



Brintons

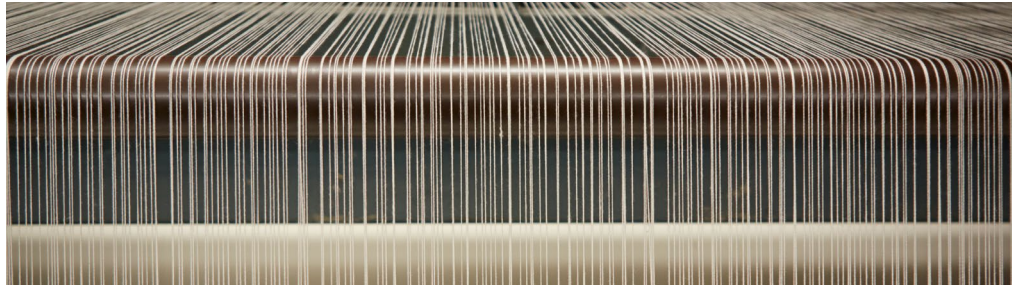


Cleaning & Maintenance Guidelines



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This information leaflet is intended to provide a general guideline on the care and maintenance methods suitable for Brintons carpets.

We suggest that a care and maintenance program is put in place immediately after the carpet has been installed. The responsibility should be given to experienced personnel trained in the use of proper cleaning machines and capable of recommending the frequency of the various cleaning operations.

****Rotary shampoo and bonnet/absorbent pad (“spin bonnet”) are NOT recommended for all types of Brintons carpets. When cleaning all types of Brintons carpets it is NOT recommended to use spin bonnets, rotary brushes, or rotary extractors. The rotary action of this equipment can severely distort the pile yarn.***



02 Shedding & Shading

- **Shedding**

It is normal for a new cut pile carpet to present some loose fibers. The number of loose fibers is quite small compared to the carpet's total fiber content. Shedding does not jeopardize the structure or specification of the carpet. Regular vacuuming will remove these without harming the carpet.

- **Shading**

All carpet types – woven, tufted, fusion bonded, and handmade – are subject to a visual phenomenon referred to as shading, pooling, or watermarking. The angle in which light reflects off different parts of the yarn creates the appearance of shaded carpet. Shaded areas will appear light from one direction, and dark from the other direction – as the pile yarns lay in different directions. The pools, usually curved in nature, will disappear when observed from directly above.

This unsightly occurrence cannot be prevented and creates a permanent change in the carpet's appearance. Shading is not a manufacturing defect and does not affect the durability of the carpet.

The pile reversal phenomenon is recognized by The Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI).

More information can be found here: www.carpet-rug.org

03 Soil Prevention & Use Of Barrier Matting

One of the most effective means of soil prevention is to utilize barrier matting at entrance points and other potential soiling areas, like exits from kitchens or near vending machines. This matting normally consists of removable metal scraper bars or grills with textile inserts and is designed to retain large particles of soil and water. A lighter duty all textile mat, designed to retain moisture and smaller particles of dirt, is an effective second line of defense when fitted close to the heavy duty matting or loose laid in high-traffic areas. Barrier mats require frequent cleaning to prevent excessive soiling which can transfer onto the carpet with normal traffic patterns.





04 Daily & Periodic Procedures

Daily procedures, including regular vacuuming and spot cleaning, are equally essential to scheduled overall cleanings when implementing an efficient maintenance program.

Overall grime not only causes discoloration, it also presents the undesirable quality of matted carpet and can be prone to premature wear due to abrasion. As grease, smoke, and pollutants in the air settle on the carpet, the pile yarns may become gummy enough to stick to each other and flatten in regular use. Matted carpet appears to be worn out, even when there is no real pile loss.

05 Vacuuming Schedules & Equipment

Of all the carpet maintenance procedures, vacuuming takes the most time and attention but is the most cost effective.

Amount of Traffic	Vacuuming Schedule
High*	Once daily
Medium	Two-three times a week
Light	Once weekly

**Extremely high-traffic lanes may require vacuuming several times a day.*

Tips:

- “Track-off” areas at building and/or kitchen entrances should be vacuumed several times a day.
- An upright heavy-duty commercial vacuum with power driven brushes must be used on axminster carpets and hand tufted cut pile rugs only.
- A more powerful “pile lifter” type vacuum may also be used before and/or after periodic cleaning for optimum pile agitation and restoration.
- Brushes must be cleaned frequently and replaced when worn.
- When motorized vacuum cleaners are used, vacuum along the lengths of the carpet instead of the widths.
- When vacuuming daily, vary the starting points to avoid permanent visible tracking.
- Ride on vacuums with spinning brushes for perimeter cleaning should not be used in the main body of the carpet.

06 Spot & Stain Removal

Identification and immediate action are the keys to effective stain removal procedures. To minimize time and effort, it is helpful to know what causes a stain so that treatment can begin without guesswork. The longer a stain sets, the more difficult it may be to remove. If a stain remains untreated for too long, it may react with the carpet dyes and cause permanent discoloration. An alert staff and a well-stocked stain removal kit are important to a good carpet maintenance program. Rather than a brisk rubbing motion, which may create a fuzzy texture, use a blotting action to remove spot. Be careful not to use a high pH cleaner (above 7.0) on wool or wool blends, and do not let any carpet stay wet for over twenty-four hours. For wool-rich carpets we recommend the use of WOOLSAFE Organization approved cleaning chemicals.

Visit www.woolSAFE.org for further information.

07 Basic Periodic Cleaning Methods

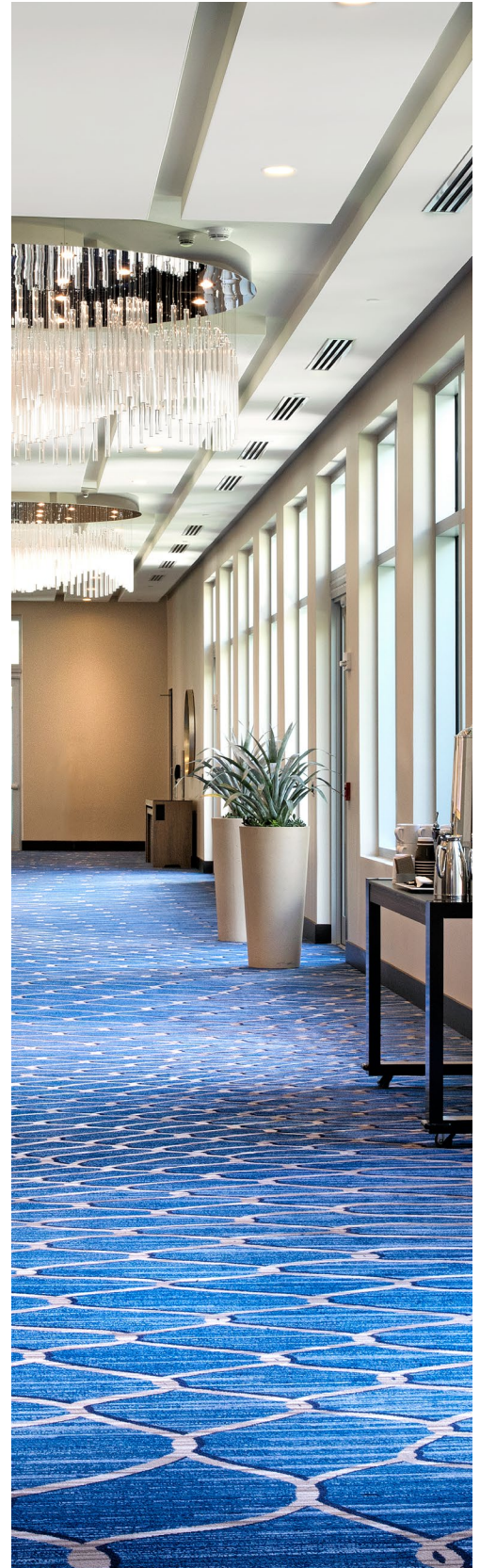
There are many methods that can be used on location to clean carpet.

The basic periodic cleaning methods for carpet are:

1. Hot water extraction (“Windsor”, “Bane Clene”)
2. Dry foam with extraction (“Von Schrader”)
3. Dry extraction (“Host” – use Gold Soft Brush only)

Brintons produces carpet with one hundred percent synthetic backing materials and all pile yarns are pre-dyed for excellent colorfastness. This ensures wet cleaning can be used without causing shrinkage, seam splitting, or fading. When using any wet cleaning method, be careful not to over-saturate the carpet. It is critical to allow the carpet adequate time to dry before resuming use. It is important to develop a regular maintenance schedule and have qualified individuals performing the cleaning. The frequency of cleaning will be determined by the severity of the soiling and environmental conditions. Certain areas, such as entrances and main traffic aisles, might need more frequent cleaning than the rest of the installation. Many installations have been successful in utilizing a combination of methods, such as dry extraction for interim cleaning of heavy traffic areas followed by hot water extraction of the entire carpet on a periodic basis.

Please note: Rotary shampoo and bonnet/absorbent pad (“spin bonnet”) are not recommended for axminster carpet. It is critical when cleaning axminster cut-pile carpet not to use spin bonnets, rotary brushes, or rotary extractors. The rotary action of this equipment can severely distort the pile yarn. In addition, the spin bonnet method can leave chemical residue which builds up on the carpet.





08 Cleaning Frequency

Brintons recommends cleaning the carpet every three months using a hot water extraction method. Cleaning frequency may vary depending on the amount of traffic and wear in the area.

09 Hard Surface to Carpet Transitions

It is common for carpet adjacent to the transition between hard surface flooring and carpet to soil rapidly and be more difficult to clean. Hard surface cleaners should not be used on carpet, and care should be taken not to spill or spray them on carpet. Most hard surface cleaners have a higher pH which may damage the carpet. They also leave a residue on the carpet causing rapid resoiling.

If applied to the carpet by accident, they should be immediately blotted with wet towels or sponge followed by blotting with dry towels to avoid damage to the carpet.

10 Loop Pile Construction

The following guidelines apply to Brintons product containing any percentage of loop pile construction (hand tufted cut and loop, wilton cut and loop, hand tufted 100% loop, wilton 100% loop, etc).

Brintons provide specifications that include loop pile constructions. In these circumstances, Brintons does NOT recommend the use of vacuums with beater bars. Beater bars may snag and pull the loop pile distorting the appearance and performance of the carpet.

Brintons recommend the use of a canister vacuum without hard brushes or bristles on loop pile carpets. These machines are not as proficient as standard upright vacuums, so these areas need daily vacuuming and spot cleaning in order to retain their appearance.

Hot water extraction for deep cleaning should be done with wands that do not have bristles or brushes attached.

Sources: The Carpet & Rug Institute, The Wool Bureau, Superior Rubber Mfg. (No-Trax), Racine Industries (Host), Windsor Industries, IICUC, BASF.

Note: Failure to follow these recommended maintenance procedures could damage your carpet and nullify the Brintons warranty(s).

Dwight Carter
 Installation and Technical Services Manager
 Brintons Americas
 E: dcarter@brintonsusa.com
 M: 770 598 5278



BY APPOINTMENT
TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
CARPET MANUFACTURERS
BRINTONS CARPETS LIMITED, MIDDENHUNTER

Brintons

making the world a more beautiful place

Americas

Brintons US Axminster Inc

Tel: +1 678 594 9300

Fax: +1 678 594 9301

Email: brintons@brintonsusa.com

Europe

Brintons Carpets Limited

Tel: +44 (0) 1562 635 665

Fax: +44 (0) 1562 634 737

Email: solutions@brintons.co.uk

Asia Pacific

Brintons Pty Ltd

Tel: +61 (0) 3 9676 3333

Fax: +61 (0) 3 9676 3377

Email: enquiries@brintons.com.au

www.brintons.net



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