



**INFORMATION**

The lasting quality of a floor finish can depend as much on the method of cleaning maintenance as upon initial selection of the right type of flooring. It is estimated that 80% of the dirt



entering most buildings is carried in by foot traffic and applied directly to the floor. Apart from the effect upon appearance, dirt will cause damage by scratching and abrasion. It is important, therefore that the correct materials and methods for good floor maintenance are used to give consistent good appearance and protection to the floor.

Carpets change their appearance with use and ultimately reach a stage where replacement is necessary. One of the major factors



leading to loss of appearance is soiling. Soiling begins the moment a new carpet is fitted. It arrives from the atmosphere and accidental bombardment but, most importantly, it arrives on people and especially their shoes. Soil consists of a multitude of different materials, ranging from oil or water based suspensions, some with potential staining power, to particulate matter of various size. When the carpet is walked upon, any soiling materials present are increasingly matted, entangled and trapped within the fibre and the pile.

Clearly, the longer the soil deposits are allowed to remain in the carpet, the more difficult will be their removal.

**Berber carpets are "Housewives Friends" and require only the minimum of cleaning. Do not, under any circumstances, use a cleaner which incorporates beater bars, brushes or bristles. When these are used on loop pile carpets they will often tease the fibres in the yarn, raising them into an unsightly hairy and felted appearance. Instead, use a "suction only" cleaner or extension with a smooth face without exerting any pressure.**

The different effects which these machines produce are illustrated in the diagrams below.



SUGGESTED GUIDE TO FREQUENCY OF MAINTENANCE				
MAINTENANCE TYPE	SOILING LEVEL			
	Very Heavy Eg. entrances	Heavy Eg. between doorways	Intermediate	Low eg. bedrooms
Sweeper/Vacuum (Times per week)	4-7	2-4	1-2	1
Clean Heavy Soil Areas (Times per year)	3-4	2-3	1-2	1-2
Overall Clean (Times per year)	1 or as required	1	As required	

The guide is greatly generalised, as frequency of clean will depend on other factors, such as:-

- Individual preference
- Carpet colour
- Foot traffic density
- Weather conditions
- Soil type, etc.

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- (1) Apply small quantities of the recommended chemicals, and repeat if necessary, taking care not to overwet the carpet. Application of large quantities of chemicals can cause the spillage area to spread.
  - (2) Blot up, working from the outside inwards.
  - (3) Repeat stages suggested in chart, exercising patience, especially where a light coloured pile is concerned. Avoid excessive agitation of pile, which may affect texture.
  - (4) Complete the treatment by using a cold water rinse (and blot up).
  - (5) If stain persists, call in a professional cleaner.

**NOTE:** When employing the services of cleaning contractors, the individual should look for some assurance from members of a recognised institute. The Carpet Cleaners Association can be contacted for advice on professional cleaning services - Tel: 0533-554352.

This advice is offered as a service to customers and C3 Carpet Company Limited will not be liable for loss or damage or injury arising out of any action taken based on this advice.