

Clean Beat

FLOORCOVERING TECHNOLOGIES, INC. – AUGUST 2022

"The Biggest Mistake You Can Make Is to Do Nothing Because You Can Only Do a Little"

I remember the day my friend contacted me through Facebook to clean an area rug for her. I had been following her posts for weeks, a once healthy, energetic young woman was suffering from something her doctors could not diagnose. Her strength



and positive attitude, despite her circumstances was a daily encouragement for me, as I am sure it was for many others. So, I was thrilled when she asked if I could clean her area rug, especially something that obviously meant so much to her. Her grandmother bought the rug years ago, and as well-made wool rugs often do, they are handed down from

generation to generation. She was so sweet as she was telling me about her grandmother, so I said yes without thinking twice, but I was adamant about the cost . . . I would clean her rug for free! She wasn't expecting a free job, I could tell as the conversation paused and her voice became softer, that she was touched by emotion. She said softly, "I will do something for you to repay the favor."

A few days later, her husband came by to pick up the rug and dropped off ice cream . . . LOTS of ice cream! He said they were so grateful for what I had done that they wanted to give me something special. I was really surprised - two gallons of ice cream . . . **WOW!** It was very thoughtful of them, and I enjoyed every scoop.

do for your carpets and that includes area rugs, especially in Florida where your soil is sandy and very abrasive. After a thorough vacuuming area rugs should be pressure cleaned or steam cleaned to remove as much soil as possible. A professional will never clean your rugs that lie on hardwood floors, because of the danger of moisture damaging the finish on the floor. The professional will return the rug after the cleaning and drying process has been adequately performed.

A homeowner can clean some area rugs, which are made of synthetic fibers, such as, polypropylene, polyester, or nylon; however, getting them to dry safely may be difficult. Many over-the-counter cleaners are difficult to completely rinse out of your carpets, and that will cause rapid resoiling of your area rugs. Contacting a professional is always your best and safest solution if you want it done correctly.

How Carpet Cleaning Saved a Local Company from Expensive Work-Related Claims

A commercial building in St. Petersburg had a long history of roof leaks. Every time it rained, water would pour into the office spaces, creating a mess and making everyone uncomfortable while trying to work. The management and facilities staff had tried to fix the issue multiple times, but it seemed like no matter what they did, the roof continued to leak.



Finally, after ten years of this ongoing problem, the company decided to hire a new facilities Manager who took a proactive approach to the problem. Within only days of being on the job,

Scott called our office, knowing that my knowledge in air-quality and water damage would be an asset to him as he developed a plan to mitigate the situation. After looking around for a few minutes in the offices highest in health



complaints, we decided that the plan that would

have the largest impact on occupational health would be to clean the carpets. We were not ignoring the possibility that the interior walls had microbial growth, we were simply using the "Goal

How To Care for Your Area Rugs

Larry Kessie, Master Rug Cleaner

Area rugs can add Beauty, softness, and comfort to any room in your home. They come in a wide variety of colors, styles, and materials, making it easy to find one that



fits your décor. However, area rugs also require particular care to keep them looking their best. Here are some tips on how to properly care for your area rug from a Master Rug Cleaner:

Area rugs should be cleaned every 12-18 months, depending on the traffic that they get. Vacuuming is the #1 best thing you can

Setting-101" analogy, "How do you eat an elephant?" and started with one bite at a time.

A couple of Scientists known as Einstein and Newton have these theories called "gravity" and while they are just theories, they were a couple of brainiacs, so let's assume it's real. So, acknowledging that what is UP must come DOWN, the largest source of contamination would likely be in the carpet. Dr. Michael Berry, Deputy Director of the National Center of Environmental Assessment, and a Research Scientist, was speaking at a conference I attended once, and he made this statement, "Every time carpets and fabrics are cleaned of their pollution buildup using professional cleaning methods, there is a health benefit."

A few weeks later, the executive whose office was central to the water leaks saw us working in another area of the building and reported that since we cleaned the carpet in his office, his headaches have not returned. That is why we say, "That's how cleaning is done!."

uncomplicated way to keep contaminants from entering the home is to have a "Shoes-Off" policy. But, before you decide to remove all the carpets from your home, remember, hard surfaces can be much worse. They can harbor all sorts of germs and harmful chemicals, and they are lousy at holding airborne particles.

Traffic Soil Rating	Carpet Owner / Maintainer		Professional Carpet Cleaner / Restorer	
	Vacuuming	Spot Cleaning	Heavy-Use Area Cleaning	Restorative Cleaning
Light Soil	1x per week	Daily or as soon as spots are noticed	Traffic areas every 12 to 18 months	Every 2 years or per manufacturer warranty.
Normal Soil (Families With children, elderly).	1x per week	Daily or as soon as spots are noticed	Traffic areas every 6 to 12 months	Annually
Heavy Soil (Families With Pet and smoking)	2 to 4x per week	Daily or as soon as spots are noticed	Traffic areas every 3 to 6 months	Semi Annually (2 x Annually)
Extreme Conditions (Large Families, Multiple Pets).	Daily	Daily or as soon as spots are noticed	Traffic lanes every 2 - 3 months	Quarterly (4 x Annually)

Quote of the month



"If the mountain was smooth, you wouldn't be able to climb it."

Establish a "Shoes-Off" Policy at The Door

Being a carpet cleaner for forty years has allowed me to experience a variety of home conditions across the complete spectrum. I had one client that had me at her home every month, twice in one day! (I miss you, Linda!) Then the flip side of that was apartments. The early days of cleaning apartments taught me to pause for a few seconds after opening the door and wait for the roaches to fall. I've seen flea infestations so bad that it looked like the carpet was moving, and I have found mushrooms growing in the carpet from a water loss that went unreported.



That's why my greatest concern is when I see children and infants crawling around on carpets that have not been properly maintained. Exposure to tracked in pesticides, lead poisoning, and bacteria can cause developmental delays in children, so it is important to keep carpets clean and free of contaminants. An

Certificate of Master Designation

The IICRC Board of Directors recognizes

Jerry Kessie

for achieving the highest level of training and education while meeting the requirements of the IICRC is hereby designated as

Master Textile Cleaner

Master Fire & Smoke Restorer

Master Water Restorer

Carey Vermeulen
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Expiration Date

03/31/2023



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