



Oahu (808) 529-0776

RUG CARE

The best way to keep a rug clean and long lasting is to keep it from getting dirty. Removing your outdoor shoes when you enter the house is an easy way to add years to the life of your rugs, and to decrease the expense of professional cleanings. The two enemies of wool rugs are moths and water, (the first is not a problem if the rug is in use). Do not place potted plants on rugs, as over-watering them repeatedly may cause a hole or other damage to the wool. Rotating a rug 180 degrees every year or two will help to even out the effects of sunlight and traffic. The use of non-skid rug pads is recommended when rugs are used on either hard surfaces or on wall-to-wall carpet.

Always remember to: Vacuum regularly and remove spills immediately

Basic Directions for Stain Removal

Removal of most common stains is easiest if attended to promptly. In the same way water rolls off a duck's feathers, the tight weave and fine quality wool of these hand-knotted rugs, keeps spills on top of the rug for quick blotting. This allows enough time to absorb spills with a towel and to blot the area with water or club soda.

For tougher stains try the following techniques in the listed order:

1. Remove excess soil promptly by blotting or scraping with a dull edge first. The back edge of a butter knife works well.
2. Flood spot or stain with water and blot. Repeat flooding and blotting until the stain disappears.

At this point, a choice can be made to use a home steam cleaner (not a rented one because there may be a chemical residue that would tend to strip the lanolin from your New Zealand wool. Lanolin is a natural "scotch guard" and every effort needs to be made to keep the lanolin in the wool.)

3. Mix in proportions of one teaspoon of a neutral detergent, (best choice is Woolite, or another mild detergent, liquid soap or shampoo containing no alkalis or bleaches), with one cup lukewarm water. Avoid harsh detergents or chemicals. Wool is a natural fiber and prefers gentle cleaning.
4. If continuing by hand, apply cleaning materials directly to the stain, but do not wipe the stain. Always blot gently with an absorbent, clean white cloth.
5. Avoid getting the carpet too wet. After cleaning, lift the carpet to allow air to circulate.
6. When dry, gently brush to restore pile, if necessary.
7. Some stains may be difficult to remove and you may need to repeat the process several times.
8. Some stains may be stubborn and must be removed with the help of a carpet cleaning professional. Drinks with dye in them (orange aide, fruit punch) may permanently dye the rug.

How to Determine if Your Rug Needs a General Professional Cleaning

1. While lifting a corner of the rug, kick the back of the rug briskly. If a cloud of dust results, the rug is dirty and needs cleaning.
2. If your hand becomes dirty after rubbing the pile vigorously for five to ten seconds, the rug needs cleaning.
3. With the pile facing you, fold a part of the rug back on itself so that the pile opens along a line of knots. Look down into the pile at the foundation of the rug. If the warp and weft look dirty, or if you can see dirt deep where the vacuum can't reach it, the rug needs cleaning.