

# Vacuuming

Carpet soil generally consists of 85% to 95% dry soil and 5% to 15% oily soils. Daily vacuuming can remove 85% to 95% of dry soil before it adheres to oily soil. This is important for carpet maintenance because dry soil is abrasive; when ground into your carpet, it hacks and cuts into carpet fibers, dulling carpet appearance and reducing its longevity.

As important as vacuuming is to good carpet, it is not always necessary to vacuum all carpeting on a daily basis. Many lightly trafficked areas need to be vacuumed only on an “as needed” basis or simply to lift the pile to give it a more luxurious look. Unnecessary vacuuming in lightly trafficked areas, where soil loads are low, wastes labor and lowers the cost-efficiency of your carpet care program.

It is always best to utilize a vacuum with sufficient suction to lift and clean the carpet pile. Vacuums with dual motors provide some form of agitation of the carpet fibers and should be utilized in areas where heavy traffic demands carpeting to be vacuumed daily. If you have less powerful vacuums in your equipment, separate them out for use on lightly trafficked areas.

Vacuum instructions:

- Remove loose debris that could become lodged in the pickup head of the vacuum.
- In offices, classroom, patient rooms, etc, easily moved furniture should be moved to one side of the room to allow clear access to at least half of the area to be vacuumed.
- Always vacuum in straight lines.
- Vacuuming should be performed at a slow walking motion allowing the vacuum to work the fibers and to help pull the vacuum forward, if using a upright vacuum.

Note: Studies have shown that utilizing a back pack vacuum can cover more area in less time than a standard upright vacuum.