

WOOL RUGS (Hand-Knotted, Hand-Loomed, Flatweaves, Hand-Tufted and Hooked)

Handmade wool rugs should only be professionally cleaned by a rug cleaning specialist. Do not use the steam extraction method of cleaning as customary on wall to wall carpeting. The chemicals employed in this cleaning process are typically harsh and can damage the dyes used or even the fibers themselves as well as disintegrate the latex backing of tufted and hooked rugs. Spot clean with a mild liquid detergent and water. Rinse out with cold water. Use a hair dryer to dry the area cleaned to prevent water staining.

COTTON THROW RUGS (Rag Rugs, Chenille, Cotton Hand-Loomed)

Lightly vacuum on a regular basis with the vacuum agitator or beater bar turned off. These rugs are Dry Clean Only (not machine washable).

NATURAL RUGS (Seagrass, Sisal, Jute, Coir, Hemp)

Lightly vacuum on a regular basis with the vacuum agitator or beater bar turned off. Spot clean with water and use hair dryer to dry the area cleaned to prevent water staining.

***NOTE:** All rugs should be vacuumed **WITHOUT** using the beater bar/agitator. The advent of increasingly powerful vacuum cleaners (ie. Dyson and Shark brands) pose a hazard to many area rugs. The beater bar/agitator can easily pull yarns out of a rug or cause unraveling. The fringe on the end of rugs **SHOULD NOT BE** vacuumed.

GENERAL INFO

Every rug should have a rug pad placed underneath for safety purposes, to protect the foundation of the rug, and to protect the floor underneath from abrasion and color/dye transfer. We recommend rug pads for all natural rugs being placed on wooden floors (even those with a rubber latex backing). Newly finished wooden floors with a matte finish need 10-15 days to completely dry / “cure” before having a rug or rug pad put down. High gloss finished floors require 30 days.

All rugs exposed to direct or indirect sunlight will fade over time. Fading will be more pronounced with darker colored rugs. Also, heat is responsible for a significant degree of fading beyond light exposure. Bright rooms that are warmer than average will promote fading. Rugs placed in direct sunlight should ideally be rotated every 6 months to promote even fading.

Many handmade area rugs will experience something known as sprouting whereby over time some yarns of fiber will sprout up above the rest of the pile of the rug. This is perfectly normal and is in no way a product defect. A certain degree of sprouting is to be expected particularly in high traffic areas. Sprouting can easily be eliminated by simply trimming the sprout with scissors to be even with the surrounding pile. Rotating the rug periodically to even out wear and tear will also serve to minimize sprouting. Also, using a rug pad (which we always recommend) will help reduce sprouting.