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## CARPET CARE GUIDE

*Cleaning & Maintenance for Your New Carpet*

### DAILY & ROUTINE CARE

- Vacuum high-traffic areas at least twice a week and all carpeted areas once a week.
- Use a vacuum with strong suction and a rotating brush or beater bar for deep fiber cleaning.
- Vacuum slowly — multiple slow passes remove more soil than quick passes.
- Place doormats at all entrances to reduce the amount of dirt and debris tracked in.
- Use furniture coasters or cups under heavy legs to prevent crushing carpet fibers.

### SPOT CLEANING

- Act fast — blot spills immediately with a clean white cloth. Never rub or scrub.
- Work from the outer edge of the stain inward to prevent spreading.
- Apply a small amount of carpet cleaner to the cloth, not directly to the carpet.
- Blot until the stain is lifted, then rinse with cold water and blot dry.
- Place a clean towel over the spot and weigh it down to absorb remaining moisture.

### COMMON STAIN REMOVAL

- **Blot up solids, then treat with a carpet stain remover. Rinse with cold water.** Food & beverages:
- **Blot immediately, apply an enzyme-based pet cleaner to neutralize odor completely.** Pet accidents:
- **Apply a small amount of dish soap to a damp cloth, blot the stain, then rinse.** Grease/oil:
- **Dab with isopropyl alcohol on a clean cloth — do not over-wet.** Ink:
- **Harden with ice in a bag, gently break apart, then vacuum up pieces.** Wax/gum:
- **Blot immediately, apply cold water, then use a carpet stain remover.** Red wine:

### LONG-TERM CARE

- **Have carpet professionally cleaned every 12–18 months to remove deep-set soil and allergens.**
- Rotate furniture periodically to avoid permanent indentations and uneven wear patterns.
- Use carpet protector spray (such as Scotchgard) after professional cleaning.
- Keep pet nails trimmed to prevent snagging and pulling of carpet fibers.
- Trim any snags or loose loops with scissors — never pull them.

### WHAT TO AVOID

- Rubbing or scrubbing stains — this spreads the stain and damages carpet fibers.
- Over-wetting the carpet — excess moisture can cause mold, mildew, and odor beneath the pad.
- Harsh chemicals such as bleach — they permanently discolor and damage carpet fibers.
- Leaving spills unattended — the longer a stain sits, the harder it is to remove.

✓ **TIP:** Regular vacuuming is the single best thing you can do for your carpet. It removes dry soil before it works its way deep into the fibers and becomes difficult to extract.

⚠ **AVOID:** Never rub a carpet stain — always blot. Rubbing unravels and spreads fibers, making the stain larger and permanently damaging the texture of your carpet.

**Carpet Manufacturer Resources:** Mohawk: [mohawkflooring.com](http://mohawkflooring.com) | Shaw: [shawfloors.com](http://shawfloors.com) | Dream Weaver: [dreamweavercarpet.com](http://dreamweavercarpet.com)

**Questions? We're here to help!** 1209 Main Street, Sanford, ME 04073 | (207) 324-3643 | [sanfordflooring.com](http://sanfordflooring.com)