

CHOOSING A CARPET

Carpet is a luxurious, comfortable flooring which is a great choice for any home. Its real beauty lies in its versatility – it is suitable for virtually every room in the house, is available in almost any colour, and provides a warm, comfortable surface to walk, sit or play on.

Which room?

When choosing a new carpet, it's important to think about where it's going to be used and what type of footfall it will have to cope with.

Bedroom carpet, for example, will not see much traffic as a hallway or living room so you could choose a less hardwearing carpet here.

In areas of high use, opt for a heavy domestic rated carpet, preferably with a life-time stain warranty.



Our Advice

Carpets should always be professionally installed; we offer expert advice and installation to ensure your carpet has a long and happy life.

The right underlay is vital to prolonging the life of your carpet. It provides cushioning that keeps your carpet feeling comfortable underfoot, reduces noise and increases heat retention, and makes it easier to clean.

For these reasons, it is a false economy to lay new carpet on old underlay. You should always invest in the best underlay you can afford as it will keep your carpet looking good for longer.

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Carpets.
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Carpet buying
guide

STYLES

There are two main ways of constructing carpets - twist and loop piles. Other, less common constructions include woven carpets – a traditional method used in Axminster and Wilton carpets for a hardwearing, compact finish.

Twist pile and Saxony carpets



Twist pile carpets are very popular in the UK. They comprise of twisted yarns which are cut to length, creating a textured, springy and durable surface.

Saxony carpets are essentially twist carpets with much longer fibres to give a plush, deep pile finish.

Loop pile and Berber carpets



Loop pile carpets are made of looped yarns. If you have pets, their claws can snag or pull on the loops.

Berber carpets are loop pile carpets with flecks of colour and are often more textured and irregular.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR?

Carpets are available in;

- Different construction styles
- Weights
- Compositions, giving increasing levels of luxury to suit your requirements.

All three factors will help determine the best carpet for your specific requirement.

WEIGHT

Weights are generally between 40 and 70 oz; the heavier the weight or pile density, the greater the luxury. Stairs and lounge carpets are usually 50 oz, and 60 - 70 oz is generally considered a luxury carpet. Not all carpets display a weight- sometimes it's best to just feel the carpet you like to get a good idea of whether it's right for your home and needs.



COMPOSITION

- **Wool** carpets are considered the most luxurious and, as they are made from natural, sustainable materials, have integral strength and stain-resistance along with an innate beauty. The perfect eco-friendly choice.
- **Wool blend** carpets are usually 80% wool / 20% manmade fibers, providing greater durability and versatility.
- **Polyamide/nylon** comprises hardwearing synthetic fibers that are long-lasting and easy to clean – perfect for children and pets.
- **Polyester** offers softness and comfort of wool and is commonly used in thicker, deeper and denser carpets.
- **Polypropylene** carpets are popular and inexpensive whilst providing good stain resistance and durability – great for tighter budgets.

