

## HOW TO KEEP YOUR OUTDOOR AREA RUGS LOOKING GREAT!



Outdoor rugs generally require little maintenance. Synthetic rugs are non-porous making them stain-resistant and ideal for outdoor spaces. These rugs are made to dry quickly, resist fading, and clean easily. However, to get the most life out of your outdoor area rug it doesn't hurt to do some regular maintenance. Here are some tips on keeping your rug looking like new.

# Store The Rug When It Is Not In Use.

- o If your backyard is going to be covered in snow for months at a time, roll up your rug and store it inside instead. If you lack storage space for a large rug, roll it up, cover it with a plastic painting tarp, and secure it with bungee cords. You can prop it up in the corner of a yard or deck without worrying about damage.



# Clean It Monthly

- Stains and Spills: If a new spill occurs (and lets face it, it will!) use a dry cloth to blot the excess that's on top of the rug. Make sure not to rub with the cloth to prevent pushing the substance further in to the fibers. If it is a large spill, you can use your garden hose to thoroughly rinse the rug. If you choose this method, make sure to place the rug where it will have direct sunlight to completely dry the outdoor rug.
- Area rugs attract a lot of dirt, especially if they are outside. To clean yours easily, mix a solution of dish soap and water in a bucket. Then, scrub the rug using a large nylon brush. Make sure to clean both sides of the rug to get all the dirt off. After you've scrubbed it, rinse the rug with a hose. It's best to rinse the rug on a sloped surface, like your driveway, so the water can drain away.



- Vacuum: To keep your outdoor rug looking its best, regular vacuuming is key. Vacuuming the rug will keep dirt from settling into the fibers and limits the ability for mold to grow. Mold cannot grow on synthetic rugs but it can grow on the dirt within the rug fibers.

# Dry The Rug In Sunlight To Prevent Mold



- Indoor/Outdoor Rugs are rug made completely from synthetic fibers. This type of rug is made to last in wet, outdoor conditions and since it's completely synthetic. They are easy to clean and resists mold. To ensure that your area rug stays free of mold growth after washing, hang it over a porch railing in the sunlight. If you don't have a railing, lay the rug out in the sun to dry and flip it over to make sure both sides dry thoroughly.



# Remove moss regularly

- Synthetic rugs are typically resistant to mold, but they can still grow moss or algae if left to dry in damp, humid weather. Bleach is a quick solution for killing growth on outdoor rugs, but it's not the most environmentally friendly option and can remove color. If you have children who play on the carpet or pets, stick to using a diluted vinegar-and-water mixture and scrubbing thoroughly with a brush. Press a dry towel on the spot to soak up extra moisture and let the spot air-dry before using the rug.



# Follow These Simple Tips For A Long Lasting and Beautiful Outdoor Rug

- Blot spills immediately with a white cloth.
- Only spot clean your rug.
- Avoid harsh chemicals, as they may fade your rug.
- Rinse thoroughly with a garden hose, and allow the carpet to dry completely before vacuuming.
- Vacuum regularly and/or shake to remove dust.
- Use rug protectors under heavy furniture.
- If needed, get your rug professionally cleaned. Try doing this at the end of every season at a minimum.
- If your rug is outside in rain or heavy dew, make sure to flip it so it can dry both front and back.
- When the outdoor entertaining season is through, make sure your rug is dry. Then roll it up and store in a covered area to avoid fading.

