



LUXURY CUSTOM MADE RUGS DESIGNED IN ITALY

RUG CARE AND CLEANING FOR HANDKNOTTED RUGS

Never use bleach or floor polishers on the rugs.

Spot cleaning when spills happen:

- Act Fast
- Blot – Never rub
- Clean stain – Edge to Center
- Do Not Soak
- Pat and Fan Dry
- Brush Pile with a soft brush

If food or liquids spill onto a carpet, blot up the spill as soon as possible. Use only club soda and a clean white towel to soak up the spill. Do not soak the stain. Do NOT rub, as this will spread the stain. Work the stain from the outer edge to the center. Dry with a fan or hand blow dryer, preferably on a low heat setting. Finally, to restore the pile, brush it with a soft brush. On old and stubborn stains, repeat the process until the stain is completely removed.

Spills such as mustard, blood and mud should be allowed to dry and then scraped off. Failure to dry the carpet properly can cause mold, mildew and dry rot with significant damage.

Special Stains:

Chewing Gum – Press ice cubes against spot until it becomes brittle and breaks off. Use spot remover to vanish last traces. Saturate the spot with a cloth soaked in vinegar or alcohol.

Candle Wax – Place a brown paper bag over the spot. Place a hot iron over the paper bag. Move iron constantly. Wait a few minutes until the wax is absorbed. Repeat if necessary.

Ink from ballpoint pen – Saturate the spot with hairspray. Allow to dry. Blot lightly with vinegar and water solution.

Deep cleaning:

Periodically, every 2 to 3 years, the handknotted rug should be cleaned by a professional in a full immersion wet bath and it will be refreshed and look like new. Handknotted rugs can be wet-cleaned in this fashion as opposed to handtufted rugs that can only be spot cleaned.

Moths:

Regular maintenance is the best way to keep your wool rugs from being damaged by moths. Periodic cleaning, moth proofing and rotating rugs are a good way to prevent moth larva from taking hold and damaging your fine rugs. When inspecting rugs for moth activity, remember that most moth damage is to the back of a rug where moths are least likely to be disturbed. So examine the back of the rug along its perimeter and look for moths, moth larvae or the casing or webbing they leave behind.

Fading in Sunlight:

Colours fade unevenly and wool and cotton dry out and become brittle. A good rug can be faded in a month or less. When colours are softer or lighter on the pile side of the rug than they are on the back, it means that fading is occurring. You can eliminate or prevent the problem by having your windows professionally coated with mylar (an invisible film which can be applied to your windows and which filters out harmful ultraviolet light).

Note: Never put a potted plant on a rug as the water can leak onto the rug and damage it.

Disclaimer: For difficult or unlisted stains, please consult with a professional rug cleaner. Never use dry cleaning methods on a wool rug. Never “steam clean” a wool rug as this may cause dyes to bleed. The rugs should be wet-cleaned by a professional, thoroughly rinsed and allowed to dry completely before being placed on the floor again.

Important: Vacuum your rug regularly. Sand and grit can work into the base of the pile and abrasion can damage the wool and result in loss of pile. Vacuum only with suction, never use a beater bar on a wool rug.

*** These stain removal tips are to be used only as a suggested guide. SAHRAI MILANO accepts no liability for damage from the use of these suggestions.**

RUG CARE AND CLEANING FOR HANDTUFTED RUGS

Daily Vacuuming

Vacuuming is the most important part of any carpet maintenance program. Proper routine vacuuming is of great importance to the life of the carpet

<u>Recommended Scheduling</u>		
<u>Traffic Flow</u>	<u>Estimated Daily Flow</u>	<u>Vacuuming schedule</u>
<u>Medium Traffic Areas</u>	<u><500</u>	<u>Once or More During two days</u>
<u>High Traffic Areas</u>	<u>500-1000</u>	<u>Once Daily</u>
<u>Extreme traffic Areas</u>	<u>>1000</u>	<u>Once or More Daily</u>

Spot and Stain Removal

Spot and Stain removal is most difficult step in carpet maintenance , which can be seen as a science. If spots and stains are not treated properly , they can bring permanent damage to carpet or cause colour-fading or colour changing. Therefore, it is important to remove and treat spots carefully. Here are several tips that may help:

- Scrape off all solid material with a spatula or a spoon
- Blot up all excess liquid with a white clean towel
- Apply cleaning agent onto the affected area for 3 minutes.
- Use towel to work from the edges into the center of the stain.
- Use dry towel to remove the stain.

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Recommend Cleaning Agents

Detergent: Ordinary commercial carpet detergent - follow instructions to use

Ammonia: mix one big spoon of ammonia in one cup of warm water. WARNING – Do not mix with other prohibited chemical substances

Vinegar

Cleaning Methods

Wet Cleaning

Wet cleaning is the most common method of deep carpet cleaning. When using this method, carpet water intake and drying time after cleaning should be considered. Following are methods of wet cleaning:

- Rotary brush method - the cleaning principle is that brush agitates the yarn to loosen dirt to let cleaning foam penetrate and the dirt particle suspend. The dried suspended dirt particle can then be vacuumed. This cleaning method is not recommended for cut pile carpet since the pile yarns will be destroyed by rotary brush.
- Absorption pad—after treating with a rotary brush, an absorption pad can be used to absorb the moisture. This will help wipe out the cleaning agent, stains and water on the carpet surface. This does not work for deep cleaning agent and this is not recommended for cut pile carpet.
- Wet extraction - the carpet needs to be treated by hot water extraction equipment after using rotary brush method enabling to clear stains and detergent remainder. However, particular attention must be paid to a heavily soiled area as it can cause dirt to get worse and result in growth of bacteria This cleaning method is not recommended for cut pile carpet.

Dry Cleaning

Dry cleaning is done by using an absorption compound or crystal desiccant to absorb water –base stain and oil spots.

Absorption Compound

Absorption compound needs to be sifted on some parts of the carpet by hand or a special spray device and carpet pile can be cleaned by a brush. Absorption by such compound enables stains to be isolated from fibers. Then, dry the absorption compound with stains for an hour and a half, and clean up them with upright heavy-duty commercial vacuum. After a while, vacuum the loose particles of the remaining stains.

Crystal Desiccant

The dry extraction method, often referred to as absorbent compound cleaning, is primarily a maintenance method rather than a method used for periodic deep cleaning . In this method, granules or powdery particles are saturated with water, detergent and a small amounts of solvent and brushed into and through the carpet pile by cylindrical, twin brush machine. Soil and dirt then adhere to compound particles and are treated with a beater bar type vacuum.

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