

HEALTHY, WEALTHY & WISE

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How Does Stain-Resistant Carpet Work?

Consumers have become quite demanding. We expect that the things we buy and use will last a long time, work properly and outlive the warranty. Our high expectations extend straight down to our carpets. We expect them to resist staining and look new for many years. Fortunately, with modern stain-resistant applications, we can get years and years of life out of our carpets with proper care.

Understanding Stain-Resistant Fibers

True stain-resistant carpet is referred to as 5th generation nylon. Although these fibers are stain resistant, they are not stain-proof. In order to understand how carpet can be made stain-resistant, we have to define what a stain is.

A stain is something that has added color to the carpet fibers, and cannot be removed with regular cleaning. Some stains are fairly simple to remove. Others are difficult or even impossible to remove completely. One type of stain that gives owners of carpet nightmares is the red food coloring typically found in soft drinks. These products dye the fibers in much the same way that carpet is dyed at the factory.

5th generation nylon carpet fibers are factory-dyed using an acid-based dye system. This means that the dye registers on the acid side of the pH scale. Nylon fibers have microscopic areas on the surface called dye sites. These dye sites are negatively charged. The acid-based dyes are positively charged, as are many staining agents like food coloring. Opposites attract, and the molecules of dye attach themselves to dye sites on the nylon fibers giving you the color you want. However, staining agents can do the same thing.

The Magic of "Invisible Dye"

When the carpet is dyed, not all of the dye sites are filled. This creates an open space for any acid-based, positively charged stain molecule to attach itself. To help prevent staining, fiber producers invented a process where they fill the open dye sites with what can be described as "colorless dye". These "colorless dyes" are called acid dye resisters (ADR's). ADR's make it very difficult for stains to permanently enter the dye sites, buying you precious time to blot and remove a spill before the spot becomes

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from all of us at
Chet's Cleaning



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Cherry Tomato Sauce with Penne

Ingredients:

- 2 cups cherry tomatoes (such as Sun Gold)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, sliced
- salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons fresh oregano leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 14 ounces penne pasta
- 1/2 cup grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese

Directions:

1. Combine cherry tomatoes, oil, garlic, and salt in a saucepan over medium-low heat. Cook and stir until garlic is just toasted, 2 to 3 minutes.
2. Pour chicken broth into tomato mixture; bring to a simmer and cook until tomatoes start to collapse and burst, about 10 minutes. Stir oregano and red pepper flakes into tomato mixture.
3. Puree tomato mixture with a stick blender until sauce is smooth.
4. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil; add penne and cook, stirring occasionally, until tender yet firm to the bite, about 11 minutes. Drain and return pasta to the pot. Pour tomato sauce over penne and stir until pasta absorbs some of the sauce, 1 to 2 minutes. Stir Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese into pasta and season with salt and pepper to taste.

recipe courtesy allrecipes.com

Stain-Resistant Carpet *(continued from cover)*

a permanent stain. If it weren't for ADR's, most food spills would instantly stain the carpet for good!

ADR's are not the same as carpet protectors like Scotchgard or Teflon, which are referred to as fluorochemical soil retardants. Fluorochemical soil-retardants help carpet resist common soils, spots and spills. It's the combination of soil retardants and acid dye resistors that make modern carpet last much longer and clean up much more easily than carpets of a generation ago.

There are things that can damage the factory-applied acid dye

resistors. Untrained, uneducated carpet cleaners using the wrong type of cleaning agents can void your carpet's stain-resist warranty. That's why Chet's Cleaning is always your safest choice when it comes to having your carpets professionally cleaned.

Chet's Cleaning use the methods, cleaning agents and equipment most recommended by major carpet manufacturers. When we apply a quality fluorochemical protector, your carpets stay cleaner longer. The result is that your carpets look beautiful, resist stains and last longer, maintaining your valuable warranty.

Clean Your Indoor Air

Have you noticed that the air in your home is not as clean and fresh as it should be? These tips will help you breathe easier.

- When cooking or cleaning, keep your windows open as much as possible.
- When cooking on the top of the stove, cover pots and pans especially when frying. Use the ventilating fan under the hood of the stove when cooking.
- Use the bathroom exhaust fan or open a bathroom window when steam is present.
- Make sure your vacuum cleaner is working properly and does not blow dust back into the room. Change vacuum cleaner bags frequently.
- Use doormats at each entrance to your home to collect dirt and dust before it enters your home.
- Dust your home regularly and clean large flat surfaces several times a year.
- Vacuum and sweep regularly.
- Clean and change the filters on any humidifiers or air-filtration systems regularly.
- Wash all bedding in hot water weekly.
- Use non-toxic cleaning products and don't mix different types of cleaning solutions together.
- Place some houseplants in your home. They remove toxins from the air.
- Don't smoke inside your home.





DON'T SKIP THAT SUNSCREEN

There is nothing more you can do to prevent melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, than to use sunscreen every time you go into the sun. You might imagine that people who have survived melanoma would be extra careful. But a study by researchers at Yale University's School of Medicine reveals that more than 25 percent of melanoma survivors never use sunscreen when heading outdoors.

Everyone should limit exposure to the damaging effects of ultraviolet

(UV) light. This means putting sunscreen on every time you go out, staying in the shade as much as possible, wearing protective clothing and a hat, and avoiding tanning salons.

The good news of the study is that over one-third of melanoma survivors always wore sunscreen. Other studies have revealed that only about 17 percent of Americans wear sunscreen all the time. The researchers believe that better education of the melanoma survivors increases the rate at which they use sunscreen.

With almost 77,000 cases of melanoma diagnosed each year in the United States, it is critically important for everyone to understand the risks of sun exposure. An estimated 9,500 American will die of the disease this year. But with better education about basic precautions, that number could be reduced significantly.

7 Warm Weather Tune-Up Tips

Your bags are packed, your maps are unfolded, and the kids all have their snacks. You and your family are ready for your road trip, but is your car? As the weather gets warmer, there are some things you should do to ensure that every trip, short or long, is a safe one.

- 1) Do a check of all of your exterior lights and windshield wipers. Replace worn wipers or any burned out bulbs.
- 2) Look over your tires to make sure that the tread is not worn down. Don't forget to check your spare also. This is a great time to get out your jack, make sure it is in working order, and review how to use it.
- 3) Under the hood, check the belts, battery, and all fluid levels. It is a good idea to get a fresh oil and filter change before and after a road trip.
- 4) Fill up the washer fluid reservoirs and wash all the windows.
- 5) Inside your vehicle, do a safety check of all of your seat belts.
6. Check any car seats that are in your car, making sure that they have been installed according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- 7) Put a safety kit in your vehicle. This should include first aid supplies, a wrench, screwdriver, flashlight, safety flares, extra water, and some rags.



Good Clean Funnies No Problem

A young bride phoned her mother just three days before the wedding. "I have some awful news," she said. "My fiancé's mother has bought the exact same dress as you to wear for the wedding!"

"Oh, no!" exclaimed her mother. But after giving it a second thought she said, "Don't worry! I'll just go and buy another dress to wear to the ceremony."

Her daughter sighed with relief but then said, "Mom, that dress cost a fortune. What will you do with it? What a waste not to use it!"

"Who said I won't use it?" replied her mother. "I'll just wear it to the rehearsal dinner."



Quick Tips Home Tip

Pretreated dusting cloths are handy, but they can be expensive. To save money, use lotion-treated facial tissues. They work well for trapping dust from televisions, bookshelves, windowsills, and furniture. You can keep them in plain sight, making it easy to dust quickly and often.

Green Living Tip

If you want to cut your energy use, consider switching from a desktop computer to a laptop. Laptop computers use almost three-quarters less electricity than a desktop model. To save more, power down your computer each night instead of letting it run.



OUR MISSION

To provide our clients with the most extraordinary experience, while making their homes & businesses a healthy & clean environment. We will effectively communicate so we can dramatically exceed our customer's expectations consistently.

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Win a \$50 VISA Gift Card!

Read this edition of Healthy, Wealthy & Wise to find the answer to the following trivia question:

What 2 things protect carpet from staining and soiling?

- a. Acid dye resisters and fluorochemical protectors
- b. Silicone protectors and dye resistant polymers
- c. Acid dye resisters and silicone protectors
- d. Begging and pleading

When you think you've found the correct answer, email it to chet@chetscleaning.com or call our office at (248) 584-1819. One winner will be chosen from a random draw of correctly answered entries.

Contest Expires 6/30/2017.

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