ServiceMASTER Clean®

Above & Beyond

How To.....Care For Your Floor Coverings

Figures from the Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) estimate that 583,000 tonnes of flooring waste is produced each year, with the majority (71%) being carpet. More than 90% of this waste ends up in landfill, with less than 1% being recycled.

That's a shocking statistic and one we all should think about when considering refurbishment or updating the look of facilities. Commercial floor coverings take a regular pounding not just from our feet but from spilt tea, coffee, soft drinks, food, and the dirt trailed in from the outside world.

Invest in regular maintenance

Whether you run a retail outlet, restaurant, care home, factory, or office building, investing in the cleanliness of your surroundings makes economic and environmental sense. Not only is it pivotal in the initial perception your clients and prospects make, but appropriate cleaning and treatment will also lengthen the serviceable life of your floor coverings.

Regular maintenance is a lot less costly than replacing floor coverings and upholstered items frequently. All too often carpeting, vinyl and other flooring is disposed of in favour of new coverings when it becomes prematurely tired. The technology for protecting, sustaining and restoring the appearance of floor coverings that were previously considered beyond repair, has improved dramatically. Instead of tearing up damaged floor coverings, and throwing upholstery out, thereby consuming new materials, at ServiceMaster Clean we work with organisations to carry out full restoration, prolonging the life of materials that could take hundreds of years to break down in landfill.

Call in the specialists

Too often, individuals without any specialist training are given the task of cleaning floor coverings and upholstery which, given the scale of financial investment and reliance on the appearance of these items, is an alarming thought. ServiceMaster Clean has over fifty years' expertise in cleaning a wide range of floor coverings and upholstery using innovative cleaning systems and processes, that complement the developments in production processes and materials as well as providing a specialist disaster restoration service and a range of infection control measures to protect against harmful bacteria such as MRSA and E-Coli.

Different floor covering surfaces and fabrics have varied cleaning requirements and, if appropriate processes are not followed, this can do more harm than good when it comes to cleaning. Some vinyl floor surfaces may require deep scrubbing using a rotary machine and a suitable brush head to properly clean the floor. Other floors may benefit from having damaged seals removed and fresh coatings applied.

Appropriate drying procedures also need to be considered, to ensure that materials dry out properly and don't pose a health and safety risk. ServiceMaster Clean uses truck mounted extraction carpet cleaning machines which offer the best all round results in professional carpet and upholstery cleaning, leaving carpets dry in one to two hours.

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Restore more….replace less

Improvements in floor covering manufacturing and materials mean that they should last longer and look better than ever if treated properly. ServiceMaster Clean pride ourselves on being experts in the specialist cleaning and restoration industry. We know what can and cannot be restored effectively and economically. We'll always advise our customers as to the best methods, procedures and appropriate products required to maintain or restore their flooring to a condition 'like new'. In addition to providing our clients with a regular, on-going cleaning programme to lengthen the life of flooring and upholstery investments, we offer simple and practical advice, including:

- **Reuse -** Spare tiles or unfinished rolls of material could be reused on another project or returned to the supplier if a take back scheme is in place.
- **Storage -** Designating a protected secure area for storage can reduce waste from water and accidental damage.
- **Pollution prevention –** this can help reduce damage to flooring and the office environment.
- **Recycle -** Carpet tiles from less heavily trafficked areas can often be cleaned and refurbished for reuse. Damaged carpet can be recycled into new carpet or the constituent materials, such as nylon fibre, used for other products. Ceramic tiles may be crushed and used in the manufacture of new tiles.

Unexpected damage

No matter how carefully carpets and floor coverings are maintained, there are sometimes unforeseen events which can cause extensive damage to the interior and exterior of buildings. Damage can be caused by anything from floods or other extreme weather conditions, escape of water, fallen trees, fire, or even malicious damage.

ServiceMaster Clean provides a specialist service, Restoration Response™, which guarantees fast response to a wide range of commercial organisations within a few hours of an emergency, to start putting the property back to pre-damage condition. Registration is free, so that if an unexpected disaster occurs businesses can be guaranteed a quick response within 2-4 hours of an emergency.

Professionally qualified contractors, trained in specialist restoration techniques to British Damage Management Association standards, will help you quickly return back to 'business as usual.'

Make a change today

Simple measures like regular maintenance of flooring might seem insignificant when compared to more immediate green issues like shredding and recycling plastic for example. However, with such dramatic statistics, including the fact that only 1% of almost 600,000 tonnes of flooring waste is currently recycled, a small change to the way facilities managers maintain their premises, can make a huge difference to what ends up in landfill. With ServiceMaster Clean as a specialist cleaning provider, organisations across the UK can not only enjoy cost savings and the kudos that comes with being operationally greener, but can also help make real inroads into

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