HOW TO CLEAN AN AREA RUG

Area rugs can be made from a variety of yarns or a blend of yarns and materials. Read the label on your rug and follow any special cleaning instructions and precautions provided by the manufacturer.

**BRUSHING/SWEEPING**

Brushing is the best way to remove stubborn pet hairs that have embedded themselves in the fibers of your rug. For rugs that are relatively easy to handle, bring them outdoors and shake vigorously to remove excess debris. Hang dry over an outdoor railing and beat with the back of a broom. For rugs that are difficult to handle, such as those on hand-knotted rugs, use a broom to clean the sides instead of placing it on a wooden deck or stone surface. Sheepskin is naturally dirt repellent, water resistant and sturdy, but proper maintenance is still necessary to keep your rug looking its best and feeling soft.

**BEATING**

For rugs that are relatively easy to handle, bring them outdoors and shake vigorously to remove excess debris. Hang dry over an outdoor railing and beat with the back of a broom. For rugs that are difficult to handle, such as those on hand-knotted rugs, use a broom to clean both sides instead of placing it on a wooden deck or stone surface. Sheepskin is naturally dirt repellent, water resistant and sturdy, but proper maintenance is still necessary to keep your rug looking its best and feeling soft.

**VACUUMING**

Vacuuming the rug and underneath the rug is the most constructive way to remove dirt from the fibers of your rug. For rugs that are easy to handle, bring them outdoors and shake vigorously to remove excess debris. Hang dry over an outdoor railing and beat with the back of a broom.

**DIRECTIONAL VACUUMING**

Direct vacuuming will significantly extend the life of area rugs. For those in lesser tread-upon locations, rotational vacuuming is recommended. For rugs placed in high traffic areas of the home, office or workplace, vacuum 1-2 times per week in the same direction. Excessive shedding, vacuum your rug 1-2 times per week in the same direction. Avoid vacuuming the fringes of your rug, especially those on hand-knotted rugs. Use a broom to clean the sides instead of placing it on a wooden deck or stone surface. Sheepskin is naturally dirt repellent, water resistant and sturdy, but proper maintenance is still necessary to keep your rug looking its best and feeling soft.

**DIRECT SUNLIGHT**

Direct sunlight will cause the colors in your area rug to fade over time. Keep out of the sunlight. UV rays will cause the wool to deteriorate. Avoid vacuuming the fringes of your rug, especially those on hand-knotted rugs. Use a broom to clean the sides instead of placing it on a wooden deck or stone surface. Sheepskin is naturally dirt repellent, water resistant and sturdy, but proper maintenance is still necessary to keep your rug looking its best and feeling soft.

**WATER SPILLS**

Act quickly following a spill to keep a permanent stain from setting into your rug. Gently scrub and let sit. Vacuum up the remaining foam. For harder to remove stains, professional rug cleaning is recommended.

**SUSPENDED SPILLS**

If you get a stain, dampen the area and cover it with a damp rug. For lighter stains or spills on synthetic yarns, sponge with cold water and mild detergent. For harder to remove stains, professional rug cleaning is recommended. For pet stains, make sure you have absorbed all remaining moisture with a dry cloth. Sprinkle baking soda over the affected area. After about five minutes, spray a solution mix on the affected area. Blot with a clean damp cloth and a mild cleanser. For tough stains, use the stain solution suggested above and gently apply the foam to the stained area with a clean cloth. Finely scrub and let sit. Vacuum up the remaining foam. For harder to remove stains, professional rug cleaning is recommended.

**LIQUID SPILLS**

For liquid spills, blot up as much as possible. Then, sprinkle baking soda over the affected area. After about five minutes, spray a solution mix on the affected area. Blot with a clean damp cloth and a mild cleanser. For tough stains, use the stain solution suggested above and gently apply the foam to the stained area with a clean cloth. Finely scrub and let sit. Vacuum up the remaining foam. For harder to remove stains, professional rug cleaning is recommended.

**STAIN REMOVAL**

For pet stains, make sure you have absorbed all remaining moisture with a dry cloth. Sprinkle baking soda over the affected area. After about five minutes, spray a solution mix on the affected area. Blot with a clean damp cloth and a mild cleanser. For tough stains, use the stain solution suggested above and gently apply the foam to the stained area with a clean cloth. Finely scrub and let sit. Vacuum up the remaining foam. For harder to remove stains, professional rug cleaning is recommended.

**WASHING**

Washing area rugs is only recommended for those made of wool, acrylic, or nylon. Wash them following the recommendations on the manufacturer's label. Do not use alkaline laundry detergents. Normal wool wash will cause the leather backing to stiffen or even shrink. Cold water wash will cause the leather backing to stiffen or even shrink. Do not wash area rugs. The cotton warp and weft foundation of an area rug can breakdown when exposed to excessive humidity. Long term exposure to humid weather can be harmful to both sides instead of placing it on a wooden deck or stone surface. Sheepskin is naturally dirt repellent, water resistant and sturdy, but proper maintenance is still necessary to keep your rug looking its best and feeling soft.

**ROTATE THE RUG**

Rotating a rug every few months will help to evenly distribute any wear and tear. Area rugs placed in high traffic areas will wear faster than those in lesser tread-upon locations. Do not engage beater bars.

**SHEDDING**

Excessive moisture will cause the yarns to yellow. High heat can cause the rug yarns to melt. Do not pull "stray" loops. Always cut them back with scissors. Do not wash area rugs. The cotton warp and weft foundation of an area rug can breakdown when exposed to excessive humidity. Long term exposure to humid weather can be harmful to both sides instead of placing it on a wooden deck or stone surface. Sheepskin is naturally dirt repellent, water resistant and sturdy, but proper maintenance is still necessary to keep your rug looking its best and feeling soft.

**FRAGILE AREA RUGS**

Handle with care. Area rugs made of silk, wool, or other delicate materials should be vacuumed only with a low pressure vacuum cleaner. Do not use a beater bar. Do not wash area rugs. The cotton warp and weft foundation of an area rug can breakdown when exposed to excessive humidity. Long term exposure to humid weather can be harmful to both sides instead of placing it on a wooden deck or stone surface. Sheepskin is naturally dirt repellent, water resistant and sturdy, but proper maintenance is still necessary to keep your rug looking its best and feeling soft.

**VISCOSE RUGS**

Viscose rugs should be vacuumed only with a low pressure vacuum cleaner. Avoid using a beater bar. Always pull "stray" loops. Always cut them back with scissors. Do not wash area rugs. The cotton warp and weft foundation of an area rug can breakdown when exposed to excessive humidity. Long term exposure to humid weather can be harmful to both sides instead of placing it on a wooden deck or stone surface. Sheepskin is naturally dirt repellent, water resistant and sturdy, but proper maintenance is still necessary to keep your rug looking its best and feeling soft.

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**PROTECT FROM FURNITURE MARKS**

Keep table legs and furniture from resting directly on the rug. Use protective furniture pads. For plastic tables and chairs, avoid placing them directly on the rug. For plastic tables and chairs, avoid placing them directly on the rug. Do not pull "stray" loops. Always cut them back with scissors. Do not wash area rugs. The cotton warp and weft foundation of an area rug can breakdown when exposed to excessive humidity. Long term exposure to humid weather can be harmful to both sides instead of placing it on a wooden deck or stone surface. Sheepskin is naturally dirt repellent, water resistant and sturdy, but proper maintenance is still necessary to keep your rug looking its best and feeling soft.

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**CONTACT A PROFESSIONAL**

If you are unable to remove a stain or spill from your area rug, contact a professional rug cleaner. They have the experience and expertise to handle any situation.

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**FLATTENING AND REMOVING CREASES**

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