

## PROFESSIONAL CARPET CLEANING MAINTENANCE & TIPS

1. Daily vacuuming is one of the most important parts of a good carpet cleaning and maintenance program. Upright vacuums out-perform canister tank vacuums, generally because they add mechanical action to the suction power of the vacuum motor. This mechanical action opens the carpet fibres allowing for more soil to be removed from the second and third dimension of the carpet.
2. Two-motor and three-motor upright carpet vacuums out-perform single motor upright carpet vacuums, however, the two-motor and three-motor vacuums are designed for straight line push vacuuming and therefore, are best for open, uncontested carpeted areas. Single-motor upright carpet vacuums are usually very lightweight vacuums and are commonly sashayed back and forth over the carpet surface. If a two or three-motor upright carpet vacuum were used in the same manner as a single-motor upright, the operator would become fatigued very quickly.
3. A carpet pile lifter is a fantastic carpet maintenance and grooming machine. A very aggressive brush loosens deeply embedded dry soil and removes it with a separate high performance vacuum motor. Use against the lay/grain of the carpet, incorporating the use of a carpet pile lifter in a carpet maintenance program will improve the overall appearance of the carpet dramatically and extend the requirement for interim and restorative wet carpet cleaning procedures.
4. To maintain a high appearance standard on carpeting, a daily spot and stain removal program must be implemented. Most spots can be removed with a solution of ES88 and water.
5. Vacuum filters must be cleaned and maintained frequently if the full value and efficiency of the vacuum is to be realized. Never wash a mohair filter with water as it can plug the pores in the filter reducing the airflow. Clean and empty permanent filter bags as and when necessary to ensure that the maximum airflow is provided. Do not overfill disposable paper filter bags. If possible, choose a top-loading filter, be it a permanent or disposable type, for upright carpet vacuum cleaners.
6. Ensure that electrical carpet cleaning equipment is in good and safe condition. Frayed electrical cords, broken or missing ground plugs, etc., can lead to damage to the equipment, the building site, and jeopardize the operator's personal safety.
7. When carpet sprouts are noticed in a carpet, trim them off immediately before the carpeting unravels any further than it already is. These sprouts can also cause a trip hazard.
8. When choosing any carpet cleaning chemical, ensure that it dries to a 'Friable Ash'. Carpet cleaning chemicals that leave residuals in the carpet will contribute greatly to serious resoiling problems thus very quickly reducing the appearance of newly cleaned carpets.
9. Always read MSDS Sheets and chemical labels before using any chemicals and observe the safety requirements. Ensure that decanted chemicals bear proper Work Place labels that are accurate and legible.
10. Be sure to carefully follow label dilutions and directions at all times as noted.
11. Never mix cleaning chemicals. Mixing chemicals improperly could lead to poor quality work, harm to the carpet surface, and possible injury or a serious health hazard to the user or others.
12. Provide adequate Walk Off mats at all entrances. Clean mats frequently to reduce the soil that is walked onto a carpet. If sand mats are used, shake out sand at least daily. Vacuum, flush rinse, and extract nylon, polyester, or olefin absorbent matting frequently.

13. Always clean equipment after use. Clean equipment will function better and will extend the life of the equipment. Dried-on soil can be very hard to remove.
14. Always check inventory levels of any chemicals and custodial hardware needed prior to any major carpet cleaning procedure. Order the materials needed in advance of the planned project work.