



CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

the carpet is often the most noticeable feature in the installation; it has a powerful psychological impact on visitors and needs to be maintained in peak condition throughout its life.

Daily and periodic procedures

daily procedures encompassing both regular vacuuming and spot cleaning, and scheduled overall cleanings to remove discoloration grime and to refresh the pile.

Carpet that is not cleaned and reconditioned regularly, no matter how faithfully it is vacuumed, will tend to permanently crush and mat down. As grease, present in smoke, or pollutants in the air settle on the carpet, pile yarns may become gummy enough to stick to each other and flatten in use. Matted carpet appears to be worn out, even if there is no real pile loss.

Vacuuming

Vacuuming is the most important and also the simplest to implement

"Track-off" areas at the building and kitchen entrances should be vacuumed multiple times daily.

An upright heavy-duty commercial vacuum with power driven brushes and dual motors must be used.

Brushes are usually more effective than "beater bars" in commercial installations for optimum pile agitation and restoration.

Cleaning methods

Absorbent powder compound is a very effective dry carpet cleaning system. The compound is made up of a mixture of processed organic fibers moistened with a water/detergent/solvent emulsion. Its purpose is to break down and absorb particles of soil from the carpet pile.

Crystallizing shampoo In this method, a high-foam, low soil crystallizing shampoo solution is fed from a container onto cylindrically rotating brushes, which brush the foam into the carpet pile. At the same time, as well as cleaning the carpet pile, the brushing action helps to lift the pile and restore surface appearance.

Hot water extraction Hot water extraction machines work on the principle of spraying jets of water/cleaning solution into the carpet pile and extracting with a vacuum head, which follows behind the jets.

Some machines incorporate a brushing action between the spray head and vacuum. Various sizes of machines are available and single machines can be joined together in tandem to increase efficiency.

Shedding

It is normal for some loose fibers to be present in new cut pile carpet. Their number is quite small compared to the total fiber content of the carpet and is of no consequence. Regular vacuuming will remove these without harming the carpet.

All carpet (woven, tufted or handmade) is subject to a natural phenomenon known as "shading," "pooling," or "watermarking," which may be unsightly. Its occurrence cannot be predicted or prevented, and it creates a permanent change in the carpet's appearance, usually within 2-6 weeks after installation.

Shading is not a manufacturing defect and does not affect the durability of the carpet. The appearance of "shaded" carpet is created by the difference in the way light reflects off the side of a yarn and the tip of a yarn as the pile yarns lay in different directions. Shaded areas will appear light from one direction, and dark from the other. The "spots," usually curved in nature, will virtually disappear when observed from directly above.



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