

COMPREHENSIVE

CARPET INSTALLATION GUIDE



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Abstract

Carpet installation in homes across Perth provides significant benefits, enhancing both aesthetic appeal and functional comfort. In Perth's unique climate, carpets contribute to energy efficiency by maintaining warmth during cooler months, reducing heating costs. Additionally, carpets offer sound dampening qualities, creating a quieter and more serene living environment.

1. Introduction

The "Comprehensive Carpet Installation Guide" provides detailed instructions for installing carpet flooring, covering everything from selecting the right materials to mastering installation techniques in Perth. Designed for both novices and professionals, this guide ensures a seamless process, resulting in durable, aesthetically pleasing, and comfortable carpeted spaces.

2. How Much Does Carpet Installation Cost?

Carpet installation costs in Perth, on average, \$700 to \$2,000 to redo an area up to 200 square feet. Carpet material prices average \$2.50 per square foot, or \$10 per yard. Underneath padding costs about \$0.60 per square foot. Competitive flooring retailers offer free installation service with your carpet purchase.

Carpet Cost Per Square Foot and Yard

On average, carpet costs \$2.50 per square foot, and that price can range between \$0.65 and \$12 per square foot, or around \$10 per square yard. The price can vary depending on the material, weave and pile style. Read more about those below.

Carpet Tile Cost

Peel and stick carpet tile costs average \$2.25 per square foot. Commercial-use carpet tiles can range from as little as \$0.94 cents per 2 square feet to \$47 per square foot.

Carpet Cost Per Material

Carpet costs vary among retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers in Perth. For the best price, compare online catalogs with your local flooring showroom and flooring contractor. Wool, polyester, nylon and olefin are the most common carpeting options respectively. If you're unsure which material is right for your home, you can request free samples to compare at home.

Wool Carpet Cost

Wool carpeting is the most expensive fiber type, averaging \$7.50 per square foot. It's best for low- to moderate-traffic areas depending on the weave. Wool may be prone to color fading in direct sunlight. It quickly accumulates static and absorbs water, making it prone to mold and mildew. Cleaning and caring for this material may be more expensive too.

Polyester Carpet Cost

Polyester carpeting is affordable, averaging about \$2 per square foot. It's great at blocking stains, moisture, mildew and mold. This makes it perfect for basements. However, its slip also makes it less durable in high-traffic areas.



Nylon Carpet Cost

Nylon carpeting costs around \$3.50 per square foot. You may get the highest return on your carpet investment with nylon. It's perhaps the most durable carpeting material and suitable for high-traffic areas.

Olefin (Polypropylene) Carpet Cost

Olefin carpeting is among the least expensive materials, costing just \$2 per square foot. It's best installed in low- to moderate-traffic areas since it mats down quickly and attracts oils.

Carpet Cost Per Style

Texture and Cut Pile Carpet Cost

Textured, cut pile carpet is the most common style and costs \$2 to \$4 per square foot on average. Textured carpet is tall, plush and comparable to a short-haired shag rug or tapestry. It's relatively durable although prone to fraying. Taller piles are more expensive and best for low-traffic bedrooms.

Patterned Carpet Cost

Patterned carpet, which creates an almost embossed look, costs \$2 to \$6 per square foot. Carpet patterns can be abstract or traditional and be mono-texture or multi-texture, using multiple fiber types or loop styles.

Berber Carpet Cost

Berber carpet is durable enough for both home and commercial use and averages \$5.50 per square foot. This tightly-looped weave is perfect for high-traffic areas.

Carpet Cost per Square Foot

On average, carpeting costs approximately \$2.50 per square foot. However, you may find carpeting priced as low as \$0.65 per square foot on the lower end, reaching up to \$12 per square foot on the higher-end options.

Various factors like the quality of the carpet, the type of carpet fiber and the manufacturer will affect the cost of carpet per square foot. Additional costs like installation, padding and any additional materials or services can also affect the overall cost.

Carpet Installation Prices

Big box carpet retailers offer installation services for free with a qualifying purchase, such as brand or minimum square yardage. Otherwise, installation service professionals may charge \$0.99 to \$6 per square foot. Compare quotes from a few local flooring installers to get the best price.

WARNING: VOC odors can be harmful to humans. Before re-entering your house after new carpet installation, you need to wait at least 72 hours after to allow VOC odors to dissipate.

How to Calculate Carpet Installation Costs

If you're considering carpet installation, there are a few things you'll need to know, such as the room's square footage. First, measure the areas where you plan to install the carpeting and record the length and width for each space in feet. Next, calculate the square footage by multiplying the length and width of each area.

Once you've determined the room's square footage, research the price per square foot of the desired carpet type from local suppliers or online sources. Multiply the square footage of each area by this cost per square foot to obtain an estimate for that specific space.

Carpet Replacement Cost

Replacing old carpet with new costs about \$10 to \$20 per square foot. This includes the cost to remove old carpet and padding, scrape and level the subfloor and install new padding and carpet.

Factors That Affect Carpet Installation Costs

If you're looking to install carpet in your home, knowing the factors that can affect the installation cost is essential to keep within your budget. There are certainly a few things to keep in mind while starting the process, such as:

Room Size and Shape

Room size and shape are important factors affecting the carpet installation cost. Larger rooms require more carpet and may require more labor to install, while irregularly shaped rooms can be more challenging to install, often requiring more seams and specialized tools or techniques. Installers may also need to work around additional features in the room, such as built-in furniture or fixtures, which can impact the cost. Considering these factors when estimating the total carpet installation cost is essential.

Type of Carpet Material

Flooring is an investment that you should take the time to consider thoroughly before making a final decision. The carpet material you choose can significantly impact the cost of installation.



For instance, nylon is a durable and popular option. Still, it can be more expensive to install due to its durability and the specialized tools required, typically ranging from \$2 to \$6 per square foot. In contrast, polyester is more affordable but may not be as durable as nylon, typically ranging from \$1 to \$6 per square foot. Wool is a natural and high-end choice but also the most expensive to install due to its specialized techniques and equipment, typically ranging from \$5 to \$20 per square foot. Therefore, the type of carpet material you choose can significantly impact the overall cost of carpet installation.

Underlayment and Padding

When shopping for a new carpet in Perth, you'll want to consider what underlayment and padding will work best for your home. Underlayment and padding are essential components in carpet installation that can also affect the overall cost. The purpose of underlayment and padding is to provide a layer between the carpet and the subfloor, which can improve the comfort and durability of the carpet.

Labor

When considering new carpeting in Perth, the cost of materials is only part of the equation. The labor costs are also a significant factor in your overall budget, and these costs can vary significantly depending on factors like the size and complexity of the project, the location and availability of installers and the experience and expertise of the installer. Therefore, doing your research and receiving multiple quotes is recommended to get the best deal on labor costs.

Carpet Removal

The cost of carpet removal depends on the size of the room, the type of carpet being removed and any additional services required. For instance, if the old carpet is in poor condition or has multiple layers of glue, additional time and effort may be required to remove it, increasing the installation cost. On the other hand, if the old carpet is easy to remove and in good condition, the removal cost may be

minimal or even included in the installation cost. Overall, it's important to consider the carpet removal cost when budgeting for carpet installation.

When Should I Replace a Carpet?

Typically, the last thing you want is to let your carpet go too long without being replaced. That's because a worn carpet can lead to stains, smells and other problems that will cost you time and money to fix. Therefore, here are a few signs of when is the best time to replace a carpet.

Wear and Tear & Stains and Smells

Wear and tear to your carpet, such as bald spots or uneven fibers, is a major indication that it's time for a new one. Stains and unpleasant odors that persist despite cleaning can also signal the need for a new carpet. Old stains can be tough to remove, and persistent odors may indicate the presence of mold or mildew, which can pose health risks.

Old or Damaged Carpet Padding

If you've noticed that your carpet is getting a little uncomfortable to walk on, it's probably time to replace the padding underneath it. The padding provides cushioning and support for the carpet, so if it becomes compressed or damaged, it can lead to an uneven surface that's uncomfortable to walk on. If your carpet padding is over ten years old or has become damaged, it's time to replace the carpet and the padding together.

Uneven Thickness

Have you noticed that your carpet appears to be uneven? It may result from high foot traffic, which can cause the fibers in your carpet to wear down and shift over time. This can cause tripping hazards and make moving furniture around your home difficult.

Water Damage and Mold

Water damage can cause your carpet to become discolored, matted or even develop mold growth. If your carpet has been exposed to water damage or mold, it's important to replace it to prevent health issues and further damage to your home.

Benefits of a New Carpet

If your home deserves a fresh look, consider installing a new carpet in Perth. Carpeting can provide many benefits, including improved insulation, enhanced aesthetics and improved safety. Here's a closer look at some of these benefits:

Insulation

If you want to save money and make your home more comfortable, a new carpet can be the best decision. Not only will it help improve your home's insulation by keeping it warmer or cooler depending on the season (which can result in lower energy bills), but it can even reduce noise levels.

Aesthetics

A new carpet can instantly refresh the look of a room, providing a clean and updated appearance. With different colors, textures and patterns, a new carpet can help you achieve your ideal aesthetic effortlessly.

Safety

If your carpet has seen better days, it might be time to replace it. Carpets can be a tripping hazard, particularly if they are uneven or have ripples. A new carpet can provide a smooth and even surface, reducing the risk of falls and injuries.

How to Save Money on Carpet Installation Costs

Although installing a new carpet can update a room with a new look, it can be costly. However, many people don't realize there are many ways to save money on carpet installation costs.

Get multiple quotes: Do your research to receive quotes from multiple carpet installation professionals or suppliers and compare prices. This process will help you find the most competitive and affordable option for your project.

DIY carpet removal: If you're comfortable with basic home improvement tasks, consider removing the old carpet yourself. This can save you the cost of labor that would be involved in carpet removal.

3. The Ultimate Guide to Understanding Different Types of Carpet



Pick the best floor covering for your home with our guide to types of carpet, pile, materials, and more.

Few home features create a welcoming sense of warmth and homey comfort like a good-quality carpet. Walking barefoot across cold stone tiles or hard wooden planks just can't compare to the feel of the soft, cushiony fibers of various types of carpet underfoot. Comfort preferences aside, carpet's padded surface is also a practical flooring option, offering unbeatable thermal and acoustic insulation.

Must-Know Carpet Terms

Start learning about different types of carpet options by becoming familiar with key vocabulary.

Fiber: The principal material of a carpet that is seen and felt on the visible surface.

Pile: The surface of the carpet, made up of looped carpet fibers.

Weight: The number of fibers in a carpet. The more fibers, the heavier the weight and the better the carpet quality.

Density: The number of fibers in a pile. The more fibers, the denser the pile, and the higher the carpet quality.

Height: The length of the wear layer of the carpet, measured from the top of the pile to the top of the backing.

Durability: The carpet's lifespan.

Resistance: A fiber's ability to withstand rubbing, abrasion, and everyday usage.

Resilience: A carpet's ability to recover from crushing.

The key features to consider when choosing a carpet are the pile and type of fiber, as these will determine how it looks and feels and whether it will stand the test of time.

Understanding Carpet Piles

There are two main types of carpet piles: loop pile and cut pile. The difference between them is how the loops of fiber that make up the pile are treated once the yarns are passed through the carpet backing during manufacturing.

Loop Pile Carpets

Commonly referred to as uncut pile or Berber pile, loop pile carpets leave the yarn loop intact. They are available as level loops, where the fiber loops are the same height and create a level surface, or multi-level loops, where the loops vary in height for a textured, patterned effect. A popular example of a multi-level loop pile is sisal carpet, featuring loops of different colors and heights arranged in rows to create a subtle pattern and textured look. Loop pile carpet is perfect for high-traffic spaces, as it is durable and resilient.

Cut Pile Carpets

As the name implies, cut pile carpets have the tops of the yarn loops cut off. They are sheared at different lengths and angles for different types of carpet, resulting in a wide variety of styles, heights, and thicknesses. Cut pile carpets are the most popular carpet pile type, even though they are less durable than loop pile and more prone to crushing.

Saxony Cut: Saxony is a type of carpet consisting of densely woven, twisted carpet fibers that are closely packed and stand up straight. The fibers are evenly cut, creating a uniform look and smooth, velvety surface. However, they have little resilience and don't bounce back quickly, making Saxony suitable for low-traffic areas.

Plush Cut: Also referred to as velvet-cut, plush carpet consists of short, densely packed fibers with a smooth, even surface that is soft to the touch and has a formal and luxurious look. However, it is not very durable or resistant, making it a better option for elegant and formal low-traffic areas, like a guest bedroom or dining room.



Texture Cut: This informal type of carpet consists of uneven, twisted, and kinked fibers that create a fuller textured surface. This pile type is durable and has the added benefit of concealing dirt and footprints, making it a great option for a busy household and mid- to high-traffic areas, like a hallway or playroom.

Frieze Cut: Frieze carpet is distinguished by its long fibers that are twisted together and kinked, resulting in a curly, knobby-looking surface often compared to a shag carpet. The long strands create an informal yet inviting look and offer great insulating properties. They are also highly durable and stain-resistant, making them suitable for high-traffic areas. Bear in mind that frieze carpets are not the easiest carpets to clean.

Sculpted Cut: Often referred to as cut-and-loop, or patterned carpet, sculpted carpet combines the best of both worlds with looped and cut-pile fibers. They can either be level or multi-level and are sometimes arranged in geometric patterns, creating a textured and layered-looking carpet design. This type of carpet is best suited to low- to moderate-traffic areas, as it tends to appear worn out quickly.

Different Types of Carpet Fibers

Carpet fibers can be divided into two broad categories: natural and synthetic.

Natural Fiber Carpets

Natural fibers have been used to make floor coverings for centuries. They're a reliable and trusted option for providing warmth and comfort underfoot.

Wool Carpets: Today, wool is the only natural fiber used to make carpets. Wool is popular for its durability and luxuriously soft feel underfoot. It is a natural flame-, abrasion-, and stain-resistant material, though alkaline detergents damage this type of carpet. Wool is also a sustainable resource, making it an excellent option for an eco-friendly household.

Keep wool carpets away from high-humidity areas, as they are prone to damage from mold and mildew, and always treat them for moths as they feast on natural fibers. High-grade pure woolen carpets are expensive. Consider a wool and synthetic blend for a more affordable option with many of the same benefits.

Synthetic Fiber Carpets

The majority of carpets today are fabricated with synthetic fibers. Synthetic fibers provide better quality, cost control, and supply and production consistency. Unlike natural fibers, synthetic materials are not affected by climate conditions or disease and are hypoallergenic and moth-resistant.

Nylon Carpets: Nylon is the most popular type of carpet fiber on the market today. It's resilient, versatile, and considered the most durable synthetic carpet, lasting up to 15 years when well cared for. The fiber has high resistance to everyday wear and moisture, excellent abrasion and crush resistance, a reliable yarn memory to hold twist, and good stain resistance when a stain treatment has been applied. The strong, resilient fiber is the perfect choice for heavy-traffic areas and commercial facilities.

Thanks to the fiber's excellent ability to hold color, nylon carpets are available in a wide range of colors and styles to suit all decors. While nylon is less expensive than wool, it is pricier than other synthetic carpets.

Olefin Carpets: Olefin (polypropylene) carpets are popular for their natural stain and moisture resistance. They are the go-to carpet for interior spaces subject to potential water damage, like bathrooms and basements or even outdoor areas. Though olefin is one of the most resistant synthetics, it is the least resilient, so it is best installed in low-traffic areas to avoid it quickly looking worn out. As the fiber is solution-dyed, it is the most colorfast fiber, so no amount of sunlight, bleach, or harsh chemicals will alter the carpet's color. Thanks to its low production costs, olefin is a budget-friendly type of carpet.

Polyester Carpets: Polyester is known for its ability to take on dyes with luxurious, vibrant, and fade-resistant colors. It's a hydrophobic fiber that naturally repels liquid, giving it notable stain-resistant qualities and making it a good pick for environments prone to moisture, mildew, and mold. Polyester carpets should be treated, as they are not resistant to oil stains, which are hard to remove.

PET (polyethylene terephthalate) is a common polyester carpet made from recycled plastic bottles, making it eco-friendly and recyclable. Since polyester has low resilience, it quickly shows signs of wear in high-traffic areas. However, polyester carpet is one of the most economical options, making it a great type of carpet for anyone on a budget or looking for temporary flooring for a rental property.

4. Tips for Choosing Carpet

To choose the right carpet in Perth, consider padding for support and comfort, select a style that suits your lifestyle and maintenance capacity and stick to your budget while weighing the cost against durability and maintenance needs.

From plush and Saxony for low-traffic areas to Berber and textured carpets for high-traffic zones, understanding the types of carpets and their suitability for different areas of your home is crucial.

Selecting the right color or pattern can enhance the room's aesthetics, and considering environmental options like recycled materials can contribute to a healthier home environment.

Pick the Perfect Padding

Don't be tempted to skimp on carpet padding to save a few dollars. Just as a building needs a solid foundation, carpeting relies on a layer of padding for support, strength and a bit of extra cushioning. You can't see the padding, but you'll definitely spot the extra wear and tear on your new carpet if you pick an inadequate padding material.



Made from rubber or foam materials, carpet padding conceals subfloor imperfections to improve the appearance of the finished floor. It also acts as insulation to help control the temperature of your home, and it even absorbs sound to protect your privacy and eliminate neighbor noise. Most importantly, padding supports your carpet through years of use, since it prevents carpet backing and fibers from coming apart over time.

Consider Various Carpet Styles

Carpet comes in many styles, including plush, Saxony, Berber, textured and frieze. These terms apply to its pile, which is the surface you see, created from yarn tufts that are either folded over into loops, cut straight across or both. While each style has a distinctive look, that shouldn't be your main consideration. Instead, look at how well your lifestyle meshes with a particular carpet style. Plush carpeting, for example, is made from tightly twisted pile, and is thick, soft and inviting. But it also shows footprints and vacuum tracks, and can develop something called "pooling," or areas that appear shaded because the normal direction of the carpet fibers has been reversed. Saxony, the most common type of carpeting, is similar to plush [source: Becker]. These carpet styles work best in low-traffic areas like formal living rooms and master bedrooms.

Don't Blow Your Budget

Even the most luxurious carpet doesn't have to cost a fortune. Shop around to find carpet that fits your lifestyle and budget. Always request separate pricing for materials and installation so you can make an "apples-to-apples" comparison among different suppliers.

Make the most of any budget by choosing the best carpet for each room. For example, stain-resistant products may be worth the splurge in your busy family room, but more affordable low-traffic carpeting may be just fine for your guest rooms.

Consider lifetime replacement and maintenance expenses to keep costs even lower. If you have kids or pets, try carpet tile instead of rolled carpeting. Rather than replacing the entire room after a few years of spills and stains, you can replace single tiles as needed to keep your carpet looking fresh and new.

Select Your Carpet Provider with Care

You can purchase carpet in a variety of places -- carpet showrooms, of course, but also flooring companies, furniture stores, large department stores and even online. While you can end up with beautiful carpet that's expertly installed using any of these options, your best bet is to select a reputable establishment that specializes in carpeting.

A quality carpet store will carry a large, varied carpet selection, including different fiber options such as wool, synthetics, blends, sisal, linen, jute, coir and woven vinyl. Staffers should be able to easily answer all of your questions and let you take samples home.

Understand Maintenance Requirements

One of the best ways to ensure you'll be satisfied with your new carpet is to stick with carpeting you can maintain easily. Homeowners with young children or dogs and cats may want to avoid hard-to-clean shag or high-end rugs. Stain-resistant carpets can eliminate the frustration associated with spills and may cut your cleaning time.

Always ask a salesperson about cleaning and maintenance requirements before you commit to buying. Find out how often you'll need to clean and what special equipment or products the manufacturer recommends. Skip carpets with extensive maintenance requirements unless you have the extra time to perform these tasks.

A Word on Warranties

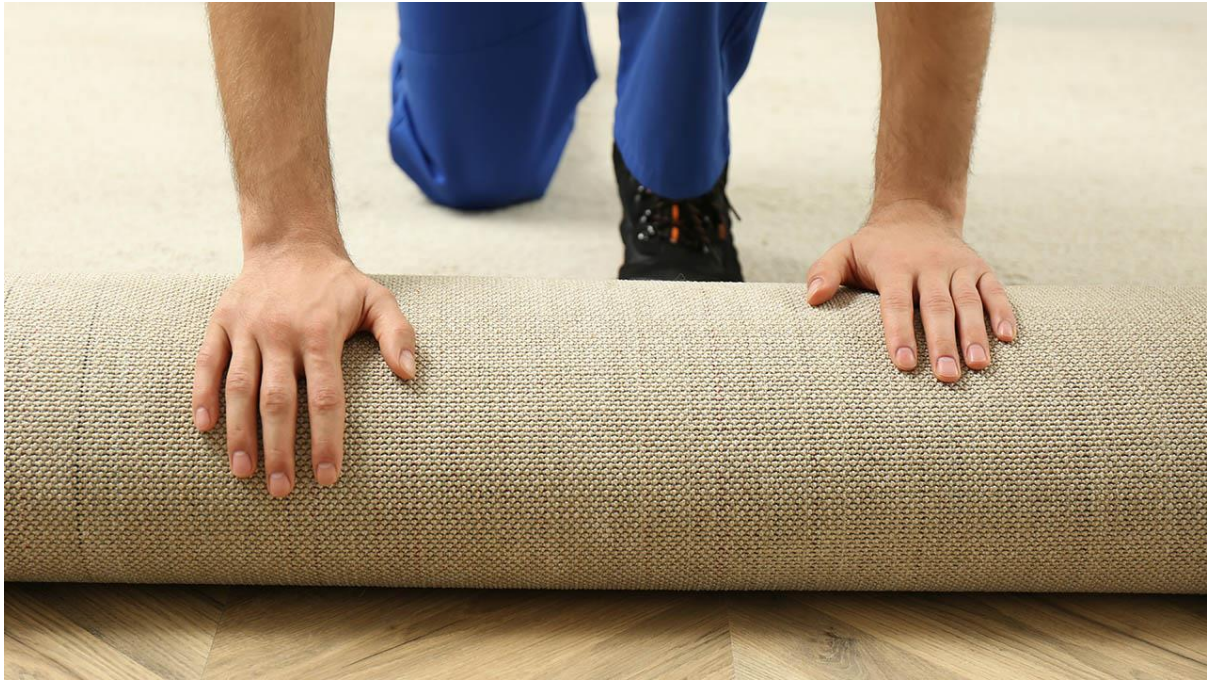
Talk about mind-numbing. Carpeting carries an insane number of possible warranties, including five- and 10-year options, matting and crushing warranties, and guarantees against stains, wear and even overall appearance. In general, the better quality the carpet, the more coverage you're offered via warranties, stain protection and the like. However, never purchase a particular carpet solely because the warranty seems really great -- because most warranties actually offer little true coverage [source: Carpet Buyers Handbook].

For example, the most common warranty is a "wear" warranty. Manufacturers offering these typically define "wear" as a bald spot, while many homeowners consider a carpet to be worn as soon as it loses its original appearance. Similarly, a crushing warranty may state that if the pile height can be restored to a certain degree, there's no issue. But most carpets' pile can be restored through hot water extraction and a pile rake (even though it will be crushed again once you walk on it), so manufacturers will say the warranty doesn't apply.

Compare Color and Patterns

With so many colors and designs available, selecting the right finish just might be the most difficult part of your carpet-buying decision. Narrow your search by choosing shades that match the overall mood or tone you want to set for each room. Try cool blues or greens to create a calm, peaceful setting, and warm reds or golden shades to make a large space feel cozier. Light colors can make small rooms feel larger and more open, so try cream or tan if you're feeling claustrophobic.

Before settling on a neutral shade, decide whether you want your carpet to serve as a focal point or fade into the background. Only go neutral if your walls, furnishings or artwork serve as focal points, as this can help you avoid a plain, monotone design.



Treat Stairs Carefully

It's critical to select the right carpeting for your stairs, since stairs get a lot of wear, plus the carpeting has to be bent over the edges of each step. A cut-pile carpet is a better choice than a looped pile, as the spaces between the loops will tend to open up where the carpet curls over the stairs in an effect called "grinning." Looped carpets can also snag, especially at any seams or transition areas [source: WFCA].

Density is another factor to consider. If the carpet isn't that thick, you may end up seeing the unsightly backing when the carpet is curved over the steps. One test of the density is to stick your fingers deeply into a carpet sample. If you can easily separate the fibers and feel the backing, it's probably not the best choice for your stairs.

Go Green

Many people are shocked to learn just how much carpet, padding and adhesives can impact air quality and health. If you've ever been around brand-new carpet or other building materials, you probably remember that distinctive "new" smell. That odor is caused by volatile organic compounds (VOCs). VOCs, such as formaldehyde, cause poor indoor air quality and can contribute to a host of health problems, including asthma and allergies [source: Perth. Environmental Protection Agency]. Protect your family by choosing carpet made from natural products, including wool, jute and other organic materials. Also, look for organic or chemical-free dyes to keep toxic fumes out of your home.

Carpeting vs. Area Rugs

It's possible you'd be better served with an area rug and not wall-to-wall carpeting. How do you know? Consider the two. Carpeting's main advantages are that it's soft and warm underfoot, muffles sound and provides cushioning if you fall. It's also affordable. However, carpet holds dust, mites and other allergens, so if members of your household have allergies or asthma, it can be a problem. Carpet can also be difficult to clean, holds odors like pet urine and typically wears out within about 10 years, so you'll need to re-carpet -- and sometimes not just the one room with the really worn carpet, but the entire house, depending on where the carpet runs.

Area rugs are a popular flooring choice because they come in a larger variety of colors and designs, can be switched among rooms and are quite affordable. It's also easier to make a statement with a fun or colorful area rug than it is with wall-to-wall carpeting, and you can take your rug with you every time you move. The main drawback to an area rug is that it requires you to have reasonably nice flooring underneath it, since some of your floor will almost certainly show. If you've got a beautiful hardwood floor, perfect. If you don't, you'll at least need a floor that's in reasonably good shape. The other negatives to area rugs are that they can slip and/or be a tripping hazard if you stumble on an edge. But you can often remedy those issues with a rug pad or double-sided tape.

5. Tips for Installing Carpet by Yourself

Wall-to-wall carpeting provides rooms with rich comfort, soundproofing, and warmth that few other floor coverings can match. Carpeting works especially well in bedrooms, living rooms, and in hallways. Carpeting is often sold as a package, with installation included as part of the total cost. But if you'd like to save money on carpeting, installing it by yourself is one way to go.

Clean the Floor

Cleaning the floor before installing the padding and carpeting removes debris that can slowly wear away at the underside of the carpeting. Not only that but dirt is the main cause of mold in carpeting.

Dirt contains mold spores. Dirt plus moisture provide a rich breeding ground for mold. Dirt quickly soaks up any available moisture—it is a moisture magnet.

So, by starting with a clean floor base, you help the carpeting stay in good condition for the long term by preventing fraying and by reducing the chance of mold growth.

Install Carpet Tack Strips

Carpet tack strips are strips of wood with sharp upward-pointed tacks. They are attached to the subfloor around the perimeter of the room to anchor the edges of the carpeting. Tack strips hold the carpeting in place, keep edges down, and keep the carpet stretched taut to avoid wrinkles.

Carpet tack strips can be installed on any type of substrate, whether a wood or concrete subfloor. Install the tack strips with the tacks angled toward the wall. If the tacks are angled toward the room, they will not hold the edges of the carpeting.

Leave a Gap Between the Tack Strips and the Wall

Install the carpet tack strips with about 1/4-inch between the strip and the wall. Do not install the tack strips against the wall.

Extra space is needed to tuck the edges of the carpet over the strips. The gap between the tack strips should be less than the thickness of the carpeting so that the tucked portion remains tightly wedged in place.

Leave the Old Tack Strips in Place

If you are replacing old carpet, leave the tack strips in place for reuse with the new carpet, if possible.

Tack strips cannot always be reused, and not all tack strips can be saved. Some strips will be torn up during carpeting removal, while other strips will be rotten or moldy. But as long as the tack strips are in good condition—with the wood intact and the tacks sharp and not bent down—keep them in place.



Attach the Padding Between the Tack Strips

Keep the carpet padding within the inner perimeter formed by the carpet tack strips. Padding should touch the inner edge of the tackless strips but it should not overlap the strips. If the padding overlaps, a thick lump will develop around the edge of the carpet.

If you're having trouble getting the carpet to stay on the tack strip, there might be carpet padding or another obstruction in the way.

Use Quality Carpet Padding

Use high-quality carpet padding. Even lower-quality carpeting will perform better if the underlying padding is of good quality.

Density is one way to judge the quality of carpet padding. Look for at least a 6-pound density rating. This means that each cubic foot of padding weighs 6 pounds. Prime foam padding is the least dense padding, at 5 pounds density or less. Rubber padding is the most dense, at up to 22 pounds per cubic foot.

Buy Extra Carpeting

Purchase up to 10-percent more carpeting in excess of the project area. So, for a 500-foot project area, purchase up to 50 square feet of overage. The concept of overage applies to all types of home projects, including tiling, painting, and all flooring materials.

Patterned carpet requires more excess than non-patterned carpet since cutting and seaming pieces require you to match the pattern. The larger the pattern, the more waste.

Consider Carpet Roll Widths With the Layout

Carpet rolls tend to come in 12-foot and 15-foot widths, with some rolls at 13-1/2 feet wide. Lay out the project area and consider how those rolls will fit into the area. Any small room less than 12 feet or 15 feet wide can be covered by those widths, without having to seam together two sections of carpeting.

You may need to purchase carpeting in excess of the 5- to 10-percent overage to adequately cover the house without having to turn the carpeting sideways. The carpeting should run in the same direction so that the carpet pile will lay correctly.

Rent Carpet Installation Tools

To install carpet correctly, you'll need a number of professional-level tools, available for lease or rent at home centers or rental yards. Depending on the project, you will need a seam iron, a power stretcher, and a knee kicker. These are expensive tools and it is more economical to rent these tools rather than buy them unless you expect to install carpeting often. Carpet knives are indispensable for cutting carpeting. These can be purchased for \$10 to \$20.

Use a Carpet Stretcher and Knee Kicker

Carpet power stretchers give your carpet a flat, tight appearance that stays that way for years to come. Two types of stretchers are essential to a good carpet installation: a power stretcher and a knee kicker.

Power stretcher: A power stretcher is a long tool that will brace against the walls to stretch the carpeting taut across the entire room.

Knee kicker: A knee kicker will help you push the edges of the carpeting into the corners and over the tack strips around the perimeter of the room.

Proper stretching is vital to good carpet installation. If you're not prepared to learn this skill, it's best to hire pros.

6. How To Deep Clean Carpet DIY: 9 Tips

Tenants often lose their bond money by ignoring the cleanliness of carpets in the rental property. Ensuring these fixtures are spotless and sanitary before ending a tenancy is vital to move out successfully. Even when you have carpets in your own house, keeping them clean and sanitary is important to prevent bacterial growth and maintain the fibres. You can hire professionals offering carpet and vacate cleaning services in Perth for deeply sanitising the fixtures and your home. However, here are nine tips by experts you can follow for DIY cleaning. Have a look.

1. Remove Dirty Scuff Marks With Shaving Cream

Someone walked on the carpets with dirty shoes, or your kids grazed the fixtures with dirty hands? These are common problems, but getting rid of dirty scuff marks is simple. Lather the affected area with shaving cream and let it dwell for at least 5 minutes. Next, wipe the cream with a damp microfiber cloth, and you will see the difference immediately. Once you have removed the product and dirt from the fixture, let it dry a little before vacuuming.



2. Test Cleaners Before Using Them Globally On The Carpets

Avoid damage to carpets by being proactive and testing any new cleaner on an inconspicuous spot. It is a professional method vacate cleaners in Perth use to ensure the cleaning agents don't adversely affect the structural integrity and appearance of the carpets. This step is crucial when cleaning carpets to get your bond back fully. Thus, keep this tip in mind the next time you use a new cleaner.

3. Spot Clean Carpets With Water & White Vinegar

Keeping carpets free of stains is a challenging task which is why you should be ready with cleaning supplies to remove them whenever spills happen. Make a solution of 50% water and 50% white vinegar in a spray bottle and saturate the affected area with the solution. Wait for 5 minutes, then start blotting to absorb the stain and spot-clean the carpet like a pro.

4. Don't Rub Stains

A common mistake many people make while cleaning carpets is to rub the stains with a cloth or paper towel. This technique pushes the stain deeper into the carpet fibres and distributes it instead of removing the stain. Always dab the spot multiple times to effectively and efficiently remove stains from carpets. It will help collect the moisture and residues without smudging or spreading the stains. Put pressure on the spot to absorb as much stain as possible and always blot inwards. It is a technique many professional end of lease cleaners in Perth use for removing spots without damaging carpets.

5. Sanitise With Baking Soda

Sodium bicarbonate, popularly known as baking soda is an excellent and versatile cleaning agent. It is natural and non-toxic, making it a good alternative to commercial cleaners. You can deep clean carpets with this powder as it absorbs moisture, removes dirt, and eliminates bad smells. To sanitise carpets sprinkle baking soda generously and let it dwell for at least 30-45 minutes. Next, vacuum the carpets

slowly and thoroughly to collect the powder with the contaminants and your carpets will look and smell fresh.

6. Remove Hair & Pet Fur With A Rubber Squeegee

Wipe the carpets with a rubber squeegee once a day to gather hair and pet fur from the fixtures. This method will make the fur or hair collect in bunches which you can easily pick up and throw in the garbage. Do this activity before vacuuming to ensure the carpets remain clean and free of pet odour.

7. Fill Carpet Cleaner With A Natural Cleaning Solution

If you don't have a carpet vacuum for dry and wet cleaning, rent one to deep clean the fixtures. While you can use a commercial carpet cleaner but make a natural solution for sanitising organically and without volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Mix white vinegar and water in equal proportions in a container and add one/two teaspoons of dishwashing liquid and five drops of an antimicrobial essential oil. Add this solution to the vacuum container and clean carpets without toxins.

8. Remove Wax Or Gum With Ice & A Scrapper

During festive seasons it is common to spill wax or gum on carpets which are difficult to remove. But here is a simple trick you can try to remove these materials without elbow grease or chemical cleaners.

Place an ice cube on the waxy or gummy spot and wait for 30 seconds or a minute.

Ensure the wax or gum has hardened, then scrape

In most cases, the materials will come off quickly without pulling the fibres or creating a bald patch.

Knowing this trick is also helpful when you have small children at home as they use these materials for arts and crafts.

9. Invest In An Quality Napping Brush

Before vacuum cleaners became widely used for sanitising carpets, people used napping brushes to deep clean the fixtures. This method is time-consuming, but the results are worth the effort since a good napping brush can effectively remove dust, dirt, debris, hair, dander etc. Divide the carpets into four quadrants and, starting from the centre of each section, brush outwards until you reach the edge. Brushing will deep clean the carpets and keep the fibres fluffy by preventing matting. Dividing carpets before cleaning is a professional technique end of lease cleaners in Perth use often.

Keeping carpets clean and sanitary is necessary to have a healthy household and maintain the fixtures. For tenants, carpet cleaning is crucial to get their bond back in full, which is why hiring professional vacate cleaners in Perth at the end of a tenancy is a wise and practical solution. But for general cleaning without chemicals or hassle, follow the tips mentioned above.

7. Conclusion

In conclusion, proper carpet installation is pivotal to achieving both aesthetic and functional benefits in any space. This guide has equipped you with essential knowledge and practical steps to ensure a successful installation. By following these guidelines, you can create a comfortable, visually appealing, and durable carpeted environment that enhances your home's overall value and comfort.

8. References

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