



CARPET

Water marking, Pooling & Pile Reverse

EXPLANATION

Water marking, shading, pooling, pile reversal all refer to various types of pile distortion. Most cases are not correctable. A close inspection of the carpet prior to cleaning will allow the technician to notice these potential problems and educate the customer.

These terms describe similar conditions and so are often used interchangeably. They are more common in cut-pile styles. Denser constructions are more prone to these problems. Except as noted below, these are considered characteristics and not defects.

Shading is the most general term. It refers to apparent variation in the color of carpet fibers. Shading occurs when the light reflect from some fibers are scattered differently than the light from nearby fibers. This appears as light and dark areas. Which areas are light and which look dark will reverse when viewed from the opposite direction.

Shading can happen when fibers become scratched and abraded due to heavy traffic or lack of proper maintenance.

Shading is more likely to be seen in less resilient fibers such as olefin, polyester and acrylic.

Tufts leaning in a different direction from adjacent tufts will also cause shading. The light reflecting from the sides of the yarn appears brighter in color than light striking the ends of the yarn.

Pile reversal describes a localized change in the orientation of pile yarns. Pile reversal along a seam may be the result of an installation error, two lengths of carpet being installed in opposite directions.

Pile reversal may happen when the bottom of a roll is crushed, for example by the weight of other rolls stacked on top. This can be recognized by width-wise bands that appear a different shade from the rest of the carpet. Bands will be spaced closer together along the length of the carpet.

This type of pile reversal, also known as roll crush, can sometimes be corrected by the use of wet steam and grooming.

Another form of pile reversal may appear as a serpentine line along the edge of a traffic area such as down a hallway or at a pivot point.

Water marking is seen as an irregular roughly circular area with a light/dark contrast that makes the carpet look like it is wet, or a pool of water.

Pooling or watermarking is often noticed when viewing large areas of cut-pile carpet such as in some commercial settings.

Watermarking is frequently seen in cut-pile wool products as well as less resilient fibers.

With the exception of roll crush, most pile distortion can not be corrected or the correction will only be short lived. Education your client before these issues become a problem is the best course.

PROCEDURES

CORRECTING ROLL CRUSH

- **STEP 1**
Move furnishings so that you have a clean area in which to work.
- **STEP 2**
Apply wet steam to a small portion of the area being corrected. This area will serve as a test to determine what is required and what results you can expect.

Work slowly allowing the fibers to become hot and damp. Temperatures of 2120 - 2200 work well on most carpet. The HydroForce Vapor Cleaning Machine works can provide this temperature to the carpet. Other steamers and some truck mounts may be able to supply the wet heat required.

- **STEP 3**
Groom carpets using Grandi Groom, Handi-Groom or Pile Brush to set the pile in the same direction as surrounding carpet. Groom carpet while the fibers are still hot.

Note: Better results are often obtained on nylon or wool fibers. Remember, roll crush is not always correctable.

CHEMICALS NEEDED



Vapor Cleaning Machine
Description: Commercial steamer for cleaning and pile correcting
Highlights: Provides live steam at 2150 for chemical free cleaning and restoring distorted pile.



Grandi-Groomer or Nap Brush
Description: Groomer / Brush
Purpose: Use to align tufts, work finishing treatments into the carpet pile, also excellent to agitate traffic lanes and for final grooming.

QuickGuide



PROCEDURE

1. Move furniture to gain access to carpet.
2. Apply live steam to carpet.
3. Groom and align tufts.

PRODUCTS NEEDED

- Vapor Cleaning Machine
- Grandi Groomer, Handi Groomer or Nap Brush

Other Resources

Other Resources
 Bridgepoint Fast Track Manual
 Bridgepoint Carpet Cleaning Manual
 IICRC Carpet Cleaning or Commercial Carpet Maintenance course
 Bridgepoint Catalog
www.bridgepoint.com
 Your Local Bridgepoint or Interlink Supply Distributor