

How to Keep Your Carpets Looking Fresher for Longer

- 1** Professional carpet cleaning can produce startling results, making your carpet look so much cleaner and fresher. But wouldn't it be great if you could keep it like that for longer? With just a few simple steps you can.
- 2** An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure - it's an old saying but it's as true today as it ever was. So buy a welcome mat for each entrance and give your feet a quick wipe as you enter the house. It only takes a second but it can remove much of the dirt and dust that you'd otherwise bring inside and leave in your carpet.
- 3** Carpets wear out fastest in the areas where they get most use, so it's a good idea to put down a rug in places like hallways where there's a lot of foot traffic. If a rug wears out you can replace it at a tiny fraction of the cost of a new carpet.
- 4** Sometimes the best advice is the most obvious - so make sure you vacuum regularly. But don't just do your carpets, always vacuum the sofa and chairs, rugs and wall-hangings as well. That will remove as much dust as possible from the internal environment, which minimises the amount that ends up on your carpet.
- 5** It's always a good idea to move your furniture when you're vacuuming, it helps you to get into all those hard-to-reach spots. When you move the furniture back, try putting it in a slightly different position, just an inch or two will do. That allows the patches of carpet that are crushed and worn by chair and table legs to recover.
- 6** Whenever you spill something or make a mark on your carpet you should always treat it straight away. Start with cold water and if that doesn't shift it then try a little baking soda. But watch out for chemical cleaning agents. Many of them can do more harm than good and can even set the stain for good. If you have a spill in an area that's highly visible then it might be worth calling a commercial carpet cleaning company.
- 7** If you're thinking of buying a new carpet then it's well worth thinking ahead and buying one that will be easier to maintain. Many carpets can be treated with carpet protection, making them far more resistant to soiling and staining, while some carpets can only be cleaned using specialist techniques. It's also important to check the length of the warranty and find out what sort of things it covers.
- 8** Having your carpet regularly cleaned by a professional cleaning services company prevents dust and dirt from becoming too deeply ingrained in the fibres. So have your carpet cleaned at least once every twelve to eighteen months, or more frequently if it gets a lot of wear.
- 9** There are a variety of different carpet cleaning methods but the most effective is the high-powered water extraction method. Allkare Carpet Cleaning use only high-powered commercial-quality units that act like a washing machine for your carpet, steam cleaning and removing the dirty water as they work. Crucially, this highly efficient method does not leave behind any chemical residue that could lead to discolouration - just a cleaner, fresher carpet.
- 10** While most commercial carpet cleaning companies can be trusted to provide a good service, there are some firms that don't have the expertise, experience or the equipment to do a truly professional job. However, they're usually quite easy to spot if you know what to look out for. So ask what kind of equipment and what methods they use. Insist on genuine steam cleaning with commercial-quality equipment - poor quality equipment can leave carpets looking fresh, but if excess water gets into the carpet it can cause mould to grow underneath the surface. Allkare only use commercial-quality machines operated by trained technicians.

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