



A TRADE EXCLUSIVE COLLECTION

## CARPET AND AREA RUG CARE AND CLEANING

### KNOWING YOUR CARPET OR AREA RUG

All carpets and rugs are handmade by skilled artisans, or in a special manufacturing facility and are checked to meet quality standards before shipment. The following seven simple facts will help you understand your carpet or rug and prolong its life.

#### COLOR:

No two rugs or carpet rolls are the same. Slight color variations are common for handmade goods, as dye lots may change over a period of time.

#### ODOR:

Odors are caused by dyes, yarns and shipping for long distances in sealed wrap. Most odors dissipate within a week once the goods are removed from the shipping wrap.

#### FADING:

If exposed to direct sunlight, rug and carpet colors typically fade over time, even if they are fade resistant.

#### CREASES:

If your carpet or rug have been rolled or folded for shipping, it may include creases. Creases should disappear within a week or two when the goods are laid out flat. For rugs, reverse rolling overnight may help speed up the process.

#### WEAR:

As a general rule, rugs of all materials and constructions should be rotated every 3—6 months to balance color and evenly distribute wear. Mats used at exterior entrance doorways also prevent excess dirt from being tracked onto rugs and carpet.

Professional Cleaning Services should be used at least once a year and before your carpet begins to show soil. Make sure to use a cleaner that specializes in wool + specialty fibers and uses the proper pH balanced cleaners. Your local J. Leigh Dealer should be able to recommend certified cleaning professionals in your area. Fiber-seal may also be recommended for faux silk, natural fibers or other high-maintenance carpets needing extra care.

#### SPROUTS/SHEDDING:

Loose fibers & sprouts are a normal part of the break-in process of handmade goods. After installation yarns may frequently come loose or 'sprout' up from the pile. This is considered very normal on hand-loomed or hand-tufted products and homeowners should be told to expect it. Regular vacuuming will help with shedding. To remove sprouts, use a small pair of scissors to snip them off even with the pile. Do not pull the fiber out, as this can cause a deterioration in the backing.

## MAINTENANCE OF YOUR CARPET OR RUG

### How to Vacuum Your Carpet or Rug

- Canister vacuums with hand held attachments are the optimal type of vacuum to use for carpets and rugs. Brooms and manual sweepers are also a gentle and effective way to clean loose area rugs.
- Many of today's vacuums are super high powered. The high suction can pull out the threads from the back of the carpet or rug causing sprouts and excessive fuzzing. Avoid Oreck or Dyson vacuums for these reasons. If using an upright vacuum, make sure the head is adjusted so that the brushes do not touch the surface of the carpet. Or remove the beater bar altogether. ***A beater bar will cause excessive fuzzing and distort the pile of the carpet's surface permanently.***  
A suction-only canister vacuum is best to prevent excess pilling and fuzzing on carpet. For rugs, use the handheld attachment to vacuum your area rug, whenever possible. Warranties will be voided if high suction vacuums or beater bars are used.
- If the rug has serged (finished) edges, refrain from continuously running the vacuum over the edges, as this will loosen fibers around the edges and cause them to deteriorate. Avoid running the vacuum over the fringes at the ends of rugs, as fraying may occur. Use the handheld attachment to clean fringes. If a rug is reversible, make sure to vacuum both sides. This will remove grit and grime that can prematurely wear out the rug.

### SPECIAL CLEANING GUIDELINES



#### Nylon Carpet or Rugs

- With a dry white cotton towel or white paper towel, blot out stain as much as possible.
- Scrape of any food or debris with a dull instrument.
- Mix a very small amount of dish soap with a cup of cold water. With a clean sponge and soap mix (avoid using excessive water), gentle remove remainder of the stain and then blot the area with a dry towel.
- Professional cleaning is recommended biannually to maintain the life of the rug.



#### PET Indoor/Outdoor Carpet or Rugs

- With a dry white cotton towel or white paper towel, blot out stain as much as possible.
- Scrape of any food or debris with a dull instrument.
- Mix a very small amount of dish soap with a cup of cold water. With a clean sponge and soap mix (avoid using excessive water), gentle remove remainder of the stain and then blot the area with a dry towel.
- For exterior rugs all over cleaning, spray with a mixture of soap and water and rinse with a garden hose.
- Professional cleaning is recommended biannually to maintain the life of the rug.



### **Nylon or PET Shag Rugs**

- Professional spray extract on, along with use of wool-approved product, can be used to clean shag carpets and rugs.
- Shedding is normal for wool products and decreases over time. Do not pull yarn out, as this may result in damage to the shag.
- Canister vacuums without a beater bar are the most effective in cleaning shag rugs, Vacuums with beater bars and/or brushes, or those set too low, may abrade the face of the carpet or rug and cause permanent damage.