

FLOOR CLEANING

FROM C3 CARPET CO. LTD.

NEEDLEPUNCH CARPET

INITIAL TREATMENT

Adequate protection needs to be provided over needleloom carpet immediately following installation, as surface contamination caused through remaining building work can be difficult to remove. After application it is important to allow the carpet adhesive to harden for approximately seven days before using any cleaning procedure which involves the use of water.

ROUTINE CLEANING

This involves removal of grit, dust and other dry soiling from the surface and the body of the carpet, by brushing and suction cleaning. The normal type of domestic vacuum is suitable to a degree, but since it is primarily designed to lift the carpet into the throat of the machine, beat it and extract the dust by vacuum, this process is somewhat restricted with a stuck down needleloom carpet. However, if the brushes are in good condition the machine will prove satisfactory within domestic and small commercial areas. A light brushing with a stiff broom can assist the vacuum process by bringing dust and small dirt particles to the surface. Within larger commercial areas, an industrial vacuum cleaner with a large brush area used at a low setting is recommended.

PERIODIC TREATMENT

Over a period of time and particularly within heavy traffic areas, the carpet may become more heavily soiled due to dirt deposited by footwear and contamination from spillage of various substances being impacted within the surface. When routine cleaning methods fail to remove this impacted dirt then more specialised cleaning treatment needs to be applied.

In situations where soiling may be classed as being of medium nature then use of dry, foam shampoo system will clean the carpet satisfactorily. After shampooing, the carpet must be well vacuumed to remove all loosened dirt. Wet shampoo systems are not recommended due to the difficulty of lifting out the shampoo from the dense needleloom construction.

A heavily soiled carpet will require cleaning using a hot water injection cleaning process more commonly known as "steam cleaning". This machine system incorporates a combined water vacuum, allowing the injected hot water to release impacted dirt, which is immediately extracted with the water leaving the carpet clean and dry. The steam cleaning process can be carried out by carpet cleaning contractors. Machines are also available from most tool hire shops.

SPILLAGE MATERIAL	ORDER OF CHEMICAL TREATMENT		
	1st step	2nd step	3rd step
Butter, Jam, Cooking Oil, Car Oil, Jelly, Make-up, Fat, Lipstick, Shoe Polish, Shoe Dye.	A	B	
Cocoa, Ice Cream, Milk, Cream, Mayonnaise, Egg, Hand Cream, Sweets, Water-colours, Fruit, Beer.	B	A	
Chocolate, Tea, Coffee, Fruit Juice, Wine, Squash, Mustard.	E	A	E
Blood, Vomit, Ketchup, Ballpoint Pen, Emulsion, Paint.	E	D	E
Alcohol, Urine, Bleach.	B	C	E
Water Marks.	B		
Rust.	C	B	
Battery Acid	Neutralise - Borax or Baking Soda (will affect colour, but save carpet from rotting).		
Chewing Gum	Freeze - using proprietary chewing gum remover.		
Oil Based Paint	Paint remover - A-E.		
Nail Polish	Nail polish remover - A-E.		
Mildew	Consult professional cleaner for advice.		

PROCEDURE

- ☞ Act immediately. Failure to do so will result in the spillage becoming a stain. Some stains will require treatment from a professional cleaner.
- ☞☞ Remove excess quantities of the spillage, taking care not to spread them.
 - LIQUIDS : Blot up
 - SOLIDS : Scrape off
 - POWDER : Vacuum
- ☞☞☞ Identify the spillage and the treatment required - see chart.
- ☞☞☞☞ Remove remainder of spillage using the following technique.

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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.

CHEMICALS REQUIRED

- A: Proprietary dry clean solvent - available from D.I.Y. shops and large general stores e.g. Boots Dry Clean, Dabitoft, Beaucaire.
- B: Carpet shampoo solution diluted to manufacturer's specification, e.g. Bissell, Jeyes, Boots, etc.
- C: Vinegar solution:-
 - 1 tablespoon white vinegar
 - 2 tablespoons carpet shampoo
 - 8 tablespoons water.
- D: Ammonia solution :-
 - 1 tablespoon colourless household ammonia-based product.
 - 10 tablespoons water.
- E: Biological/enzyme detergent:-
 - 2 teaspoons detergent, eg Ariel, Bold, Biotex.
 - 1 pint water

CAUTION

Check the colour fastness of your carpet with any chemical treatment used. These can be tried on spare carpet or in an inconspicuous area.
Never mix chemicals unless you are sure of their reaction.
When using dry clean solvents, work in a well ventilated area away from naked flames.
Label chemicals carefully and keep out of the reach of children.

NOTE

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.
