



# CARPET

## Yellowing

### INTRODUCTION

Yellowing can describe a number of conditions. Fortunately, most of these conditions can be corrected by the same process. The yellow color is normally only on the tips of carpet tufts or the surface of an upholstery fabric. The intensity may range from a pale yellow to a dark brownish yellow. Most often the yellowing is light and is noticed on light colored fibers.

### CAUSE

Yellowing can be caused by one or more of the following:

- Off-gassing from BHT (Butylated Hydroxytoluene). BHT may be found in some carpet cushion, construction adhesives used in particle board, OSB and plywood and many other sources.
- Alkalinity on natural fibers. Alkalinity also effects some older acid dye resistor treatments.
- Over-Wetting and/or slow drying
- Age, especially when acid dye resistors and stain repellents are present

### PREVENTION

Much yellowing is from causes beyond the cleaner's control. However, controlling moisture and avoiding chemicals with elevated pH for the fiber being cleaned will reduce yellowing or avoid it altogether.

### CORRECTION

#### ➤ STEP 1

Mix **Fab-Set** 6 ounces per gallon of water and spray a light mist over the entire area. For more difficult situations, mix 8 to 12 ounces of **Citric Acid** in a gallon of hot water. Add 4 to 6 ounces of **Fab-Set**. Spray this solution over the affected area.

#### ➤ STEP 2

For small areas, work the solution in with a groomer or horsehair brush on upholstery. For larger areas of carpet, go over the area using a **Rotary Machine** with a **Micro Fiber** or **Cotton Bonnet**. Lighten dampen the bonnet with the solution from step 1.

#### ➤ STEP 3

Dry quickly use an **Air Mover**. Use other resources such as ceiling fans, air conditioning and so forth to speed the drying.

**NOTE:** In severe yellowing situations it may be necessary to re-clean the entire area first and then apply the corrective procedures. Normally a surface cleaning with bonnets is all that is required. Remember, moisture contributed to the problem. Be very careful to control the use in moisture when re-cleaning.

### Chemicals Needed



#### Fab-Set

**Type:** Conditioner/neutralizer

**Highlights:** Prevents or corrects yellowing. Reduces soil wicking and browning. Removes alkaline residue.



#### Citric Acid

**Type:** Yellowing / Browning corrector

**Highlights:** Corrects yellowing on both natural and synthetic fibers. Can prevent future yellowing or browning.

### Accessories Needed



#### Microfiber Bonnet

**Description:** Pad for cleaning and absorbing moisture

**Purpose:** Multipurpose. Can be used on carpet or hard surfaces for mild abrasion and superior absorbency.



#### Air Movers

**Description:** High volume blower

**Purpose:** Dries carpet, upholstery and structures quickly.

### Equipment Needed



#### Rotary Machine w/ drive block

**Type:** Rotational agitation/bonneting  
**Purpose:** Dries carpet faster to avoid soil wicking. Helps promote even and deep coverage of Fab-Set / Citric acid solution. Bonnet cleaning, encapsulation, tile floor cleaning.



#### Bonnet Machine

**Type:** Rotational agitation/bonneting  
**Purpose:** Dries carpet faster to avoid soil wicking. Helps promote even and deep coverage of Fab-Set.



#### 2-Quart Pump Sprayer

**Description:** Pump sprayer  
**Purpose:** Applies chemicals quickly and efficiently.



#### Pump Sprayer

**Description:** Pump sprayer  
**Purpose:** Applies chemical evenly over carpet and upholstery.

**HELPFUL HINTS** – Using the prevention methods above for all of your cleaning situations will greatly reduce your callbacks. These methods help prevent browning, yellowing, soil wicking, bleeding, etc., in addition to preparing the carpet for **Bridgepoint's Maxim Protector**.



**CAUTION** – Older cellulosic fibers (cotton, jute) will pose the highest risk and correction will be the most time consuming. Be sure to identify cellulosic fibers before you start. It is always easier and less costly to prevent problems before they occur.





## **PROCEDURE**

### **CORRECTION**

- 1 Spray **Fab-Set** over the entire area.
- 2 Go over the entire area with a **Bonnet Machine** and **Micro Fiber Bonnet**.
- 3 Dry quickly with **Air Mover**.

## **PRODUCTS NEEDED**

- **Fab-Set**
- **Micro Fiber Bonnet**
- **Air Mover**
- **Bonnet Machine**

## **Other Resources**

**Bridgepoint Carpet Cleaning Manual and / or Class**

**Bridgepoint Fast Track Carpet Manual and / or Class**

**Bridgepoint Catalog**

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