



UNIVERSAL

TEXTILE TECHNOLOGIES

Wick Back Stain Prevention

Spills & Stains

Resistance to stains from liquid spills is critical to longevity and newness retention of commercial carpet products. Unfortunately, with conventional latex backing, removing the spill on the surface is frequently ineffective because residual liquid in the backing can continue to wick back and reappear on the carpet pile, over and over again. This problem can cause serious appearance problems, sometimes more pronounced than the initial stain.

Unlike conventional latex backing, Universal Textile Technologies polyurethane carpet backings provide a unique advance coating between the carpet pile and the secondary backing, minimizing liquid spills from penetrating the carpet backing to help avoid the problem of wick back staining.

Synthetic carpet fibers differ substantially in resistance to common staining agents, such as coffee, colas, and fruit drinks. Please consult your carpet manufacturer for information on the inherent stain resistant properties of specific commercial carpet fibers.

Sample Construction

In an independent industry laboratory, tests were conducted on two commercial broadloom carpet samples. One sample was manufactured with a conventional latex backing, and the other same was made with BioCel polyurethane carpet backing.

Staining Agent: 40 mls of hot black coffee were applied to the surface of each sample.

Hot Water Extraction: After 10 minutes, samples were hot-water extracted.

Initial Stain Removal: The coffee stains were partially removed on all samples.

Wick Back Staining: The surfaces of the samples were then documented at two additional intervals of time: after 3-hours; and after 24-hours. The carpet with the conventional latex backing showed significant wick back staining after 3-hours. Even greater wick back staining was documented after 24-hours. No visible wick back staining was documented after either 3-hours or 24-hours with the styles manufactured with UTT polyurethane carpet backings.

For additional information:

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