

# MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

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**Congratulations! You bought a FLURSTÜCK and, thus, a high-quality product of German Rugs GmbH: We want you to enjoy your carpet for a long time, that is why we advise the following maintenance and cleaning instructions to be observed – if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.**

## TO BEGIN WITH

The visual insensitiveness to soiling depends on colour, pattern and design and is essential for textile carpets. Light colours hide stains less than muted colours, and must, therefore, be cleaned more frequently.

These maintenance and cleaning instructions base on the experience of German Rugs GmbH, on the requirements of the latest RAL 991 A3, and the rules of the “Arbeitskreis Werterhalt.org”. The indications in these instructions are only applicable to our FLURSTÜCK rugs.

With proper prevention and care, due to optimum visual cleaning-related characteristics, our FLURSTÜCK will look good for a long time – provided FLURSTÜCK is not expected to function as a door mat. In very critical zones, special doormats/dirt absorbing carpets should be provided for.

Entrance zones and transition points from other floor coverings should, therefore, be fashioned as textile soil-collecting areas in order to avoid to a great extent bringing in dirt or e. g. wax-containing care products. The doormats in soil collecting areas should also be cleaned regularly. Properly designed and dimensioned soil-collecting areas are capable of largely absorbing dirt and moisture walked into the building – especially in high-traffic areas such as entrances, reception halls or corridors. The more dirt is collected here, the more beautiful and neat does your FLURSTÜCK look like for a long time.

During wet-weather periods, it might be necessary to first let the carpet dry to assure the necessary removal of soil by brush-vacuuming. Regular dusting and removal of dirt by a brush vacuum cleaner forms part of an optimum cleaning program.

Daily cleaning of the FLURSTÜCK rug should always be carried out with a brush-vacuum cleaning machine (brush vacuum cleaner) with regard to dry mechanical removal of dirt. Optimum results can be achieved by using brush vacuum cleaners featuring a strong, motor-driven brush with a power input of  $\geq 150$  Watt. Always make sure to have set the brush height correctly and to have the work done systematically and thoroughly.

## NOTE

The use of air-driven brushes or brushes operated with 12 or 24 volts is not recommended at all. It is true that these can achieve high speeds, but, according to our experience, they do not produce the necessary maintenance effect.

## 1. REMOVAL OF STAINS (SPOT REMOVAL)

The removal of stains (spot removal) should be part of regular cleaning to permanently conserve the impressive character of FLURSTÜCK rugs.

Spots of all kinds can best be removed, if they are treated while still as fresh as possible. Liquid staining substances can usually be removed to a large extent by dabbing with an absorbent material (cloth, cellulose). If necessary, as for spots which have dried, the residues and bound soil can be dissolved with water or carpet shampoo and spot removal by beating. Liquid spot removal agents have proven best at doing so. Spot removal sprays based on solvents, however, can cause disadvantages with FLURSTÜCK rugs. Therefore, the instructions of the producer of the respective spot removal agent should always be followed. Careful removal of spots always requires thorough vacuuming of the loosened staining substances – the best being by means of a

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wet vacuum cleaner. The chemical agents applied on the carpet must, in any case, be completely removed again so as not to increase the tendency for the carpet to get soiled again.

Repeated rinsing with clear water of the spot treated and appropriate vacuuming are recommended to prevent new formation of spots (through soiled adhesion among other things) by remaining residues. We definitely advise against using washing-up liquid or washing powder, as these will increase the tendency for the spot to get soiled again.

## 2. INTENSIVE CLEANING (THOROUGH CLEANING)

Intensive cleaning (thorough cleaning) includes all cleaning treatments exceeding regular cleaning. The individual methods available vary as to their intensity and applications. In general, it is recommended to give preference to the method that is most material- and environment-friendly – charging a qualified cleaning specialist is a good idea.

Intensive cleaning assures optimum removal of stains that could not be removed by regular cleaning and brings back the original use characteristics and looks. The pad cleaning and dry-foam cleaning methods lend themselves for intensive cleaning.

### NOTE

Brush-vacuuming and a treatment of stains according to section 1 form integral parts of all the intensive cleaning methods described hereafter.

### 2.1 POWDER CLEANING

This method must never be used to clean FLURSTÜCK rugs!

### 2.2 PAD CLEANING

Pad cleaning requires a cleaning liquid to be sprayed on the carpet and be rubbed in by means of a textile pad. Thanks to a great variety of pad shapes and equipment constructions as well as methods of working, this cleaning method offers a great range of variations and applications as might be required in individual cases.

### 2.3 DRY-FOAM CLEANING

With dry-foam cleaning, a prefabricated foam is applied and rubbed in a single operation. At the end of sufficient action and drying times, the dissolved soil should be removed by brush-vacuuming together with extractable residues of cleaning agent.

### 2.4 INLAY CARPETS AND CARPETS COMPOSED OF SEVERAL PIECES (COLOURS)

FLURSTÜCK rugs with inlays or being composed of several pieces, such as for instance rugs of Dirk Biotto's Berlin\_2016/1 collection are glued using gluing systems that are sensitive to moisture. This is why an intensive cleaning according to 2.2 and/or 2.3 must apply as little liquid as possible.

This ensures that your FLURSTÜCK will not be moistened thoroughly, but only to such an extent that, while ensuring optimum cleaning action, the gluing system is not exposed to inadequate drenching.

## 3. SPECIAL INFORMATION

Before intensively cleaning (thorough cleaning acc. to RAL 991 A3) always judge the resistance to moisture of the construction of your FLURSTÜCK, as otherwise your FLURSTÜCK may develop changes in shape.

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All FLURSTÜCK rugs are cleanable, provided the specifications in these instructions for cleaning and maintenance are observed.

The instructions of the producer of the respective cleaning agents should always be followed.

The anti-slip acoustic felt on the back of the FLURSTÜCK carpets has been selected carefully. This acoustic felt ensures better room acoustics, more volume and walking comfort and, moreover, optimum lying features. Due to the great variety of material combinations, however, interactions between the floor and the back of the FLURSTÜCK may occur under the following circumstances:

- on very old parquet floors that have been oiled, sealed/lacquered by chemicals;
- on very soft, "sponge-like" wooden floors having a strong tendency to suck in liquid, which might lead to shading;
- when floor cleaning agents were applied and not completely vented off.

Thorough recleaning and/or re-oiling of the floors will normally help. Please consider also that wooden floors, in general, are subject to aging. Therefore, for instance discolouring of areas covered by carpets or furniture is not unusual.

**Please note that these cleaning and maintenance instructions must be handed over to the final user!**

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