

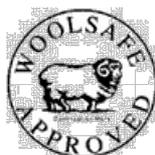
*Carpet Foundation manufacturers publish their own specific maintenance guides which should be followed wherever possible. The following guide is produced for general use by Carpet Foundation Retail Members.*

Regular cleaning will extend the life of your carpet and maintain its appearance. **Vacuum clean regularly** and thoroughly. An upright vacuum cleaner fitted with a rotary beater bar or brushes is recommended for cut-pile carpets but a vacuum only model is the preference for loop pile constructions. Particular attention should be paid to the treads on stairs. Since it is virtually impossible to use an upright vacuum cleaner a long flexible extension fitted with a stiff brush may be used, always brushing the pile toward the bottom of the stairs including over the nosings. Alternatively use a stiff hand held brush on the treads in the same way, collecting the fibres etc by vacuum cleaner hose at intervals.

**Deal with spillages as soon as possible**, preferably the moment they occur.

The following comments are particularly applicable to wool pile carpets but are equally applicable to all carpet pile fibres. However, most synthetic pile carpets are tolerant of a wider range of cleaning agents.

Periodically your carpet should be given a deep clean. You may consider cleaning the carpet or rug yourself using a deep clean appliance which uses hot tap water and special cleaning product to extract most ground-in grime from a carpet's pile. If so make sure you use suitable cleaning products such as those that are WOOLSAFE-approved. Look for this Mark on the bottle or package.



WOOLSAFE-approved carpet care products have been independently and scientifically tested and are safe and effective for cleaning and maintaining wool and wool-rich carpets and rugs. Please refer to the Woolsafe website ([www.wool-safe.org](http://www.wool-safe.org)) for information on cleaning agents **Never use any detergents such as dish washing liquids, soaps or other cleaners recommended for general household use.** Although these may clean your carpet satisfactorily they will almost certainly cause problems such as rapid re-soiling, colour bleeding or other damage to the pile or backing of the carpet.

**It is best to engage the services of a professional carpet & upholstery cleaning company.** To get a really *expert* job done entrust the work to a WOOLSAFE accredited carpet cleaning company. These companies are fully trained, have a reputation for top quality service and use only WOOLSAFE-approved cleaning agents on you wool carpets and rugs!

## **HOUSEKEEPING TIPS FOR CARPETS AND RUGS**

### **Entrance or walk-off mats**

The use of entrance mats at all outside entrances to the house is highly recommended, as they will significantly reduce the rate at which the carpet will soil. They should be of adequate size to allow street dirt to be removed from shoe soles and must be cleaned regularly themselves

## Protective treatments

Some carpets come with a protective fibre treatment to reduce problems with staining and soiling. These treatments, while effective in many ways, are not bullet-proof and will eventually wear off. Quick response to spills and regular cleaning is still required. Carpet Foundation manufacturers generally do not recommend that post production protective treatments are applied to their products.

## Colour change

The carpet may change colour over time for a variety of reasons, usually due to pile flattening, gradual soiling and slight fading of the dyes used to colour the fibres. A good professional cleaning will often restore the carpet's appearance.

## Draught marking

Carpets may show increased soiling around the edges of a room, under doors and near air ducts. This is called *draught marking* or *fogging* and is caused by the pile fibres filtering out dirt particles from the air blowing under skirting boards or doors, or from ducts. Any gaps between the floor surface and the skirting boards should be sealed before cleaning to prevent re-occurrence from the same cause.

# SPOT AND STAIN REMOVAL GUIDE

## General rules for spot removal

- Soak up liquids with kitchen roll, paper tissues, toilet roll, or absorbent cloth
- Scoop up or scrape off solids
- Try to identify unknown spots prior to treatment – if unsure, use solvent first
- Always work from the edge of the spot inwards
- BLOT, do NOT rub
- Apply small quantities of cleaning agent at a time, applied to a cloth, NOT directly to the spot.
- Take care with applying solvents to bitumen-backed carpet tiles
- When using solvents always ensure there is plenty of fresh air ventilation
- Always thoroughly rinse afterwards if spotters have been used
- Dry the spot, if possible, with a hair dryer

The **spot removal charts** contain the methods for dealing with accidental spillages and the order in which the treatments should be tried

The **EASY SPOTS** chart contains those spots that come out relatively easily with the methods recommended or when the carpet is wet cleaned.

**DIFFICULT SPOTS** are more difficult to remove and may require repeated attempts with stronger spot removers. Some stains you may find impossible to remove completely in which case the assistance of a professional carpet cleaner may be required

## TREATMENTS

1. Blot with white kitchen roll or paper tissues
2. Vacuum clean
3. Cold water
4. Warm water
5. WOOLSAFE-approved carpet shampoo solution (diluted)
6. WOOLSAFE-approved spot remover for water-based stains
7. WOOLSAFE-approved spot remover for greasy/oily stains
8. Spot remover for candle wax.
9. Chewing gum remover (solvent or freeze type)
10. Nail varnish remover or acetone
11. White spirit or turpentine substitute
12. Surgical spirit (ethyl alcohol or ethanol)
13. Call in an approved professional carpet cleaner

## EASY SPOTS

Spot or stain	Try 1st	Try 2nd	Try 3rd
Blood	5	6	3
Butter	7	5	
Candle wax	8	5	
Chewing gum	9		
Chocolate/cocoa	5	7	
Cola	3	5	6
Cream	7	5	6
Egg	5	6	
Floor wax	7	5	
Fruit juice	3	5	
Gravy and sauces	5	6	
Herbal tea	3	6	
Metal polish	5		
Mustard	5	6	
Oil and grease	7	5	
Paint (emulsion)	3	5	
Shoe polish	7	5	
Tea	3	5	
Urine (fresh stain)	3	5	6

## DIFFICULT SPOTS

Spot or stain	Try 1st	Try 2nd	Try 3rd
Artificially coloured drinks	3	6	
Bleach	3	13	
C/heating radiator fluid	5	6	13
Coffee	6		
Felt-tip pen	7 or 11	12	5
Furniture polish	7	5	
Glue/adhesive	10	11	
Ink (fountain)	3	6	5
Ink (ballpoint pen)	12		
Lipstick	7		
Milk	4	5	13
Nail varnish	10		
Paint (oil)	11		
Rust	13		
Soot	6	5	2
Tar (asphalt)	7		
Urine (old stain)	6	13	
Vomit	5	6	13
Red wine	1	6	

*Every care has been taken to ensure that the above information, given in good faith, is accurate. However, The Carpet Foundation accepts no responsibility for damage to carpet resulting from any of the above treatments.*