



Why Carpets Lose Color

By Jerry Kessie, Senior Carpet Inspector

This was an actual inspection that I was commissioned by the carpet manufacturer to inspect. The homeowner made a claim that the carpet was defective. The names have been changed to protect the *guilty*.



Tony was always a tightwad. He loved finding ways to save money, even if it meant making a little more work for himself. So, when he rented one of those carpet cleaning machines from the grocery store and learned that he could clean his carpets himself, he was thrilled.

Tony was so proud of himself as he started scrubbing away at the dirt and stains on his carpets. But then something went wrong. He didn't realize that you're not supposed to use bleach with these machines. Suddenly his beautiful carpets were turning yellow and there was nothing he could do to stop or reverse it.

Tony was devastated. He had ruined his carpets and cost himself a lot of money in the process. But at least he learned a couple of lessons; (1) Don't skip science class with *Pinky Tuscadero*, because it just might be the day the teacher explains how oxidizers work, and (2) hire a professional carpet cleaner, preferably Floorcovering Technologies.

I have inspected several faded carpets for seasonal residents here in Florida. They enjoy our mild winter months but quickly escape this tropical paradise when the weather gets hot and muggy.

These complaints are different from the fading that occurs at patio doors, which extends into the room only a few inches or so. These complaints consist of multiple rooms of color loss and are particularly noticeable when

moving a piece of furniture or opening a closet door that is typically closed. It didn't take me long to identify a common denominator in all these complaints, and that was they all failed to climate control their homes when they were gone for months at a time.



It's called "*High-Humidity Ozone Fading*" and is created when the relative humidity inside the home is increased and sustained at 80% - 100%. The moisture in the air (H₂O) mixes with atmospheric ozone (O₃) and creates a strong oxidizer, like Hydrogen Peroxide.

Relative Humidity Why It Is *Relative* To Indoor Air Quality

In addition to the potential damage to the fabrics and textiles in your home, excess Relative Humidity indoors can create health issues for you and your family.

Relative humidity (RH) is the amount of water vapor present in the air compared to the maximum amount of water vapor that could be present at a given temperature. When RH is high, there is more water vapor in the air, and when RH is low, there is less water vapor in the air. Microbial growth, such as mold, can occur when RH is high because bacteria and other organisms thrive in moist environments. If mold growth is not remediated quickly, it can cause extensive damage to a building and be costly to remediate. Therefore, it is important to keep RH levels below 60% to prevent mold growth. In addition to mold growth, high RH levels can also cause condensation on surfaces, which can lead to water damage. Low RH levels can also be problematic because they can make people susceptible to static shocks and cause dehydration. Therefore, it is important to maintain moderate RH levels to avoid these issues.

Too Dry 0%	40%	60%	Too Humid 100%
Viruses			Mold
Bacteria	Ideal Humidity Range		Bacteria
Respiratory Infections	40-60%		Dust Mites
Allergies/Asthma			Allergies/Asthma

I guess people like it

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"Hi Jerry:

I made some time to read this book and found it absolutely fascinating. I'm happy to know more about your experience in your business and the interesting people and situations you encounter. It was entertaining reading about your experience. Informative and educational because I never knew much about carpeting and how complex it can be. There's more to it than just picking out a color and fabric that feels good or will look good in a room. I didn't even mind the technical information that was passed along. I hope I can

remember this when I go looking for carpet again. The book was well written and organized in a refreshing way to hold the reader's interest. I might pass this along when I encounter someone ready to buy carpeting. Thanks for sharing this with me." ~John, St Pete



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"I like the visuals . . . how you manage to make carpet inspecting funny, is mind-blowing. I love the chapter names, very clever!"

CHRISTINA D., CLEARWATER, FL

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"I didn't want to put it down. So entertaining!"

LARRY K., CROSSVILLE, TN

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"It is SO funny! We loved it!"

BRENDA R., ROSWELL, GA



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"You are so funny! I finished the book last night and you get an A+."

MARCELLA F., WALDRON, IN

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"The only downside to this book is it is too short. Can't wait for Fuzzy Side Up! part 2"

TERESA K., ST. PETERSBURG, FL