

## GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Our natural fiber rugs are quite easy to take care of. These area rugs will really appreciate regular, frequent vacuuming. This is the best and easiest way to prolong the life and elegance of our unique sisal products.

## SPOT AND STAIN CLEANING

Immediate treatment to stains is the most important thing to remove spots from all floor coverings, including our natural fiber sisal and abaca rugs. The spilled substances should be removed immediately by blotting (not rubbing) up with clean, un-dyed paper towels or cloths, or scraped up with a dull knife or spatula. Area rug should be separated from its underlay padding immediately, and pad should be cleaned separately. Four different methods have been known to be helpful in spot removal:

**Method 1.** (For beer, blood, butter, chocolate, coffee, cola, cream, general dirt, excreta, fruit, greasy food, ice cream, juice, lipstick, liquor, water-based paint, urinate and vomit):

- A. Mop up the spill immediately with an un-dyed paper towel or clean un-dyed cloth.
- B. Sponge the discolored area with small amounts of lukewarm water mixed with a small amount of liquid detergent or carpet shampoo.
- C. The cleaner should have a neutral pH factor. Do not saturate the rug. Blot up all moisture with un-dyed paper or cloth. Beer & wine stains have been removed with wood alcohol applied with a clean un-dyed absorbent cloth. Repeat, if necessary.
- D. Dry the rug quickly, as with a hair dryer, but be sure to hold the dryer at least 6" from the rug.

**Method 2.** (For asphalt, colored chalk, cosmetics, fresh oil, oil-based paint, shoe polish & soot):

- A. Carefully scrape up as much of the stain as possible, using a dull knife or spatula. Soot, ashes or loose dirt should be immediately vacuumed up before attempting to use any towels or cloths.
- B. Dampen a clean, un-dyed white cloth with a small amount of dry cleaning fluid. Tetra and petroleum solvents have been known to be used effectively. Blot up the stain. Check to see if solvent is dissolving the foreign substance, being careful that the solvent is not discoloring the fiber (always test a small area before attempting to clean the entire stain). Solvents may take color out of a dyed fiber. Use only small amounts of solvent to avoid spreading the stain. Small amounts of turpentine may be experimented with slowly for oil-based paints. Repeat, if necessary.
- C. Dry the rug quickly, as with a hair dryer, but be sure to hold the dryer at least 6" away from the rug to avoid burning or weakening the fibers.

**Method 3.** (For water & water-based spills):

- A. Immediately blot up all water with paper or cloth towels. B) Dry quickly with hair dryer.
- B. Cover stain with a thick layer of potato flour overnight. D) Vacuum the next day.

**Method 4.** (Greasy & oily spots)

These types of spots have been successfully removed with aerosol can spot removers such as K2R and Goddards. Follow the directions on the container. These contain both a cleaning solvent and an absorbing powder.

The above recommendations are suggestions only. No warranty is expressed or implied. These suggestions are made strictly for spot cleaning. Responsibility lies with those performing the cleaning work.

Overall cleaning and after spot removal cleaning should be done by a professional cleaner. Do not saturate the rugs with any kind of liquid!

## OVERALL CLEANING

Do not clean our natural fiber area rugs with Hot-water extraction, steam-cleaning, wet-shampooing, rotary spin pad cleaning or any other method that involves water saturation of the rugs!