Carpet Floor Care
Method Bulletin 1401

Maintenance systems and chemicals for cleaning, removing spots and protecting carpets.

ECO₂
Pre-Treat
Back to 7
VaMoose
Defoamer
Triple Play
Extraction
SpinShield
Double O Seven

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Carpet Cleaning Method

The appearance and life of your carpet depends on the care it receives. Proper cleaning helps safeguard your carpet investment by keeping you from having to replace it before its time. The Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) recommends the following ingredients that are necessary for a successful carpet care program.

Cleaning your carpet the right way does not have to be difficult. It is important to use the right methods, equipment and cleaning products. Using improper methods, equipment or products can result in faster re-soiling, the reappearance of stains, or more serious damage to your carpet.

Maintaining your carpets starts with prevention. Use 15 - 20 feet of good quality matting at entries to prevent moisture and dirt from getting on the carpet.

Which Carpet Cleaning Method(s) should I use?

Here are most commonly used maintenance procedures used for maintaining today's carpets with the advantages and disadvantages listed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Cleaning</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complete Cleaning</td>
<td>No/Little Residue</td>
<td>Longer dry time(extraction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Extraction Method)</td>
<td>Deep Cleans Carpets</td>
<td>Time Consuming</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Encapsulating Cleaning</td>
<td>Low Moisture, dries quickly</td>
<td>Not a deep cleaning method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oxygen Power destroy's malodors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Encapsulating polymer captures dirt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Residue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnet Cleaning</td>
<td>Faster, cost efficient</td>
<td>Can't be used on residential carpets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Carpet Shield System)</td>
<td>Contains soil repellant technology</td>
<td>Cleans only the surface of carpets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low Moisture, dries quickly</td>
<td>Not a deep cleaning method</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carpet back into service quickly</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rescue Cleaning</td>
<td>Cleans carpets that were neglected</td>
<td>Must rinse out all residue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Most aggressive cleaning</td>
<td>Longer cleaning time</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keeps carpets from being replaced</td>
<td>Longer dry times</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carpet Spotting</td>
<td>Cleans spots in small areas</td>
<td>Must allow spotted areas to dry</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>before opening to traffic</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Complete Cleaning

See page 2 for details

No/Little Residue
Deep Cleans Carpets

Encapsulating Cleaning

See page 3 for details

Low Moisture, dries quickly
Oxygen Power destroy's malodors
Encapsulating polymer captures dirt
No Residue

Bonnet Cleaning

See page 4 for details

Faster, cost efficient
Contains soil repellant technology
Low Moisture, dries quickly
Carpet back into service quickly

Rescue Cleaning

See page 5 for details

Cleans carpets that were neglected
Most aggressive cleaning
Keeps carpets from being replaced

Carpet Spotting

See page 6 for details

Cleans spots in small areas

Must allow spotted areas to dry before opening to traffic
Conventional Carpet Cleaning System consists of four procedures for maintaining carpets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Products</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Daily</td>
<td>Vacuuming</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Daily/Weekly(as needed)</td>
<td>Carpet Spotting</td>
<td>Carpet Spotter, Bio-Power, X-Ray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Interim Cleaning</td>
<td>Encapsulation or bonnett</td>
<td>ECO₂</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Monthly to Annual**</td>
<td>Extraction</td>
<td>Extraction or 007DC Triple Play</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Defoamer</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

** The frequency at which these methods are employed depends on traffic levels and the type and amount of soil tracked into the building. Entryway matting can reduce the levels of soil considerably.

1. VACUUMING
Purpose: Vacuuming is the most important step to clean and prolong the life of carpet. Sand and grit can fall to the base of the carpet and, as the carpet is walked on, abrade or cut the fibers. Frequent vacuuming reduces the amount abrasive soil and dust in the carpet.

2. CARPET SPOTTING
Purpose: Foreign substances are often spilled or tracked onto carpet leaving stains which do not come out with normal cleaning. In these cases the stains must be treated with specialized spotting chemicals and techniques.
Equipment: Extractor or wet/dry vacuum.
Method: Use common practice Carpet Spotting Techniques.

3. INTERIM CLEANING
Purpose: Dramatically reduce downtime - return carpets to service is as little as 1 hour.
Chemicals: ECO₂ Encapsulating Carpet Cleaner.
Equipment: An orbital scrubber, low-speed rotary floor machine, spin bonnet and driver, pump-up or mechanical sprayer and mop bucket, carpet dryer (optional).

4. EXTRACTION CLEANING - Restorative
Purpose: Extraction is a deep cleaning method that uses a detergent solution to remove oily soil, many spots, grit, and particulate soil quickly without excess abrasion to the carpet. Because the spent cleaner is immediately vacuumed out of the carpet, detergent residues are minimized vs. other methods.
Chemicals: Triple Play and Extraction.
Equipment: Extractor, Carpet Dryer (optional).
Method: 1) Vacuum the carpet thoroughly with a vacuum cleaner or pile lifter. 2) Pre-spray heavy traffic lanes with Triple Play. Allow Triple Play to work for approximately 5 - 10 minutes to loosen soil. Do not allow Triple Play solution to dry. 3) Extract the carpet using Extraction diluted at 1 oz./gallon or Triple Play at 2 oz./gallon. 4) Allow carpet to dry completely before opening to traffic. A carpet dryer may be used to speed drying.

Tip: Neutralizing rinse for carpet: After multiple cleaning cycles, carpet fibers can become stiff, especially when hard water is used in the extraction process. Using Back to 7 in the solution tank when extracting (do not use with other cleaners) to neutralize hard water and detergent residue.
**Encapsulation Cleaning System-Interim**

The **Encapsulating Cleaning System** is a low moisture system that encapsulates soil for easy removal and no residue left on the carpets. Hydrogen peroxide supplies oxygen (O₂) to help destroy odors and power out soils, leaving carpets looking and smelling fresh. Fresh and clean carpets are faster and easier than ever before.

**Here’s how it works...**

1. Soil particles and greasy dirt attach to carpet fibers.
2. **ECO₂** surrounds and encapsulates dirt and soil.
3. Vacuuming breaks up encapsulated soils and detergent for easy pick-up.

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**The Benefits**

**Encapsulation of Soils:** Clean carpets that stay clean longer - encapsulation technology uses a crystalline polymer that surrounds soils and detergent residues. When the carpet dries, the brittle polymer fractures, creating residue that is easy to vacuum, leaving carpets virtually free of contaminants. That means no rapid re-soiling of the carpet. Contaminate free carpet means NO sticky residue that can promote re-soiling.

**Low Moisture:** Dramatically reduce downtime - return carpets to service is as little as 1 hour. Use a cylindrical brush machine equipped with nylon brushes or a conventional floor machine with a carpet brush, or bonnet to work the encapsulating solutions into the carpet.

**Fresh Carpets:** Oxygen attacks stains and freshens carpets - odor causing bacteria, mold and mildew, can proliferate in carpets under the right conditions, causing malodors. The oxygen allows for color safe bleaching of stains and the ability to destroy odors in carpets so that they look and smell clean.

**Chemicals:** ECO₂ Encapsulating Carpet Cleaner, VaMoose Encapsulating Spotter.

**Equipment:** An orbital scrubber (i.e.ROS-17), low-speed rotary floor machine, spin bonnet and driver, pump-up or mechanical sprayer and mop bucket, cylindrical brush machine (i.e. Port-A-Scrub), carpet dryer (optional).

**Method:**
1. Vacuum carpet thoroughly.
2. Apply the solution to carpet, working in small sections at a time. Mix ECO₂ with water at 1:10 (12 oz/gal) in a low pressure pump up sprayer. One gallon of diluted product covers approximately 800 - 1,000 square feet.
3. Allow to stand 2-5 minutes, then agitate with an orbital scrubber or counter rotating cylindrical brush machine using soft nylon (black) brushes. Alternative: a floor machine equipped with a pre-moistened spin bonnet can also be used. Allow carpet to dry 30-60 minutes before opening to traffic.
4. Vacuum floor as time permits.
Spin Bonnet System-Interim

This system consists of three different levels of maintenance and leaves a stain repellent on the carpet at the time that it is being cleaned to resist oily staining.

The frequency at which the methods are employed depends on the traffic and soil levels. Normally the carpet is deep cleaned with Extraction Cleaner to start the program. It is then spin-bonneted periodically, as often as needed to maintain a consistently high level of appearance. After bonneting several (3 - 4) times, the carpet is then deep cleaned with Extraction Cleaner to begin the process again.

The Benefits

**Remove Surface Soils:** Spin bonnet cleaning using SpinShield will help remove soils that are adhered to the top portion of carpet fibers.

**Low Moisture:** SpinShield system uses less water allowing for fast drying and quick return to service.

**Repels Dirt:** Spinshield has a built in soil repellant making carpet less prone to re-soiling.

1. VACUUMING
   **Purpose:** This step is important to clean and prolong the life of the carpet. Pieces of sand and grit can fall to the base of the carpet fibers and, as the carpet is walked on, abrade or cut the fibers. Frequent vacuuming reduces the amount of grit and removes the particulate dirt and dust in the carpet.
   **Equipment:** Upright Vacuum

2. SPIN-BONNET CLEANING
   **Purpose:** Regular spin-bonnet cleaning with SpinShield cleans carpet to maintain a consistently high level of appearance and treats the carpet with an advanced stain repellent to resist oily stains.
   **Chemicals:** SpinShield, (optional Pre-Treat or Triple Play can be used in place of Spinshield).
   **Equipment:** A low-speed rotary floor machine, spin bonnet and driver, pump-up or mechanical sprayer and mop bucket, carpet dryer (optional)
   **Method:**
   1) Vacuum the carpet thoroughly.
   2) Pre-spray carpet until slightly moistened with a solution of SpinShield 4 oz. per gallon. Pay particular attention to traffic lanes. Allow solution to loosen soil for approximately 10 - 15 minutes.
   3) Soak a bonnet in a solution of SpinShield diluted at 2 oz. per gallon of water for 10 minutes. Wring out bonnet thoroughly. Start another bonnet soaking.
   4) Bonnet the carpet, turning the bonnet over as often as needed, depending on the soil load in the carpet. When both sides of the bonnet have been used, return it to the mop bucket and exchange it for a fresh bonnet.
   5) Allow the carpet to dry completely before opening the area to traffic. A Carpet Dryer may be used to accelerate drying.
   **Note:** Pre-Treat (20 oz/gallon) and Triple Play (16 oz/gallon) can be used for bonnet cleaning.
Rescue Cleaning System

**Purpose:** This is an aggressive, heavy-duty cleaning method for use on heavily soiled and matted-down carpet in areas such as traffic lanes, landings, entryways, etc., when other methods have proven insufficient. It is effective because it combines the aggressive cleaning power of Pretreat and a rotary brush scrubbing with the rinsing feature of extraction. This method is normally used on heavily soiled, matted-down areas at the same time the rest of the floor is extraction cleaned.

**Chemicals:** Pre-Treat, Defoamer, and Extraction.

**Equipment:** A low speed rotary floor machine with solution tank and shower-feed nylon brush, or, cylindrical brush machine with nylon brush, hot water extractor, and carpet dryer (optional).

**Method:**
1) Police the area carefully for litter and check for loose strands of carpeting.
2) Vacuum carpet thoroughly with a pile lifter or vacuum cleaner.
3) Pre-spray areas to be cleaned with Pre-Treat and allow to work for approximately 10 minutes.
4) Shampoo carpet using a low speed rotary floor machine and a nylon brush.
5) Extract the carpet using clear water in the extractor. Before extracting, add a solution of 4 oz. Defoamer in 1 quart of warm water to the extraction recovery tank. Do not add Defoamer to the solution tank or the carpet.
6) Allow carpet to dry completely before opening the area to traffic. A carpet dryer can be used to accelerate this process.

Green Carpet Maintenance

**Purpose:** This Green Carpet Maintenance System containing specialized carpet cleaners formulated to remove a wide assortment of soil from commercial and institutional carpeting using environmentally responsible products.

**Certified chemicals:** ECO2, 007 Double O Seven

**Equipment:** CRI seal of approval on vacuums insures proper filtration of particulates and quiet operation. A low-speed rotary floor machine, spin bonnet and driver, pump-up or mechanical sprayer and mop bucket, Port-A-Scrub, carpet dryer (optional)

**Spotting:** Use Multi-Task 007HD Double O Seven (orange label), or Double-O-Seven diluted 6-10oz/gallon

**Pre-spray:** Use Multi-Task 007HD Double O Seven (orange label), or Double-O-Seven diluted 6-10oz/gallon

**Encapsulating Cleaning:** Use ECO2 at 1:10

**Extraction:** Use Multi-Task 007DC Double O Seven (blue label), or Double-O-Seven diluted 1oz/gallon
**Carpet Spotting**

**Chemicals:** Carpet Spotter, X-Ray, Bio-Power Plus, Triple Play, VaMoose.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spotter</th>
<th>Use On</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carpet Spotter</td>
<td>Greasy Soils, Dirt, Unknown Stains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X-Ray</td>
<td>Beverage Stains, Coffee, Tea, Wine, Colas, Sports Drinks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bio-Power Plus</td>
<td>Urine, Feces, Rotting Garbage, Vomit, Blood, Food, Dairy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Play</td>
<td>Urine, Feces, Blood, Vomit, Sweat, Food, Dairy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VaMoose</td>
<td>Yellow stains from urine and other bodily fluids. Greasy food stains, tomato based stains including ketchup, BBQ and spaghetti sauce.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Spotting Techniques**

1. Use only enough spotter to wet, do not soak stained area.
2. Use brush to work chemical into stain and agitate the stained carpet. Do not use carpet brush to brush across carpet - damage to fibers may occur.
3. After a stain has been loosened with a spotting chemical, it should be rinsed from the carpet by extraction. Clear water should be used in the extractor. If an extractor is not available, clear water can be sprayed on the carpet and vacuumed out with a wet/dry vacuum. If a wet/dry vacuum is not available, a white terry-cloth towel can be used to blot the liquid out.

**Tips & Tricks**

**Heat transfer method for stubborn stains or dyes.**

**Equipment:** Spotting chemical, white bath size towel, steam iron, extractor or wet/dry vacuum.

1. Apply spotting chemical generously to stain.
2. Place dry towel, folded in fourths over stain.
3. Add water to iron, allow iron to heat to cotton setting.
4. Move iron over towel to activate heating process.
5. Inject steam into towel.
6. Check towel for stain wicking into it.
7. Reposition towel to expose clean surface, continue with iron.
8. Optional, while area is still warm, extract with hot water or use wet/dry vac while applying warm water. Caution: Do not apply hot iron directly on carpet.

**Urine stain removal for residual urine odors.**

To effectively remove urine residues and lingering odors from carpet, one has to employ some strategies. First, if you don’t know where the original odor source / stain is lurking, a simple black light can identify the accident areas. Turn out the lights and turn on the black light to illuminate the urine residues. Next consider that bacteria need a food source, moisture, and moderate temperatures to survive and thrive. This doesn’t happen instantly, so time is an important factor. Here’s the procedure:

- Isolate the affected areas if possible.
- Pre-wet the area by spraying with plain water.
- Apply an enzyme / microbe containing product such as **Bio-Power Plus.**
- Use a spotting brush to help the product penetrate to the base of the carpet fibers.
- If possible, place a damp towel over the area to keep it moist.
- A carpet syringe can be used to inject spotter underneath the carpet backing.
**Back To 7 Neutralizer**, is a mild acid formula that neutralizes alkaline residues, removes browning and de-icing salt residues from carpets and hard surface floors.

**Bio-Power** breaks down and consumes urine stains and their resulting malodors. Will not harm carpeting. Use on all types of carpet where pet stains or urine odors are a problem. Well suited for use in hospitals, nursing homes, childcare centers, residential.

**Carpet Spotter** is a general carpet spotter for use on a variety of stains, including grease and oils. It may be used alone or in conjunction with extraction or shampooing. It is also recommended if the identity of the stain is unknown. It dries to a non-sticky residue to prevent increased carpet resoiling.

**Defoamer** is a silicone based defoaming compound for use in the recovery tank of all extraction equipment. It is particularly useful with the Shampoo/Extraction method or when extracting carpet that has been previously cleaned with high foam shampoos.

**ECO₂ Encapsulating Cleaner** uses a crystalline polymer that surrounds soils and detergent residues. When the carpet is dry, the brittle polymer fractures, creating residue that is easy to vacuum, leaving carpets virtually free of contaminates. Contaminate free carpet means NO sticky residue that can promote re-soiling, allowing carpet to stay clean longer.

**Extraction** is a concentrated, low foaming detergent for extraction cleaning. It is formulated from a blend of surfactants, mild detergent builders, solvents, an optical brightener and additives for use on commercial and residential carpeting, including stain resistant nylon. This product does not leave a sticky residue behind.

**Odor-Out** is a concentrated deodorant with a pleasant aroma. It may be used as a room deodorant spray or added to the carpet detergent.

**Pre-Treat** is formulated to pre-spray heavily soiled traffic lanes prior to extraction or shampooing and is also used for spin bonnet cleaning. It is formulated with surfactants, detergent builders and cleaning solvents to loosen greasy soil.

**SpinShield** is a dual purpose, spin-bonnet detergent that cleans and treats the carpet in one step. In addition to effective cleaning agents, it contains an advanced soil repellent to protect the carpet from petroleum and vegetable oil stains. It is used in conjunction with ExtracShield in the Carpet Shield System.

**Triple Play** is a multi-functional cleaner fortified with enzymes and microbes to counteract malodors in carpet. Triple Play was designed with three different carpet cleaning tasks in mind: extraction (2oz/gallon), pre-spray (16oz/gallon), and spotter (straight).

**Vamoose** uses a crystalline polymer that surrounds soils and detergent residues. When the carpet is dry, the brittle polymer fractures, creating residue that is easy to vacuum, leaving carpets virtually free of contaminates. Contaminate free carpet means NO sticky residue that can promote re-soiling, allowing carpet to stay clean longer.

**X-Ray** safe to use on olefin, nylon and wool carpets. The peroxide will remove brighten and deodorize spots and stains. Use on pet and beverage stains.