

Carpet Spot Removal Procedures

In between professional cleanings, you may have to spot clean your carpet. If you have a spill or spot, you must act quickly to minimize staining. The longer the delay, the greater the possibility that the stain will become permanent. Complete removal of spills or spots may require a single solution applied repeatedly or the use of a combination of solutions. Follow these simple guidelines in sequence.**

1. Blot liquids with a dry, white, absorbent cloth or white (no printing) paper towels. Do not scrub the area! Continue to blot until the area is completely dry. Gently scrape up semi-solids with a rounded spoon and vacuum. Do not add moisture.
2. Locate the spill on the spot removal chart on page 9, select the first spot removal solution recommended, and follow the spot removal methods listed on page 8.***
3. Pretest any spot removal solution in an inconspicuous area to make certain the solution will not damage the fiber or the dye. After applying several drops to the testing area, hold a white cloth on the wet area for 10 seconds.
4. Examine the carpet and cloth for color transfer, color change, or damage to the carpet. If a change occurs, another cleaning solution should be selected.
5. Apply a small amount of the selected cleaning solution to a white cloth and work in gently. Work from the edges of the spill to the center to prevent the spill from spreading. Do not scrub! Blot, absorbing as much as possible, and repeat, if necessary. Do not saturate the area as this may cause the spill to penetrate into the backing.
6. Continue using the first cleaning solution as long as there is a transfer of the spill to the cloth. It is not necessary to use all of the cleaning solutions if the first solution removes the spill.
7. Rinse the affected area thoroughly with water after the spill has been removed. Blot with a dry cloth until all of the solution has been removed. Some cleaning solutions will cause rapid soiling if the solution is not completely removed.
8. Place a 1/2 inch layer of white paper towels over the affected area to absorb all the moisture, and weigh down with a flat, heavy object.

** Carpet made of natural fibers requires special care. See methods specifically recommended for those carpets.

*** For an extensive list please reference the CRI website at www.carpet-rug.org.

Carpet Spot Removal Solutions

We recommend the following solutions for removal of spots and stains. If you have these on hand, you will be able to handle most common spills. Always use solutions in the concentrations recommended.

DETERGENT SOLUTION: Mix 1/4 teaspoon of a clear, non-bleach, non-lanolin, non-optical brightening dishwashing liquid per one cup of warm water. Allow the detergent to remain on the stain for eight to ten minutes. It may be necessary to rinse with water

several times to completely remove residues. Never use an automatic dishwashing detergent because many contain bleaching agents that may destroy the carpet color and damage fibers. Never use a laundry detergent of any type, because laundry detergents may contain optical brighteners (fluorescent dyes) that discolor the fiber.

DRY POWDER CLEANER: Use powdered carpet cleaners such as Resista® Floor Care Cleaner or comparable product.

DRY CLEANING FLUID: Use caution when using a dry cleaning fluid. A non-flammable spot removal solution is preferred. Transfer solution to the spot with a damp towel – do not apply directly to the spot since direct contact may destroy the backing.

NAIL POLISH REMOVER: Two types of nail polish removers are available. One type contains acetone, a dry cleaning solvent. Use the same precautions as with other dry cleaning solutions. The second type contains amyl acetate, which is used in many paint, oil, and grease removers. Amyl acetate nail polish remover leaves residue that may cause rapid soiling. When using, always rinse the area thoroughly with a dry solvent, such as rubbing alcohol. Consult your warranty before using either of these products.