



DIY QuickDrop™ Cleaning and Maintenance Guide

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Regular Maintenance

Acoufelt QuickDrop™ carpet tiles are a very tolerant floorcovering and can be significantly soiled long before soiling is visibly evident to the naked eye. Controlling soil is a preventative concept which will keep soiling to a minimum and prevent the build-up of abrasive dirt which can damage the carpet. With tracked in and airborne soil accounting for 95% of the overall soil deposited on carpet, it follows that regular vacuuming is the most important component of regular carpet maintenance.

Vacuuming

Effective vacuuming should remove up to 80% of the soil present in carpets. A sturdy vacuum cleaner with strong suction and a revolving agitator bar, beater bar or brush usually yields the best results. For effective vacuuming follow these guidelines:

1. Select and use equipment that is suited to your installation and volume of traffic.
2. Use vacuum cleaners with efficient filtering systems to prevent the redistribution of fine particles.
3. Vacuum slowly and thoroughly, making three to five passes over an area.
4. Empty vacuum bags frequently (a bag 2/3 full reduces the vacuum efficiency by 50%).

Spot and Stain Removal

Most permanent stains can be avoided by immediate treatment. It is good housekeeping practise to keep a commercial spotting kit on hand, such as the Actichem Conquer & Conquer O2 for household use.

Stain removal steps:

1. Act quickly. When something has been spilt, take steps immediately to rectify it.

2. For liquid spills: Remove as much as possible with a wet vacuum cleaner or sponge. Blot small amounts with a clean white cloth or paper towel. Always work from the outside towards the centre.
3. For semi-solid spots: Remove as much surface material using a spoon, dull knife or scraper. Always work from the outside toward the centre.
4. For dry soil stains (sand, soot, etc.): Remove as much of the spot as possible using a vacuum cleaner.
5. Do not over-apply spotting solutions as this can result in premature re-soiling. It is good practice to apply the spotting solution to a cloth first rather than directly onto the carpet.
6. Always pre-test a spotting solution on an inconspicuous location before using it. Check for dye and fabric stability.
7. Never scrub or rub when spotting, only agitate using a taping or a blotting action to prevent fibre and pile distortion.

Professional Cleaning

Should you choose to outsource your carpet maintenances, Acoufelt are willing to assist with names and details of reputable cleaning companies. The effectiveness of any cleaning program depends on careful supervision, trained personnel and the usage of correct equipment and chemicals.

Wet-extraction

Wet-extraction cleaning should be performed by professional cleaners or by trained in-house staff. Ensure that the equipment used is of good quality and condition, that the chemicals are of a reputable brand, that the cleaner follows the AS/NZS 3733:1995 cleaning standard, and that the cleaner is certified by a known cleaning association (such as ACCI, NUCCA, IICRC). Acoufelt will be willing to provide details of the above mentioned recommendations and standards.

During the “wet-extraction” cleaning, ensure you:

1. Pre-inspect the carpet; noting badly soiled areas, spots and stains, and carpet damage. Pre-test the chemicals to be used in an inconspicuous location, checking for dye and fabric stability.
2. Thoroughly vacuum the area to be cleaned.
3. Follow standard carpet cleaning techniques applicable to the equipment being used. Normally this involves pre-spraying the entire carpet, or just the traffic-lanes, and rinsing out using an acid rinse or extraction detergent where heavy soil is encountered.
4. Treat any remaining spots or stains using appropriate spotting techniques and chemicals.
5. Provide maximum ventilation to dry the carpet as soon as possible after cleaning.
6. Keep traffic off the carpet until completely dry. Replace furniture using small plastic squares under the feet.