

# Smartstrand Cleaning Guidelines

## A) Stain Removal

Please contact the fiber producer prior to any cleaning attempts. The use of non-approved cleaning methods or agents will void your stain protection warranty.

- Treatment of the affected area should begin immediately upon discovery. The more time that elapses before treatment, the more difficult a stain will be to remove.
- First, scrape food spill gently with a spoon or dull knife, removing as much solid material as possible.
- Try to remove stains with warm water only. If stain cannot be removed with a warm wet cloth, or warm water extraction, apply a low-residue carpet spot remover with the Carpet and Rug Institute Seal of Approval to the stain.
- Working from outer edge toward the center to avoid spreading. Blot with a clean cloth or paper towel. Do not rub or scrub. Continue to spray and blot until the stain is gone. Do not over-saturate carpet; use small amounts of solution and blot frequently.
- Important: Do not use any cleaner with a pH of 10 or higher. Before using, always test cleaners on a small, non-visible area for any discoloration of the pile.

- Abnormally large or excessive stains may require hot water extraction method. Professional cleaning is recommended.

- If stain returns—a condition known as “wicking”—simply repeat stain removal procedures, paying special attention to blotting and removal of all moisture.

## B) Regular Vacuuming

Most dirt, and even dust, takes the form of hard particles. When left in the carpet, these gritty, sharp particles abrade the pile of the carpet. Regular vacuuming not only prolongs the life of the carpet but will enhance its appearance as well. Most soiling in carpet is of the dry particle type, which can be removed with a vacuum cleaner.

- Vacuum high-traffic areas daily, medium-to-high traffic areas twice weekly, and the entire house at least once a week.
- Use a vacuum with a rotating brush or beater bar. Change the bags often and check the beater bars for burs and gouges to prevent damage to the surface of the carpet. However, please note that carpet with thick loop pile, and shag/cabled construction may become fuzzy or worn with use of a beater bar vacuum. Karastan recommends the use of a suction-only vacuum for these carpet constructions.

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## C) Additional Recommendations

- Use of mats or runners at all home entrances and on uncarpeted areas adjacent to carpet will reduce soil and moisture in traffic areas. Clean mats and any other rugs placed over carpet regularly.
- Karastan recommends using furniture coasters to distribute the weight of heavy items, especially on furniture with wheels. Use a protective barrier between the wheels and the carpet.
- To extend the beauty of your carpeting, close drapes or blinds during hours of direct sunlight.
- Exercise extreme caution with all bleaches, tile cleaners, mildew removers, oven cleaners, drain openers and plant food. These are strong chemicals that can permanently discolor or dissolve carpet fibers.

## D) Cleaning Recommendations

- Even with regular vacuuming, soil particles and oily dirt will cling to carpet fibers. Foot traffic drives these particles and dirt deep into the carpet. Karastan recommends professional hot water extraction every 12 to 18 months using cleaning products, equipment or systems that carry the Carpet and Rug Institute Seal of Approval. (Visit [www.carpet-rug.org](http://www.carpet-rug.org)

for a complete list of certified products.) Periodic cleaning by a certified carpet care professional using the hot water extraction method will refresh carpet appearance.

- The most-used areas — entrances, doorways, traffic lanes and in front of chairs—will collect dirt faster than other areas. Clean these areas as soon as they begin to show soil. This will stop dirt from spreading and will extend the time between professional cleanings.

### **Using a Cleaning Method Other Than Those Approved by the fiber producer Will Void Your Stain Protection Warranty.**

Your new Karastan carpet or rug represents a substantial investment and, like all fine furnishings, requires proper care to maintain its beauty. That is why we recommend that you follow this maintenance guide to protect your investment. Regular cleaning, with the right equipment, will prolong the life of your carpet and assure many, many years of enjoyment.

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# Smartstrand Cleaning Guidelines

Stain	Order of Treatment		
	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Alcoholic Beverages.....	1	2	–
Bleach.....	1	2	–
Blood.....	1	2	–
Butter.....	3	2	–
Candle Wax ††.....	–	–	–
Chewing Gum.....	4	3	–
Chocolate.....	2	3	–
Coffee.....	1	2	3
Colas and Soft Drinks.....	1	2	–
Cooking Oils.....	3	2	–
Cream.....	2	3	–
Egg.....	2	–	–
Floor Wax.....	3	2	–
Fruit Juice.....	1	2	–
Furniture Polish.....	3	2	–
Gravy and Sauces.....	5	2	3
Ink (Fountain Pen).....	1	2	–

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Stain	Order of Treatment		
	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Ink (Ball Point)	3	7	2
Ink (Felt Tip)	5	2	6
Ketchup	5	2	–
Lipstick	3	2	–
Mercurochrome	2	10	–
Milk	5	3	2
Mustard	2	–	–
Nail Polish	6	3	–
Oil and Grease	3	2	–
Paint (Latex)	1	2	3
Paint (Oil)	9	3	2
Rust	3	2	8
Salad Dressing	2	3	–
Shoe Polish	3	2	–
Soot	3	2	–
Tar	3	–	–
Tea	1	2	3

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Stain	Order of Treatment		
	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Urine (Fresh)	1	2	-
Urine (Old)	1	2	10
Vomit	2	-	-
Wine	9	1	2
Unknown Material	3	10	2

†† Absorbent paper and hot iron

You will need the following items for spot cleaning. The numbers are keyed to the stain, and all should be used in the recommended sequence. Some stains may require professional cleaning based on the age of the stain.

1. Cold water
2. Detergent solution
  - a. Mix one teaspoon of clear dishwashing liquid with a cup of warm (not hot) water.
3. Ammonia solution
  - a. Mix one tablespoon of clear household ammonia (3% solution) with 1/2 cup of water.
4. Solvent
  - a. A dry cleaning solvent (available at grocery, drug and hardware stores) such as Carbona or Energine
5. Ice
  - a. Chill with ice cubes in a plastic bag. Shatter residue, pick or scrape off and vacuum.
6. Vinegar solution
  - a. Mix 1/3 cup of white vinegar with 2/3 cup of water.
7. Warm water (not hot)
8. Clear nail polish remover (preferably acetone)

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9. Alcohol or methylated spirits mineral turpentine
10. Rust remover
11. Absorbent powder. (e.g., salt, talc or proprietary absorbent powders)
12. Absorbent cleaner. (e.g., Host®)

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