

StyleWell.

Using a Rug Pad

Every rug, indoor or outdoor, needs a rug pad. Rug pads add comfort, cushion and durability. They prevent slippage, keeping your rug in place when it is being walked on or vacuumed. They protect your floor and carpet from color transfer, marring and staining. They also help outdoor rugs dry more quickly. Be sure to choose the rug pad that is right for your floor. Some rug pads are designed for hard surfaces, while others work on both hard surfaces and carpet.

Vacuuming

Take extra care when vacuuming your rug. High-powered suction vacuums can damage rug fibers. Invasive beater bars should also be avoided. If you cannot remove or turn off your vacuum's beater bar, use the highest setting.

To avoid damage to your rug's binding and stitching, lift your vacuum over the edges of your rug rather than rolling over them. To vacuum fringe, use a handheld attachment.

Spot Cleaning

Spot clean spills immediately. First, gently scrape up any solid material with a spoon or similar implement. Do not use anything with a sharp edge. Next, blot with a clean white cloth. Do not rub, as this will force the spill into the carpet. If there is a stain or if a deeper cleaning is needed, consult a professional rug cleaner.

Professional Cleaning

Always use a professional rug cleaner to clean your rugs. How frequently a cleaning is required depends on how much traffic your rug sees. A general rule of thumb is once per year. Rugs in less-used rooms such as dining rooms or bedrooms may require fewer cleanings, while rugs in entryways and main living spaces may require more.