



Keep your carpet looking its best
CARPET CARE GUIDE

Extend the life of your carpet with proper care.

Carpets are a practical, affordable floor covering for many homes. They can, however, quickly show wear and tear if not cared for properly. A few simple carpet cleaning techniques will add years to the life of your carpet and help you get the most from your floor. Caring for your carpet is actually fairly simple with the right tools and know-how.



Proper Vacuuming

The most important thing you can do to care for your carpet is to vacuum regularly. Consistent vacuuming helps keep the fibers from fraying and gives you a carpet that looks and feels its best. Follow these tips for weekly vacuuming:

- For rooms with light traffic, vacuum the carpet traffic area twice weekly and the entire area once weekly.
- In areas with heavy traffic, vacuum the carpet traffic lanes daily and the entire area twice weekly.
- Remove loose soil while it remains on the carpet surface to prevent dirt from being ground into the carpet pile.
- Use slow repetitive front-to-back motions in an overlapping sequence.
- Don't press down or make too many passes over the same spot.
- Move slightly to the left or right about every four strokes.
- 3 to 5 passes of the machine will suffice for light soiling, but 5 to 7 passes are necessary for heavily soiled areas.
- Change the direction occasionally to help stand the pile upright and reduce matting.

Professional Cleaning

It is important to clean your carpet on a regular basis; in fact some manufacturer's warranties require it. Soil from cooking vapors, air pollution and dirt tracked in from outside present different problems and can cause fiber damage. Dirt build-up can also cause the pile to become matted and dull the color of your carpet.

How often should I have my carpets cleaned?

Most manufacturers recommend that carpet be cleaned every 12 to 18 months depending on the amount of activity. You should have your carpet professionally cleaned often enough to prevent the carpet from becoming excessively soiled.

Can I clean my carpets myself?

Professional carpet cleaning keeps your carpet fresher, brighter and newer-looking longer. The hot water extraction cleaning system is recommended and professional equipment uses higher temperatures for improved cleaning results.

Stain removal tips.



Don't use cleaning products unless recommended by your warranty.

Many carpet manufacturers provide toll-free cleaning assistance and advice.

Your warranty may also require specific care for your carpet.

Contact Kermans for full warranty information. Kermans.com/Warranty



Act quickly.

Most carpets are already stain resistant so many spills can be removed if immediate action is taken. The longer the delay, the higher the probability of a spill becoming a permanent stain. Remember, staining is influenced by many factors, and no carpet is completely stain proof.



Blot don't scrub.

- Blot liquids with a dry, white, absorbent cloth or white paper towels.
- If the spill is semi-solid, gently scrape up with a rounded spoon.
- Solids should be broken up and vacuumed until completely removed.

Do not scrub the area! Scrubbing can damage the fibers permanently. Work from the edges of the spill to the center to prevent the spill from spreading and blot, absorbing as much as possible. Repeat if necessary.



Rinse & dry.

After the spill has been completely removed, rinse the affected area thoroughly with cold water, and blot with a dry cloth. Apply a one-half inch layer of white paper towels to the affected area, and weigh down with a flat, heavy object. Continue to change paper towels until the area is completely dry.

Different carpet types have different needs

All vacuums are not created equal

Vacuuming is the most important cleaning technique for keeping your carpet look its best. Thus, it's worth doing your research to make sure you have the best vacuum for your specific carpet type. The best way to make sure your vacuum is a good fit? Find one with an adjustable height feature.

If your vacuum is too high above the carpet surface, the vacuum can't remove the dirt in the carpet. If the vacuum is too low, it can damage or "fuzz" the carpet's surface. The proper height setting for your vacuum is where the beater bar or brush lightly touches your carpet surface.

Recommended vacuum heights

- High pile, wool, wool-blend, and premium soft carpets: Adjust height to highest setting, avoid vacuums with very concentrated suction and use a vacuum with large wheels.
- Thick loop, casual frieze or long pile carpet such as "shag": You may need to completely disengage the beater bar and vacuum carpet with suction only.
- All other carpet constructions not mentioned above: Use a vacuum with a rotating brush or beater bar.