

# Wool Rug Maintenance Guidelines

Thank you for your purchase of Engineered Floors high quality wool rugs. As with any flooring product, a proper and effective maintenance program will greatly extend the useful life and aesthetic quality of your investment.

Therefore, it is the intent of this document to provide information that will keep your wool rug looking its best.

A higher overall appearance level is best achieved by a scheduled approach to proper maintenance.

As with all flooring, a proper maintenance system is the key to protecting your investment and keeping your rugs looking great now and for the future.

## 1-Preventative maintenance:

85% of soil accumulation on the floor is introduced into inside spaces from foot traffic. Viable walk off mat or walk off tiles at all entrances or transitions from areas prone to collection of soil and debris are recommended to trap and hold contaminants before it is tracked into interior surfaces. At least 15 feet of clean walk off product is recommended. Note: Maintain/change out walk off material frequently.

## 2-Daily maintenance:

**VACUUMING:** The most important component in any maintenance program is vacuuming for removal of particulate granular particles. Engineered Floors recommends use of either a high air flow back pack type vacuum or an upright machine with high flow suction. When an upright machine is used, the equipment must include a height adjustment option. For use with wool rugs, the adjustment must be set to high. Vacuum using slow overlapping passes. Vacuuming should be done on a frequency schedule that best services your traffic load. This will produce the best aesthetic results. Note: dry soil accumulation is capable of damaging face fibers.

**SPOT REMOVAL:** Thoroughly vacuum your rug removing all loose soil or contaminants. For removal of light spots, first spray clean tap water onto the affected area. Using a terry towel or microfiber cloth, first blot in an attempt to remove the spot. Should this attempt not remove the spot, then use a wool safe spotter such as or equivalent to Whittaker Spotter [www.whittakersystem.com](http://www.whittakersystem.com). Use the spotter in conjunction with a soft brush, terry towel or micro fiber towel. Once 100% of the contaminant has been removed, there should be no transfer onto the towel.

(Removal may require more than one attempt.) Do not apply harsh solvent based chemistry or bleach based solutions to your rug as these are capable of causing permanent damage to the product.

**BIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS:** Quickly remove excess material using a terry towel to blot the contaminant. Extract using tap water with a portable mini extractor such as US Products Triple Spotter or Bissell Spotbot.

## 3-Interim Maintenance:

Mist diluted Whittaker Crystal Dry or equivalent wool safe solution onto the rug. Allow to dwell for 5 minutes. Next, agitation using a 10 inch or 15 inch Whittaker duo or trio machine is recommended. Use only soft white or gray brushes for interim maintenance of wool rugs. Stiff brushes may cause fraying or other damage to the wool face fiber. Fans will reduce dry time. Avoid walking on the rug until 100% dry.

## 4-Restorative maintenance:

This type of cleaning should be performed by a professional carpet/rug service provider. Make certain that all solutions intended for deep cleaning are rated wool safe. Do not over wet the rug. Fans will reduce dry time. Avoid walking on the rug until 100% dry.

**NOTE:** All solutions intended for maintenance of wool rugs must be rated wool safe and neutral PH. Do not use spin bonnets or similar. This type of rotary action can severely distort the face yarn. Hard surface cleaners should not be over sprayed onto the rug. These cleaners generally have a very high PH which may cause damage, leave residue, fading, color loss and or rapid re-soiling. If hard surface cleaner is applied to the rug by accident, rinse with tap water by blotting with a clean sponge or dry towel as soon as possible.

Resource for Whittaker Spotter, Whittaker Crystal Dry, 10 inch duo machine, 15 inch trio machine, white or gray brushes: [www.whittakersystem.com](http://www.whittakersystem.com) or 800-422 7686.

For additional information, please call Customer Relations at 800.241.4586.