

CARPET MAINTENANCE GUIDE

AFTER THE CARPET IS LAID

Fluffing, shading, tracking and sprouting are phenomena which can occur in all carpets, depending on their construction and do not imply inferior quality or accelerated wear.

When a carpet is new, balls of fluff appear on the surface that are merely loose bits of fibre left in the pile by the manufacturing process. They represent only a minute proportion of the fibre in the pile and will work out of the pile with use and regular vacuuming. The appearance of foot marks on the surface of a cut pile carpet – a phenomenon called tracking – is temporary and vanishes with vacuuming. It is an appearance characteristic, and not a sign of inferior wear or fibre damage.

However, there is no remedy for shading – a phenomenon where areas of a cut pile carpet appear lighter or darker in shade as a result of permanent pile lay in a different direction from the rest of the carpet. Shading is an appearance characteristic, which does not affect the carpet's durability and is not considered a manufacturing defect.

A single tuft rising up from the pile surface is called sprouting and these tufts should be trimmed with scissors. Do not pull the tuft or it could unravel and make a hole in the carpet. Should you require further information on caring for your wool carpet, contact your retailer or a reputable carpet cleaner.

CARING FOR YOUR CARPET

The choice of wool is the first step to having an attractive easy-to-care for carpet in your home. TSAR carpets retain their appearance longer than carpets made from other fibres, and studies have shown that wool has a higher resistance to soiling and is easier to clean than other fibres.

Your carpet will last longer and look better if you follow a routine of regular vacuuming, immediate removal of spots and spilling and periodic cleaning. 3 basic rules for keeping your carpet looking its best are:

1. Vacuum regularly
2. Remove stains and spills immediately
3. Have your carpet professionally wet cleaned as required, but generally not more than once every one or two years.

APPEARANCE HINTS

In addition to soiling and staining, carpet can be disfigured by indentations caused by heavy furniture and by burns dropped from cigarettes and falling embers. These problems, however are minimised with carpets made of wool because wool is both more resilient and more flame resistant than other carpet fibres.

To avoid indentations, place furniture cups under the legs of heavy chairs, sofas and tables and regularly shift the furniture a few inches one way or another to give the pile a chance to recover. To accelerate recovery, dampen the indented wool pile slightly. To remedy cigarette damage on a wool carpet, just brush off the charred tips with your fingers.

VACUUMING

Regular vacuuming is required so that soil does not become embedded in the pile.

SPOT AND STAIN REMOVAL

One of the most crucial areas of carpet maintenance is the removal of spots and spills. The golden rule is to act quickly. Rapid attention could make a great deal of difference to the seriousness of the stain.

The recommended method is to blot up liquids with white tissues or clean absorbent cloths. Scoop up solids with the end of a knife.

For oily or greasy stains: Use dry – cleaning solvent or a carpet stain remover for greasy stains.

For water based stains: use a solution of carpet shampoo or an aerosol spray for the removal of non-greasy stains.

Always work inwards from the edge of the stain to prevent it spreading. Apply small amounts of cleaning agent at a time so as not to over wet the carpet; blot between applications with paper tissues or dry cloths. Do not rub the stain, rubbing will spread the stain over a bigger area and distort the pile. Rinse the treated area with clear tepid water and place a thick wad of white tissues on the treated area weighed down with a heavy object until dry.

CLEANING

If you have taken good care to vacuum your carpet regularly and remove spills you may not need to clean your carpet for a year or more, even if it is a light colour. If you choose to have it professionally cleaned we recommend dry cleaning.

STAIN REPELLENT TREATMENTS

Stain repellent sprays that contain silicones are not recommended because they tend to accelerate soiling of the carpet. (Some carpet manufacturers do not accept responsibility for complaints where such a treatment has been used).

* Tsar holds no liability for the above and recommends seeking professional cleaning advice