



Helpful tips from Clive the Cleaner

Care for your Carpet

INTRODUCTION

Looking after your carpets and rugs is fairly simple – follow these helpful tips to ensure longevity;

- 1 Wherever possible, always take off your shoes in the porch and wear slippers when around the house.
- 2 Always vacuum your carpets well, preferably using an upright cleaner with a power brush at least once a week. Regular vacuuming does not wear your carpets out - it is the grit that you bring in on your shoes that grinds and wears away the pile.
- 3 Always put drinks on a tray to catch any spillages and save nasty spills onto your carpets.
- 4 Avoid wearing slippers with black soles as these can often mark the carpet. Other black marks can occur through wearing black socks (with sweaty feet) as the dye in the socks often comes out on the carpet and is very difficult to remedy.
- 5 To remove any flat spots on the carpet caused by furniture, place an ice cube over the area and leave to melt. Dry the area out using a towel or cloth and “fluff-up” using your hand over the affected area.
- 6 With any of the suggestions, avoid using boiling water as this can damage the carpet pile.

If you do this regularly and don't spill anything, you will keep carpets in good condition.



Disclaimer: With any suggestions here, please **IN THE FIRST INSTANCE** apply a small amount of cleaning solution to an inconspicuous area of your carpet before use to make sure it does not damage or discolour. Due to the varying nature of carpets and pile compositions, we cannot take responsibility so please test first.

CLEANING

Basics of good carpet cleaning;

- 1 Always check the composition of the carpet you're about to clean, whether it is wool, polyester or acrylic. This will determine the best approach to cleaning.
- 2 The carpet will have wool content if it smells like a “dank dog” when wet. If it has a resin type smell it will be man-made fibres and less likely to shrink.
- 3 Before you apply any cleaning solution or chemicals, always ensure you conduct a colour test in an inconspicuous area before application.
- 4 Always clean wool carpets using cold water solution.
- 5 Always check rugs - especially those from Morocco.
- 6 Always vacuum carpets thoroughly before a machine clean. Move the vacuum slowly over the carpet and let it do all the work. This will remove around 80% of all soiling in the carpet. Spray extraction will remove the rest of the soil.
- 7 Never put any rugs or furniture back onto the carpet until it is fully dry.
- 8 Have some carpet shampoo in the house, just in case you need to act quickly with a stain. Test this on an inconspicuous area to ensure this will not discolour or damage the carpet.



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STAINS

In case of a stain, follow these instructions;

General stains

- 1 A simple way to remove ordinary stains is to spray with shaving foam and then leave for approx. 30 minutes.
- 2 Wipe away excess foam with a cloth.
- 3 Finish by spraying the area with a 50/50 mix of white vinegar and water, then wipe away the solution with a cloth.



Water soluble stains [fizzy drinks, mud, etc]

- 1 Act quickly but do not scrub, rub or press on hard as this will drive the stain into the carpet pile.
- 2 Carefully blot as much of the spill with an absorbent cloth [paper towel, clean rag, etc] working from the outside of the spill inwards.
- 3 If stain is water soluble mix 2 pints of water with ¼ teaspoon white vinegar and apply to the area then carefully blot off. Alternatively, apply carpet shampoo and carefully blot stain away [especially if the carpet is wool or a wool blend] working from the outside of the spill inwards.

Wine or beer

- 1 If you spill wine or beer, you may wish to try a deep clean.
- 2 Sprinkle baking soda over the area, then spray some soapy water over the area and let it soak for several minutes.
- 3 Using a stiff brush, carefully brush in one direction, then at 90° direction.
- 4 Let an absorbent towel or cloth soak up the residue. Clean out the spray bottle and fill with just plain water.
- 5 Spray water onto the affected area and again soak up with an absorbent towel or cloth.

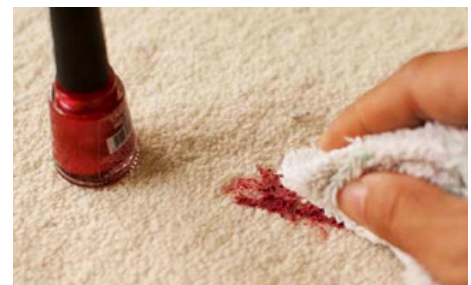


Oil

- 1 Apply baking soda over the area and leave until it absorbs the stain and forms a dry crust.
- 2 When dry, Hoover up the excess powder and then proceed to blot the stain using a solution of carpet shampoo.
- 3 Spray water onto the affected area and soak up with an absorbent towel or cloth.

Nail Polish

- 1 Wait until the polish has dried and carefully chip away with a blunt blade or spoon.
- 2 Vacuum excess and ensure no residue is left in the carpet.
- 3 Gently blot over the area using nail polish remover until all the stain dissolves.





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Chewing gum and chocolate

- 1 Take a few ice cubes from the freezer and apply these to the gum/chocolate on the carpet.
- 2 Wait for 45-60 seconds so the gum/chocolate freezes.
- 3 Carefully remove frozen gum/chocolate with a blunt blade or spoon and repeat until it is removed.

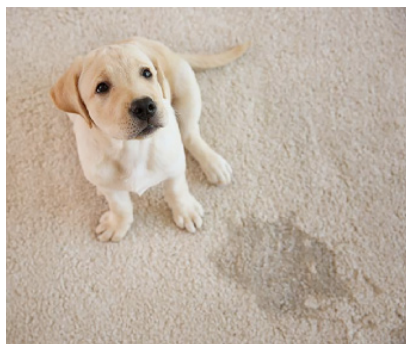


Wax

- 1 Wait until the wax hardens, then remove with a blunt blade or spoon.
- 2 If necessary, take a few ice cubes from the freezer and apply these to the wax on the carpet.
- 3 Use a solution of carpet shampoo and hot water, blot the surface to remove final strands of wax residue in the carpet pile.

Blood

- 1 Apply a solution of mild detergent and water over the area.
- 2 Use a blunt blade or spoon to carefully remove as much stain as possible.
- 3 Blot remainder using a Hydrogen Peroxide solution [this may foam on application].
- 4 Use a towel or cloth to absorb remainder of the stain.
- 5 Spray water onto the affected area and again soak up with an absorbent towel or cloth.



PETS

- 1 If your pet has an accident on your carpet, liberally apply baking soda across the area and leave to soak.
- 2 Vacuum excess powder and then finish by spraying the area with a 50/50 mix of white vinegar and water. Wipe away the solution with a cloth.
- 3 This will absorb the urine and also eliminate the smell.

If the stain cannot be removed, keep the area covered with a damp cloth to keep moist and contact Springs asap.

SPRINGS

Telephone 07976 222226 or email carl@springs.cleaning

