

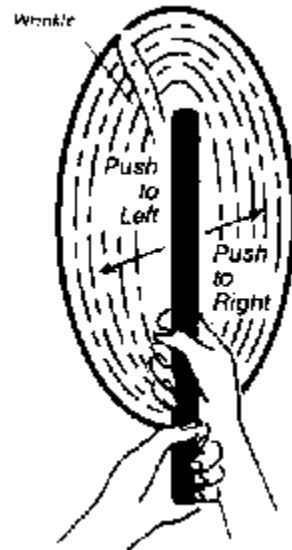
# Rug Care and Cleaning

You can expect years of beauty and enjoyment from a Capel braided rug when it is maintained properly. Home care is very important for any floor covering, and braided rugs may require some unique maintenance over the years, easily accomplished at home.

## UNROLLING

When first unrolled, a new braid may have a wrinkle or a bulge appear that prevents it from lying flat on the floor. This is common and is a result of being tightly rolled or folded during shipment.

The wrinkle is easily removed if the proper method is used. Lay the rug as flat as possible. Use a broom handle or similar pole and, starting in the center using a sweeping motion, push one half of the wrinkle to the left. Then push the remaining half of the wrinkle to the right side of the rug. Never push the entire wrinkle to one side or end of the rug; this only stretches the rug and may damage it.



## REVERSE AND ROTATE

Reverse and rotate braided rugs as they soil. This process will prolong the life of the rug by evenly distributing the traffic to both sides.

## SPROUTING

During initial use, excess sprouts of yarn may work their way to the surface of the rug. This is to be expected, and in no way lessens its wearability. These sprouts should be clipped off at the base with scissors. Do not pull the yarn out as this may result in damage to the rug.



## REPAIR

Only the strongest threads are used to stitch the braids together. Should these stitches become broken and cause braids to separate, the rug should be repaired immediately to prevent further separation. The rug can be restored to its original strength by using a simple whip stitch to repair it.

Start just before the damaged area and stitch the braids together. Extend the stitches just beyond the damaged area and then secure them with a knot. Try to duplicate the thread color and use the same size stitch originally used in sewing the braid.



## CLEANING

Vacuum regularly. Do not shake or beat the rug since this treatment could damage it. Clean spills immediately by blotting with a cloth or sponge. Remove any grease spots with ordinary dry cleaning solvents. To learn how to remove specific stains, view our printable

Professional or "in home" periodic cleanings using the power spray-extraction carpet cleaning method are recommended. Allow to dry flat on the floor. Clean one side at a time and allow it to dry before reversing to clean the other side.

## ALWAYS CHECK FOR COLORFASTNESS BEFORE CLEANING ANY RUG

Using a damp handkerchief, blot an area of the rug. If any dye comes off on the handkerchief, the dyes may run during cleaning.

## CHOOSE YOUR PROFESSIONAL CLEANER CAREFULLY

- Make sure the cleaner can afford an insurance claim should something go wrong.
- Get a signed receipt for the work to be done and a guarantee, if possible, that it will be done.
- Inspect the rug with the cleaner. Note existing stains and damage before it is cleaned.
- Be sure your cleaner knows how to clean your particular type of rug. Cleaning a Kelim, hand knot or braid is a lot different from cleaning wall-to-wall carpet!

## GENERAL CLEANING TIPS

As a general rule, the safest recommendation we offer regarding cleaning any type of rug is to have it done professionally using the steam extraction method.

The frequency of cleaning will vary according to the traffic a rug receives. Just like clothing, rug should not be cleaned either too often or too seldom. Caked on dirt is difficult to remove. Note that latex backed rugs (this includes almost all hand hooked rugs) must not be cleaned using petroleum based solvents. The solvents destroy the latex glue on the back of the rugs. The rug will lose its body and the pile will become loose when solvents are used for cleaning.

Reversible rugs should be turned over then around, like rotating a mattress. Once both sides are dirty, have both sides cleaned. Many customers claim that Scotch-guarding or applying a Teflon stain resistant product has helped their rugs stay cleaner, but be sure to apply it before the rug is used.

## REMOVING INDENTATIONS CAUSED BY FURNITURE

Pile depressions or indentations will be more apparent in some constructions than others, though most will indent with pressure. However, the manufacturer should not be held accountable for the condition. Please consult your dealer with any questions on this suggested remedy.

Think of the hair on your head. If you wake up from a night's sleep and your hair is all messed up and has lost its style from the previous day, you will not over-react and shave your head or hold your hairdresser responsible. You would probably realize the condition is resultant of pressure points on your hair and would probably either wash your hair or spritz it and then restyle. Rug fibers respond to pressure points and warm water similarly to human hair.

Capel recommends the above instructions except, instead of using your fingers to work the pile, try using an ordinary teaspoon from your kitchen to manipulate the pile to its upright position. Frequent vacuuming and rotating the placement of heavy furniture is always good advice and will contribute significantly to extending the beauty of any rug.

*Depressions - The weight of heavy pieces of furniture can put indentations in carpet. Use furniture glides or cups under the legs of heavy pieces, or move your furniture a few inches backward or sideways so that the weight is not concentrated in one place. If depressions do occur, spritz the indentations with water in a spray bottle. Hold a hair dryer, set on medium, a few inches above the indentation. As the spot is drying use your fingers to gently work the pile upright and in the opposite direction.*

Indentations or depressions in carpet and rugs are considered a normal occurrence and are not considered a manufacturing defect.

## Cleaning Guide

SPOT	METHOD
alcoholic beverage	3, 6, 5, 4, 8
bleach	3, 4, 8
blood	6, 3, 4 (cold), 7, 8
butter	1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 8
candle wax	2, 1, 8
catsup	3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8
charcoal	9, 3, 8
chewing gum freeze with ice, chip away, then...	1, 8
chocolate	1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 8
coffee/tea with cream and sugar	3, 5, 4, 7, 8
cosmetic	2, 1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8
crayon freeze with ice, chip away, then...	1, 8
food	3, 6, 4, 8
fruit juice	3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8
furniture polish (water base)	3, 4, 1, 6, 7, 8
furniture polish (solvent base)	2, 1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8
grass	2, 1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8
grease	1, 3, 4, 8
ink-ball point pen	2, 1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8
iodine	1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 8
kool-aid	9, 3, 5, 4, 7, 8
lipstick	2, 1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8
medicine	2, 1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8
milk	1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 8

mud	3, 4, 8
mustard	3, 5, 4, 7, 8
nail polish	2, 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8
oil	1, 3, 8
paint, latex	3, 6, 4, 7, 8
plant food	3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8
rust	5, 3, 4, 7, 8
shoe polish	2, 1, 3, 6, 4, 7, 8
soft drinks	3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8
tar	1, 7, 8
toothpaste	3, 5, 6, 4, 8
unknown	2, 1, 3, 5, 6, 4, 7, 8
urine, wet	3, 6, 5, 4, 8
urine, dry	3, 4, 5, 6, 8
vomit	3, 6, 5, 4, 7, 8

#### KEY TO CLEANING METHODS:

- |   |                     |  |
|---|---------------------|--|
| 1 | DRY CLEANING FLUID  | A nonflammable spot removal liquid available in grocery and hardware stores.     |
| 2 | NAIL POLISH REMOVER | Amyl Acetate - Often has a banana fragrance.                                     |
| 3 | DETERGENT SOLUTION  | Mix 2 cups water and 2 teaspoons mild liquid detergent (no lanolin, non-bleach). |
| 4 | WARM WATER          | Lukewarm tap water.  |
| 5 | VINEGAR SOLUTION    | One cup WHITE vinegar to two cups water.   |
| 6 | AMMONIA SOLUTION    | Two tablespoons household ammonia to one cup water.                              |

7	SPOT REMOVAL KIT	Available from retail carpet stores or professional cleaners.
8	CALL A PROFESSIONAL	If you cannot completely remove the spot.
9	VACUUM CLEAN	Vacuum thoroughly.

Spot Cleaning Guide © by The Carpet and Rug Institute, Dalton, GA.

Find the spot source in the first column and read across that row for the correct spot removal method to try. Continue using the first method until there is no longer a transfer of stain to the cleaning cloth. Try the first method suggested, then the second, and third, etc., until the spot is successfully removed. Note: Some spills contain chemicals that may discolor or even damage the rug fibers or dyes. If you have doubts about what caused the spot and how to remove it, contact a professional carpet cleaner.

### **SPOT CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS**

- Blot spills with a clean, white, absorbent cloth or paper towel. Never rub a spill; rubbing forces the spill deeper into the fibers.
- Remove any solids using a spoon or a blunt knife. Always work from the edge of the stain inward, and scrape in the direction of the pile whenever possible.
- Remove as much moisture from the spill as possible by blotting with a clean, white, absorbent cloth or paper towel.
- Try to remove any residual stain with clean, lukewarm water containing a small amount of carpet shampoo or mild dishwashing liquid.
- If water fails, a solvent can be used to effectively remove a spill. Always pretest the solvent on a small area of the rug by applying a few drops, then blotting with a clean, white, absorbent cloth or paper towel.
- Apply the solvent directly on the stain and work from the edges of the spot to the center with a spoon handle. Blot thoroughly with a white, absorbent cloth or paper towel until as much moisture as possible is absorbed. Repeat the process until the spot no longer transfers to the cleaning cloth, never over-wetting the stain.
- Use clean water to remove any residual cleaner, and absorb any remaining moisture with white paper towels. When dry, vacuum pile to restore texture.
- If you cannot completely remove the spill, send you rug to a reputable professional cleaner.
- Cleaning spills immediately can often prevent a stain from setting in. See the chart above for specific spills and their cleaning methods. Follow these directions for quick spot cleaning.