



# Care and cleaning

alternative  
flooring

## Care and cleaning Natural fibre flooring

We do not recommend using water or steam extraction for natural fibre plant floorcoverings. Natural fibres such as jute, coir, seagrass and sisal contain natural colouring that is not colourfast. Jute can be particularly susceptible to colour loss through bleaching.

For natural fibre floorcoverings, we recommend using suction-only vacuums. Continuous use of models with brushes can distort the fibres of natural fibre floorcoverings over time. Vacuum slowly and thoroughly.

For small areas, it is possible to use our Natural Flooring Care Kit\* with caution.

To avoid spots, spills and stains from becoming permanent, clean them up as soon as they occur.

Please be aware that some things can immediately stain (or remove colour from) the floorcovering permanently and this can not be reversed. If you are entertaining, don't wait until your guests have gone - speed is of the essence.

**(continued overleaf)**

\* Available from alternative HQ

# Care and cleaning Natural fibre flooring (cont)

**Remember:** the colour in natural fibre floorcoverings is not colourfast and some colour loss can occur. Usually, this is slight and much more acceptable than the spill or soiled area. If in any doubt, carry out a test with the care kit in an inconspicuous area of the floorcovering. Other liquid household products designed for spot removal should not be used on natural fibre flooring and can permanently damage your floorcovering.

Occasionally, the care kit will have a bleaching effect on natural floorcoverings if left to dry for too long. Ensure that you follow the instructions for carpet cleaning without allowing the care kit to remain on the natural floorcovering for more than ten minutes.

The Natural Flooring Care Kit is available to buy from alternative HQ. For larger areas of cleaning, contact a Host professional in your area by calling 01244 289256.



# Care and cleaning Wool flooring

## Use doormats

To control the amount of dirt tracked into your home, use doormats at entrances. Vacuum them twice a week and use the care kit to clean them. Regular vacuuming and cleaning will enable mats to keep trapping dirt before it gets to your carpet. Don't let mats become a source of tracked-in dirt.

## Vacuum

For best results, vacuum carpets two to three times a week - every day if possible. Initially for wool carpets, we recommend a vacuum cleaner with brushes, to remove any surface fluffing.

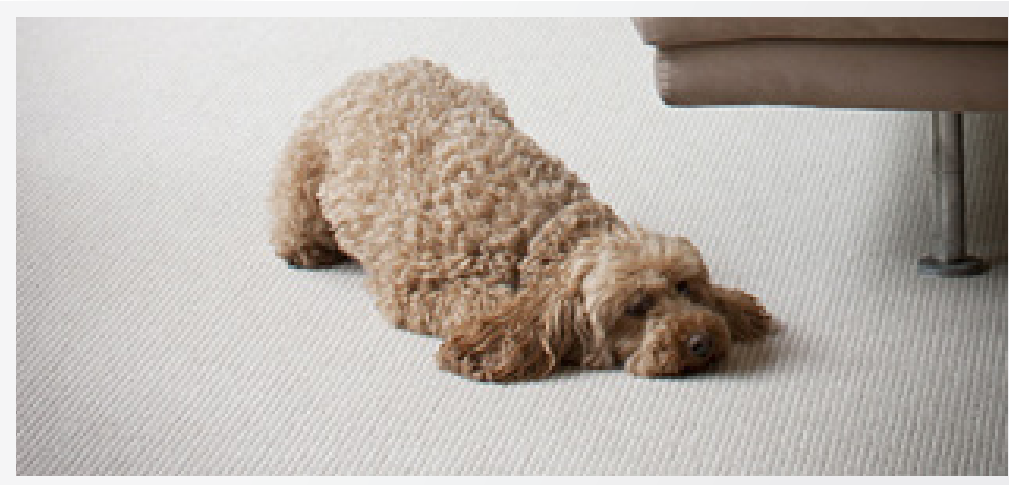
After a few weeks, switch off the brushes or use a suction-only vacuum. Concentrate on the areas where people walk most often, such as in front of doorways, hallways, around living-room furniture and in front of the TV.

Make a minimum of three passes with your vacuum in these areas. Make sure drive belts are in good condition and ensure that bags are emptied or changed regularly. Even a half bag will reduce the efficiency of the vacuum cleaner.

# Care and cleaning Wool flooring

Never use detergents such as dishwashing liquids, soaps or other cleaners recommended for general household use. Although they may clean the carpet satisfactorily, they will almost certainly cause problems such as rapid resoiling, colour bleeding or other damage to the pile or backing of the carpet.

Our Natural Flooring Care Kit is safe to use on all of our carpets. It comprises of 'Host' granules and spot remover. It is a soft natural product that is environmentally friendly. The tiny granules are moistened with water based detergent and a small amount of safe to use solvent. Like a sponge, they dissolve, absorb and trap soil, spots and odours as they are brushed through the carpet.



# Care and cleaning How to clean a wet spot

1. Blot the spot with a clean, absorbent white towel or clean white paper cloths. Continue until no more liquid or colour transfers from the spot onto the towel/cloth.
2. Brush in a small number of Host granules using the brush provided. Brush in all directions, north/south and east/west, then sprinkle the area with more Host granules. Do not scrub - let the Host cleaner do the job.
3. Leave the Host compound to rest on the area for **NO LONGER** than 10 minutes and then vacuum.
4. If traces of the spot remain, use the spot remover sparingly on a white towel and dab into the area.
5. Repeat steps 2 to 4 if necessary.

# Care and cleaning

## How to clean a dry spot

1. Place a small handful of Host granules over the spot.
2. Using the brush provided, gently brush the Host granules through the carpet.
3. Brush in all directions, north/south and east/west. Do not scrub - let the Host cleaner do the job.
4. Leave for **NO LONGER** than 10 minutes and then vacuum.
5. Wash the brush under warm water.

### Spots and spills that the Natural Flooring Care Kit will treat

Blood	Hairspray	Paint -
Butter	Hand lotion	watercolours
Beer, spirits	Ice cream	Rust
Chewing gum	Ketchup	Shoe polish - liquid
Chocolate	Lipstick	Shoe polish - paste
Coffee	Mascara	Soft drinks
Egg	Ink - marker pen	Sweets
Faeces	Mayonnaise	Tea
Food colour	Oil - cooking	Urine
Fruit juices	Oil - furniture	Vomit
Furniture polish	Paint - latex	Wine
Gravy	Paint - oil-based	

# Care and cleaning

## General rules for spot removal

1. Soak up liquids with white kitchen roll, tissues, toilet roll or clean cloth.
2. Scoop up or scrape off solids.
3. Try to identify unknown spots before treatment. If unsure, use the liquid spot remover first.
4. Always work from the edge of the spot inwards.
5. **BLOT** - don't rub.
6. Use small quantities of the liquid spot remover at a time, applied to a cloth - **NOT** directly to the spot. Work into the spot with a small, soft brush or sponge.
7. When using solvents, always ensure there is plenty of fresh-air ventilation.
8. Always thoroughly rinse out water-based spotters with clean water.
9. Dry the spot, if possible, with a hair dryer.