# **Carpet Care** Guide to Preventive Maintenance



Easy, proactive steps will keep your carpet looking good over time.

#### Vacuum on a regular basis

Regular vacuuming is the easiest, most effective way to prolong the life of your carpet. If you have a loop (or berber) carpet, do not use a vacuum with a roller-brush, as damage or unravelling/ running of the loop pile may result.

#### Don't track dirt inside

Placing walk-off mats outside all entrances will help by absorbing soil and moisture and trapping excessive dirt, sand, grit, oil, asphalt, etc., that might otherwise be tracked into the home. Clean your entry mats on a regular basis (or sooner, when they need it) so they don't become sources of soil themselves.



#### Use a quality pad

A good carpet pad not only gives better resilience and comfort underfoot, it can extend the life of your carpet - especially on stairs.

## Occasionally move heavy furniture

Moving your furniture on occasion won't just renew the feel of your room, it will also help avoid excessive pile crushing. Also consider using carpet protectors under the legs of tables, chairs, and other furniture to help distribute the weight. Damage can occur if you use chairs or appliances with rollers or casters without a chair pad designed specifically for carpet.

## Protect carpet when moving furniture

When moving heavy, wheeled furniture (pianos, buffets, etc.), prevent damage by placing a protective barrier of heavy cardboard or plywood between the wheels and the carpet.

## Clean your area rugs

If you use area rugs on your carpet, be sure to clean them regularly, and make sure you clean and restore the pile of the carpet underneath as well. Also, be sure to check area rugs for colorfastness before placing them on carpet because the color in some rugs may bleed through. After cleaning your carpet, allow it to dry completely before replacing rugs.

## Reduce periods of direct sunlight

Protect your carpet from prolonged periods of direct sunlight with blinds, shades, or awnings.