Carpets made from staple fiber shed more than continuous filament nylon pile yarn. The loss of fiber is a very small amount compared to the total fiber volume of the carpet.	Regular vacuuming will remove loose fiber without damaging the carpet. During the time following new carpet installation check vacuum bags frequently to insure proper vacuum efficiency.
Snags	
Snags occur most frequently in loop pile constructions when the tuft is caught and pulled out of the carpet.	Never pull a carpet snag. Carefully clip them off immediately. If a long run occurs contact the carpet dealer or installer. Frequently they may be retufted or glued back into place.

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Trouble shooting

Problem	Correction
Sprouts	
Sprouts are yarn tufts that stick up higher than they should. They most frequently occur in cut pile construction.	Stand the carpet pile erect and clip the excess strand with scissors or fingernail clippers. Do not cut with a knife. You may pull the tuft from the carpet in the process.
Static	
Annoying static shock is caused by friction, traffic and dry air.	Dry room air may be corrected with a humidifier. Anti-static treatments are available to spray on a carpet periodically.
Watermarking	
Watermarking is a unique form of a non-reversible shading where large areas of the carpet appear light or dark. The shaded areas are random and are not caused by light source shading. They are called watermarks because they look like puddles of water on the carpet. Watermarks are an appearance caused by tuft areas leaning in opposite directions (pile reversal). Extensive studies conducted worldwide have shown that the cause of this condition is unknown and not related to manufacturing defects of cleaning procedures.	This is a non-reversible condition.

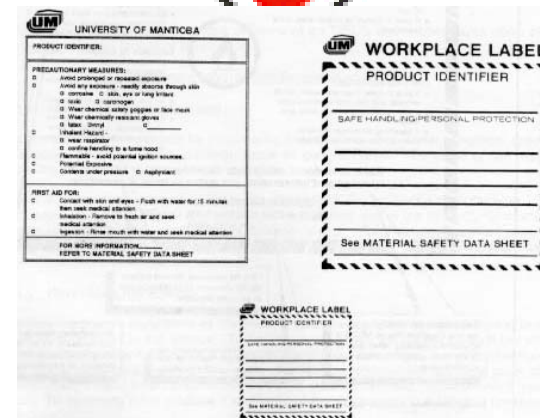
Safety and handling

MSDS-Right-to-Know Program

- Aimed at providing customers with detailed and clear info about our products.
- Integral component of all End-user Marketing Programs.

Label-Right-to-Know Program

- Ensures that all label info is accurate, clear & easy to understand.
- All safety information is clearly indicated.
- Multi-language labeling.



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