
Companion Guide for Voluntary Training Carpet

Standard References

- CRI 104 and CRI 105 (Carpet and Rug Institute Installation Standards)
- ASTM D418: Standard Test Method for Tufted Carpet Construction
- ASTM D1335: Standard Test Method for Tuft Withdrawal Force of Carpet
- Carpet Cushion Council (CCC) Guidelines
- National Floor Covering Association (NFCA) Standards
- Handbooks and Manuals from Carpet Manufacturers



Suggested, Generally Accepted Installation Best Practices for Installing Carpet

1. Preparation:

1.1. Inspect the Installation Area:

- Ensure the subfloor is clean, dry, and level.
- Remove any old flooring and debris.
- Check for and repair any subfloor imperfections such as cracks or holes.

1.2. Measure the Area:

- Accurately measure the room dimensions.
- Plan the layout to minimize seams and ensure proper alignment of any patterns.

1.3. Prepare the Materials:

- Inspect the carpet and padding for any defects.
- Allow the carpet to acclimate to the room temperature and humidity for at least 24 hours.

2. Installation:

2.1. Install Tack Strips:

- Install tack strips around the perimeter of the room, leaving a gap (about 1/4 inch) between the strip and the wall.
- Ensure that the tack strips are securely fastened to the subfloor.

2.2. Install Carpet Padding:

- Roll out the carpet padding and trim it to fit the room, ensuring it is smooth and flat.
- Secure the padding to the subfloor with staples or adhesive, depending on the subfloor type.

2.3. Cut and Fit the Carpet:

- Unroll the carpet and cut it to fit the room dimensions, allowing a few extra inches for trimming.
- Lay the carpet in place and make any necessary adjustments for pattern alignment.

Suggested, Generally Accepted Installation Best Practices for Installing Carpet (cont.)

2. Installation: (cont.)

2.4. Seam Joining (if applicable):

- Align the carpet edges and apply the seam tape underneath.
- Use a seam iron to heat the tape and bond the carpet seams, pressing the edges together for a tight fit.

2.5. Stretch and Secure the Carpet:

- Use a power stretcher or knee kicker to stretch the carpet, starting from the center and working towards the edges.
- Hook the carpet onto the tack strips, ensuring it is tightly stretched and free of wrinkles or bubbles.

2.6. Trim and Finish Edges:

- Trim the excess carpet along the walls using a carpet knife or utility knife.
- Tuck the edges neatly under the baseboards or moldings.
- Install transition strips at the doorways or where the carpet meets other flooring types.

3. Post-Installation:

3.1. Inspection:

- Inspect the entire installation for any imperfections, bubbles, wrinkles, or loose areas.
- Ensure that all the seams are tight and invisible.

3.2. Cleanup:

- Remove all the installation debris, adhesive residue, and tools from the area.
- As required by contract, vacuum the carpet to remove any loose fibers and ensure a clean, professional appearance.