

MAINTENANCE GUIDE

A light blue knitted blanket is draped over a modern, curved, light-colored sofa. The sofa is positioned on a beige carpet. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

itc[®]

POLYAMIDE⁴

POLYAMIDE SOLUTION DYED⁸

POLYESTER¹⁰

POLYPROPYLENE¹²

WOOL¹⁴

MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING OF POLYAMIDE CARPETS

PREVENTION & MAINTENANCE

PREVENTION IS BETTER

Place mats in front of the house door to trap the dirt. This will stop outside dirt from getting onto your carpet. Also bear in mind that a dark carpet won't show dirt and stains as much as a light carpet will.

VACUUM REGULARLY

To preserve your carpets beauty and appearance for a long time, we recommend that you vacuum the whole carpet area at least twice a week.

We recommend avoiding a vacuum cleaner with rotating soft brushes as this will damage the pile. For dense carpets we recommend reducing the suction power of the vacuum cleaner. Some models feature a variable motor speed, while others require the opening of an air gate to reduce the air flow. Slight dirty marks and stains can best be removed with a carpet cleaning product. Read the instructions for use carefully and always treat stains as quickly as possible.

CLEAN IN-DEPTH

If you have taken care to vacuum your carpet regularly and remove spills, you may not need to clean your carpet for a year or more, even if it is a light colour. However, when the carpet does start to look soiled, you can either have it professionally cleaned or do it yourself. If you decide to clean the carpet yourself, make sure you use a good quality cleaning agent and carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions.

WET SHAMPOO

It is important to use a neutral shampoo – certainly not one that is alkaline, never use household detergents, and don't use shampoos which smell of ammonia. To check proprietary carpet shampoos, leave a bit in a saucer overnight, pour off excess and allow to dry to see if it leaves a sticky residue to which house dust could cling.

If you use a shampooing machine, follow the instructions carefully. Remove the furniture from the room, if possible, and vacuum thoroughly before shampooing. Allow to dry overnight before vacuuming and putting the furniture back in place. It's important not to allow the carpet to get too wet in case the pile and backing become distorted.

ABSORBENT POWDER

There is a range of cleaning powders available which are either solvent-saturated or detergent-saturated. Check the manufacturer's instructions. After vacuuming, the powder is sprinkled liberally on the carpet, brushed into the pile and then vacuumed out. It is not necessary to remove all the powder from the pile as it can help minimize future soiling. The powder method is an easy way of freshening up a carpet. It also distorts the pile less and, because the carpet is less wetted, the room is ready for re-use sooner.

AEROSOL FOAM SHAMPOO

For light cleaning of small areas, aerosol foam shampoos can be used. It is advisable to test the shampoo first for sticky residue which may attract dust. Foam is usually sprayed sparingly on the carpet and worked into the pile with a moistened sponge or brush. Vacuum after the carpet is dry. In all cases, check the manufacturer's instructions.

SPRAY INJECTION-EXTRACTION

With this method, sometimes incorrectly referred to as "steam cleaning," the carpet pile can be injected with a hot water and detergent solution under pressure so that the soil is suspended in the water which is extracted almost at once by a high suction, wet vacuum system. This method is particularly useful for very dirty carpets as it removes deep-seeded dirt, but it may not clean the surface as well as other methods. It is also useful for removing excess detergents from successive wet shampooings – and together the two methods can restore a very dirty, flattened carpet. Although a machine can be rented, it is best to have this type of cleaning done by a professional cleaner because care needs to be taken not to over-wet the carpet and thus distort the pile and backing.

FACTORY CLEANING

Professional factory cleaning is ideal for rugs and carpet squares because all the dirt can be effectively removed. It is not as suitable for wall-to-wall carpet as on-site cleaning because of the inconvenience and expense of removing and refitting the carpet.

FIRST AID FOR STAINS

Prompt action is important in order to avoid the spillage penetrating the pile fibers and becoming fixed.

Stain removal kits can often be obtained from carpet retailers, or you can make up your own which should contain the following items:

- a carpet shampoo for removing water-based stains
- a solvent for removing greasy stains
- a chewing gum remover (freeze or solvent type)
- special stain removers for ink, fruit juice, coffee, etc.
- white tissues for mopping up spills
- small sponges for applying shampoo, solvents, etc.
- When spills occur, it is important that they are cleaned up immediately!

Here is a guide to help make your job easier

1. Scoop up solids with a spoon.
2. Blot up liquids by applying pressure with white paper towels or tissues.
3. Determine method of stain removal from the chart.
4. Before treating stain, test treatments on an inconspicuous part of the carpet for possible colour change.
5. With blotting or dabbing motion, work inwards from the edge of the stain to prevent it spreading.
6. Do not rub carpet pile during the stain removal or rinsing stages.
7. When attempting to remove stains, ensure that the carpet is dry before proceeding to the next step in order of treatment.
8. Rinse by applying clear, tepid tap water using a clean cloth or sponge.
9. Once the stain has been removed, blot up moisture by adding pressure with white paper towels or tissues.
10. Do not walk on carpet until dry.

Stain Checklist and treatment for polyamide carpets

1. Solution of one teaspoon of approved polyamide detergent (e.g. Softly) with one teaspoon of white vinegar and one litre of warm water.
2. Dry-cleaning fluid, lighter fuel or mineral turpentine. Caution: Ensure that no flame or lighted cigarette is near, and use in a well-ventilated area.
3. Mineral turpentine effectiveness is increased if mixed with an equal quantity of dry-cleaning fluid. Caution: Ensure that no flame or lighted cigarette is near, and use in a well-ventilated area.
4. Methylated spirits. Caution: Ensure that no flame or lighted cigarette is near, and use in a well-ventilated area.
5. Hydrogen peroxide (20 vol.) Dilute 1 part to 10 parts cold water. Caution: Do not use on dark or patterned fabric.
6. Dye stripper. Dilute 1 part to 50 parts cold water. Caution: Do not use on dark or patterned fabric.
7. Chewing gum remover (freezing agent.)
8. Nail polish remover.
9. Clean warm water.
10. Cold water.
11. Weak solution of white vinegar or lemon juice with cold water.
12. Absorbent powder (e.g. salt or talc.) Sprinkle on spillage, leave overnight and vacuum next day.

Notes:

When attempting to remove any stains always ensure that the fabric is dry before proceeding to the next step in the order of treatment.
The solvents normally used in dry cleaning are perchlorethylene, white spirit or fluorocarbons.

Note: While this advice is offered in good faith, no responsibility is accepted for claims arising from the treatments proposed. If stains fail to respond to treatments listed, call a professional fabric cleaner immediately.

TYPE OF STAIN	ORDER OF TREATMENT		
	1ST	2ND	3RD
Beer	1		
Beetroot juice	1		
Bleach	1		
Blood	10	6	
Burn or Scorch Mark	5		
Butter	2	1	
Candlewax	3		
Chewing Gum	7		
Chocolate	1	2	
Cocoa	2	10	1
Coffee (black or white)	2	10	1
Cooking Oils	2	1	
Crayon/Colour Marker	2	1	

TYPE OF STAIN	ORDER OF TREATMENT		
	1ST	2ND	3RD
Cream	2	1	
Egg	1		
Excrement	1		
Fruit Juice	9	1	
Furniture Polish	2	1	
Grass	4		
Gravy/Sauce	9	1	
Grease	2	1	
Ice Cream	1		
Ink – ballpoint	4	1	
Ink – fountain pen	9	1	6
Lipstick	2	1	
Metal Polish	2	1	
Mildew	1	5	
Milk	9	2	1
Mustard	1		
Nail Polish	8	2	
Oil	2	1	
Paint – emulsion	2	10	1
Paint – oil base	3	2	1
Rust	2	1	11
Salad Dressing	2	1	
Shoe Polish	2	1	
Soft Drinks	9	1	5
Tar	3	2	1
Tea (black or white)	2	10	1
Urine	1		
Vomit	1		
Wine (red)	12	9	6
Wine (white)	1		

MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING OF CARPETS MADE WITH POLYAMIDE SOLUTION DYED FIBRES

PREVENTION & MAINTENANCE

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FIRST AID FOR STAINS

1. REACT QUICKLY

Do not allow stains to dry in, but remove them immediately with a clean kitchen cloth. Then remove solid elements with a spoon. Find out the type of stain, so that you can look up the most suitable product in the stain table below.

2. BLEACH CLEANABLE

Keep in mind that stubborn stains, in carpets made from 100% PA Solution Dyed, can easily be cleaned using household bleach, using a mixture of 10% bleach and 90% tap water.

3. THOROUGH TREATMENT

Handle the stain with a clean kitchen cloth, working in from the outside so as to prevent spreading and smudging. For most stains a carpet care product can be used. If none is available, soak the kitchen cloth in the product indicated in the table below.

	A	B	C	D	E
Beer		✓			
Beetroot juice	✓				
Biro				✓	
Blood	✓				
Butter		✓		✓	
Candle grease				✓	
Chocolate		✓			
Cocoa	✓				
Coffee	✓				
Fruit juice	✓				
Fruit stains	✓				
Gravy		✓			
Ink		✓		✓	
Lemonade	✓				
Margarine		✓		✓	
Milk		✓			
Nail varnish					✓
Oli				✓	
Paint			✓		
Roast		✓			
Shoe polish		✓		✓	
Tea	✓				
Tomato ketchup		✓			
Urine	✓				
Vomit		✓			
Wine		✓			

A. WATER

Dab off the stain as far as possible with a clean white kitchen cloth. Then treat the stain with a damp cloth and dab it off again, until no further dirt adheres to the cloth.

B. SOAP POWDER SOLUTION

(1 tablespoon soap powder to 1/4 l water)
Dab off the stain as far as possible with a clean white kitchen cloth. Then treat the stain with a cloth soaked in soap suds and then dab it off again, until no further dirt adheres to the cloth. Important: Only repeat dabbing with clean water and remove soap residues with a clean cloth.

C. THINNER

Dab/rub the with a cloth soaked in thinner. Repeat until no more dirt is visible on the cloth. Important: Never apply care products directly to the stain!

D. DRY CLEANING SOLVENT

Dab/rub the stain with a cloth soaked in dry clean solvent. Repeat until no more dirt is visible on the cloth. Important: Never apply care products directly to the stain!

E. ACETONE

Dab/rub the stain with a cloth soaked in acetone. Repeat until no more dirt is visible on the cloth. Important: Never apply care products directly to the stain!

MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING OF CARPETS MADE OF POLYESTER

PREVENTION & MAINTENANCE

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VACUUM REGULARLY

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SPRAY INJECTION-EXTRACTION

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2. BLEACH CLEANABLE

Keep in mind that stubborn stains, in carpets made from 100% Polyester, can easily be cleaned using household bleach, using a mixture of 10% bleach and 90% tap water.

3. THOROUGH TREATMENT

Handle the stain with a clean kitchen cloth, working in from the outside so as to prevent spreading and smudging. For most stains a carpet care product can be used. If none is available, soak the kitchen cloth in the product indicated in the table below.

	A	B	C	D	E
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Cocoa	✓				
Coffee	✓				
Fruit juice	✓				
Fruit stains	✓				
Gravy		✓			
Ink		✓		✓	
Lemonade	✓				
Margarine		✓		✓	
Milk		✓			
Nail varnish					✓
Oli				✓	
Paint			✓		
Roast		✓			
Shoe polish		✓		✓	
Tea	✓				
Tomato ketchup		✓			
Urine	✓				
Vomit		✓			
Wine		✓			

A. WATER

Dab off the stain as far as possible with a clean white kitchen cloth. Then treat the stain with a damp cloth and dab it off again, until no further dirt adheres to the cloth.

B. SOAP POWDER SOLUTION

(1 tablespoon soap powder to 1/4 l water)
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C. THINNER

Dab/rub the with a cloth soaked in thinner. Repeat until no more dirt is visible on the cloth. Important: Never apply care products directly to the stain!

D. DRY CLEANING SOLVENT

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MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING OF POLYPROPYLENE CARPETS

PREVENTION & MAINTENANCE

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Milk		✓			
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With this method, sometimes incorrectly referred to as "steam cleaning," the carpet pile can be injected with a hot water and detergent solution under pressure so that the soil is suspended in the water which is extracted almost at once by a high suction, wet vacuum system. This method is particularly useful for very dirty carpets as it removes deep-seeded dirt, but it may not clean the surface as well as other methods. It is also useful for removing excess detergents from successive wet shampooings – and together the two methods can restore a very dirty, flattened carpet. Although a machine can be rented, it is best to have this type of cleaning done by a professional cleaner because care needs to be taken not to over-wet the carpet and thus distort the pile and backing.

FACTORY CLEANING

Professional factory cleaning is ideal for rugs and carpet squares because all the dirt can be effectively removed. It is not as suitable for wall-to-wall carpet as on-site cleaning because of the inconvenience and expense of removing and refitting the carpet.

FIRST AID FOR STAINS

Prompt action is important in order to avoid the spillage penetrating the pile fibers and becoming fixed.

Stain removal kits can often be obtained from carpet retailers, or you can make up your own which should contain the following items:

- a carpet shampoo for removing water-based stains
- a solvent for removing greasy stains
- a chewing gum remover (freeze or solvent type)
- special stain removers for ink, fruit juice, coffee, etc.
- white tissues for mopping up spills
- small sponges for applying shampoo, solvents, etc.
- When spills occur, it is important that they are cleaned up immediately!

Here is a guide to help make your job easier

1. Scoop up solids with a spoon.
2. Blot up liquids by applying pressure with white paper towels or tissues.
3. Determine method of stain removal from the chart.
4. Before treating stain, test treatments on an inconspicuous part of the carpet for possible colour change.
5. With blotting or dabbing motion, work inwards from the edge of the stain to prevent it spreading.
6. Do not rub carpet pile during the stain removal or rinsing stages.
7. When attempting to remove stains, ensure that the carpet is dry before proceeding to the next step in order of treatment.
8. Rinse by applying clear, tepid tap water using a clean cloth or sponge.
9. Once the stain has been removed, blot up moisture by adding pressure with white paper towels or tissues.
10. Do not walk on carpet until dry.

Stain Checklist and treatment for wool carpets

1. Solution of one teaspoon of approved wool detergent (e.g. Softly) with one teaspoon of white vinegar and one litre of warm water.
2. Dry-cleaning fluid, lighter fuel or mineral turpentine. Caution: Ensure that no flame or lighted cigarette is near, and use in a well-ventilated area.
3. Mineral turpentine effectiveness is increased if mixed with an equal quantity of dry-cleaning fluid. Caution: Ensure that no flame or lighted cigarette is near, and use in a well-ventilated area.
4. Methylated spirits. Caution: Ensure that no flame or lighted cigarette is near, and use in a well-ventilated area.
5. Hydrogen peroxide (20 vol.) Dilute 1 part to 10 parts cold water. Caution: Do not use on dark or patterned fabric.
6. Dye stripper. Dilute 1 part to 50 parts cold water. Caution: Do not use on dark or patterned fabric.
7. Chewing gum remover (freezing agent.)
8. Nail polish remover.
9. Clean warm water.
10. Cold water.
11. Weak solution of white vinegar or lemon juice with cold water.
12. Absorbent powder (e.g. salt or talc.) Sprinkle on spillage, leave overnight and vacuum next day.

Notes:

When attempting to remove any stains always ensure that the fabric is dry before proceeding to the next step in the order of treatment.
The solvents normally used in dry cleaning are perchlorethylene, white spirit or fluorocarbons.

Note: While this advice is offered in good faith, no responsibility is accepted for claims arising from the treatments proposed. If stains fail to respond to treatments listed, call a professional fabric cleaner immediately.

TYPE OF STAIN	ORDER OF TREATMENT		
	1ST	2ND	3RD
Beer	1		
Beetroot juice	1		
Bleach	1		
Blood	10	6	
Burn or Scorch Mark	5		
Butter	2	1	
Candlewax	3		
Chewing Gum	7		
Chocolate	1	2	
Cocoa	2	10	1
Coffee (black or white)	2	10	1
Cooking Oils	2	1	
Crayon/Colour Marker	2	1	

TYPE OF STAIN	ORDER OF TREATMENT		
	1ST	2ND	3RD
Cream	2	1	
Egg	1		
Excrement	1		
Fruit Juice	9	1	
Furniture Polish	2	1	
Grass	4		
Gravy/Sauce	9	1	
Grease	2	1	
Ice Cream	1		
Ink – ballpoint	4	1	
Ink – fountain pen	9	1	6
Lipstick	2	1	
Metal Polish	2	1	
Mildew	1	5	
Milk	9	2	1
Mustard	1		
Nail Polish	8	2	
Oil	2	1	
Paint – emulsion	2	10	1
Paint – oil base	3	2	1
Rust	2	1	11
Salad Dressing	2	1	
Shoe Polish	2	1	
Soft Drinks	9	1	5
Tar	3	2	1
Tea (black or white)	2	10	1
Urine	1		
Vomit	1		
Wine (red)	12	9	6
Wine (white)	1		

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