

# Cleaning and Maintenance

# Carpet Tiles

## Preventative Maintenance

It is said that placing soil control matting at entrances, landings of escalators and elevators, foyers and hallways, can prevent more than 80% of soil from being brought into a building. In other words, for preventative maintenance, using a soil control mat is extremely effective.

## Chair Mats

Desk chairs or trolleys with rollers or castor wheels can be damaging to carpet tiles. For this reason, good quality chair pads are recommended, to allow free movement of the chair whilst providing protection to the carpet,

## Daily Maintenance

Vacuum the carpet on a daily basis. Upright vacuum cleaners that come with brushes are suitable for everyday use. Rotating brushes beat the pile and removes soil, dust and particles. Prompt treatment of stains is recommended, because more work will be required to remove stains if they become old.

Vacuuming more than once a day is recommended so that new stains can be detected. Please refer to the spot cleaning method mentioned on the next page for further details. If there are any sprouting piles, clip them with scissors.

## Regular maintenance (Once in 2-3 months)

In addition to daily maintenance, if you regularly clean the carpet with a powder method, you will be able to maintain the beautiful surface of the carpet. This method is effective and convenient, because it does not wet the carpet piles so that you do not have to block traffic. This method is to apply absorbent compounds onto the carpet and vacuum the compound along with the dirt on the carpet.

Bonnet method, which uses cotton pad with cleaning solution, is also convenient, because this does not require much water, dries quickly and does not block traffic.

## Deep Cleaning for Persistent Stains (Once or twice a year)

When the two methods mentioned above became ineffective to completely clean the piles, the remaining stains mostly consist of greasy or adhesive substances, which are unable to be removed by ordinary vacuuming. Usually, vacuuming only cleans the surface of the piles. For solving this problem, a shampoo cleaning method is recommended. Since this is a wet cleaning method, this must not be used on the carpet, which has electric wiring underneath, and sufficient drying time has to be taken into account.

- Hot Water Cleaning (Steam Cleaning)  
Heated detergent at a high temperature with high pressure is injected into the carpet piles, and then the liquid, which contains dirt, will be immediately extracted. This method leaves the least amount of detergent in the pile. (If detergent is not properly removed, this may darken the carpet)
- Rotary Brush Cleaning (Shampoo Cleaning)  
With this method, the most stubborn stains can be removed.  
Caution: Please beware that when the cleaning equipment washes a large area continuously for many hours, the equipment might be damaged due to friction between its brush and the surface of the carpet.  
Be careful not to operate the cleaner for too long at a time.

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## Spot Cleaning Method

When you detect any stains or blots, identify the cause of the stains and treat them immediately by the following methods.

Cause	Cleaning Methods
Soy Sauce / Worcester Sauce	Soak up the sauce with cloth or tissue as much as possible, then wipe with cloth dipped in warm, diluted neutral detergent. If the stain is persistent, scour with a brush. For old stains, wipe with hydrogen peroxide solution.
Mud	Wait until the mud dries out, and then sweep thoroughly with soft brush. Moisten the dirt with warm thin neutral detergent and wipe off.
Chewing Gum	Roll and pick up the chewing gum as much as possible, and apply ice cubes onto the remainder to harden it, and remove it.
Blood	Blot the bloodstain with tissue and wipe with hydrogen peroxide solution.

The following explains how to treat nursing-care-related stains.

Cause	Cleaning Methods
Urine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wipe immediately with salt water or diluted nitric acid or a mixture of alcohol and acetic acid, and then wipe thoroughly with diluted neutral detergent.</li> <li>Wipe immediately with cold water, and then wipe with hot towel that has been dampened with a solution of detergent containing glycol ethyl ether.</li> <li>When the stain is persistent, detach the affected tile carpet from the floor, wash it with brush and neutral detergent, rinse with running water and dry it in the shade.</li> </ul>
Stool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wipe immediately with salt water, and then wipe with 5% ammonia water, finish up with warm thin detergent.</li> <li>If the stool is too soft, sprinkle white powder on it such as salt, ash or powdered cleanser and remove it along with the powder by brush, and then wipe with cold water.</li> <li>When the stain is persistent, detach the affected tile carpet from the floor, wash it with brush and neutral detergent, rinse with running water and dry it in the shade.</li> </ul>

*Never use bleach to clean piece-dyed carpet*

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