

## **CLEANING & MAINTENANCE TIPS**

In order to increase the life of your carpets, we recommend following the hints and tips:

- **Vacuuming:** Weekly vacuuming is recommended.  
Cut pile carpets - all makes of vacuum cleaner are suitable for use on Westex carpets  
Loop pile carpets suction only vacuum cleaners should be used.
- **Cleaning:** with regularly vacuuming and quick removal of spills, your carpet may not need cleaning for a year. We recommend an annual clean by a WOOLSAFE-approved professional. However if you may decide to clean the carpet yourself, make sure you use only WOOLSAFE-approved products following the manufacturer's instructions.
- **Wet shampoo:** use a neutral shampoo, NEVER use alkaline or ammonia shampoos, or household detergents. If using a machine, follow the instructions carefully. Don't let the carpet get too wet as this may distort the pile and backing, and allow to dry overnight before replacing furniture in the room.
- **Absorbent powder:** use either solvent-saturated or detergent-saturated, following manufacturer's instructions. After vacuuming sprinkle powder on the carpet, brush into the pile and vacuumed out.
- **Aerosol foam shampoo:** suitable for light cleaning of small areas. Test the shampoo first for sticky residue as this can attract dust. Spray sparingly onto carpet, worked into the pile with a damp sponge or brush. Vacuum once the carpet is dry.
- **Spray injection:** Suitable for very dirty carpets and removal of excess detergents as carpet pile is injected with a hot water and detergent solution under pressure, and extracted by high suction. May not clean the surface as well as other methods. Recommend a professional cleaning company for this type of cleaning.

## **STAIN REMOVAL TIPS**

In addition to maintaining a regular cleaning pattern, it is essential that any spillages are removed immediately in order to prevent stains and keep your wool carpet looking newer for longer.

- The sooner you deal with the spill, the better the chance of avoiding a stain.
- Soak up liquids with clean, white kitchen roll, paper tissues, toilet roll, or absorbent cloth
- Scoop or scrape off solids
- DO NOT rub the pile during treatment
- Always work from the edge inwards to avoid spreading the stain
- Test removal products in inconspicuous areas first

## **SPOT REMOVAL CHARTS**

How to handle accidental spillages in the order of treatment:

### **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. Absorbent paper or paper tissue and hot iron
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. Rub with a coin
14. Rub gently with coarse sandpaper
15. Call in a WOOLSAFE-approved professional carpet cleaner

EASY SPOTS – spots that come out relatively easily with the methods recommended or when the carpet is wet cleaned.

Spot or stain	Try 1 <sup>st</sup>	Try 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Try 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Blood	5	6	3
Burn or scorch marks	13	14	
Butter	7	5	
Candle wax	8	7	
Chewing gum	9		
Chocolate/cocoa	5	7	6
Cola	3	5	6
Cream	7	5	
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	6
Urine (fresh stain)	3	5	15

DIFFICULT SPOTS – may require repeated attempts with stronger spot removers. A professional carpet cleaner may be required to completely remove the stain.

Spot or stain	Try 1 <sup>st</sup>	Try 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Try 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Artificially coloured drinks	3	6	
Bleach	3	15	
C/heating radiator fluid	5	6	15
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	15

Nail varnish	10		
Paint (oil)	11		
Rust	15		
Soot	6	5	2
Tar (asphalt)	7		
Urine (old stain)	6	15	
Vomit	5	6	15
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.