



## Keeping The Enemy Out

Walk-Off Mats Are a Must



Did you know that proper walk-off mats alone can save the average household about:

- 200 hours of work a year
- slow down structural depreciation
- save more than \$100 in cleaning supplies

The cost of good walk-off mats for the average home is only about \$120. But saving 200 hours of work and 30 minutes a day from your chore time is BIG savings for you!

Almost 100% of the dust and dirt you're cleaning out comes from outside. (Eighty percent is transported in, the rest leaks through cracks, is airborne or originates inside.) Proper use of walk-off mats will stop its infiltration. Ask us how.

Taken from Don Aslett's book, *Is There Life After Housework?*



## Maintenance Tips

### Quick Response Saves Sofa !

You can save your upholstery fabrics from most liquid spills if you treat them fast enough. Most upholstery fabric purchased today comes treated with a fabric protector such as Teflon® or Scotchgard®. A primary benefit of these protectors is that they prevent most spills from penetrating the fabric for *at least 30 seconds*. In those first seconds most spills can be easily absorbed with a cotton towel and a damaging stain thwarted.

Unfortunately, when spills occur most people are indecisive about the best course of action. By the time an absorbant towel is located and applied to the spill, it is too late!

#### Be Prepared!

In your living and family rooms place a small white cotton hand towel under a seat cushion to be used for emergency spills. Advise everyone in the family where the towel is located (for example, under the center cushion). Have a prac-

tice "spill drill". Let each family member imagine there has just been a spill on a chair. Go to the sofa, lift the center seat cushion and pull out the hand towel. Quickly take the towel to the spill and *gently place* it on top of the spill (do not rub, smash or scrub). The towel will be far more absorbent than the protected fabric. In most cases this action alone can prevent permanent staining.



Hot spills such as coffee will penetrate the fabric protector much faster, so a quick response is vital.

Fabric protector is *essential* for keeping your upholstered furniture looking good for a long time. Always ask if it has been applied when you purchase a new piece of upholstered furniture. The protector will not come off later during proper cleanings, but it will wear off from normal use. It should be restored periodically when you have the fabric professionally cleaned.

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### Will cleaning my carpets remove the Teflon® or Scotchgard® carpet protector ? **NO.**

There is no significant loss of carpet protector due to proper cleaning. However, there is significant loss of carpet protector due to normal usage in traffic areas on your carpet. Carpet protector is a coating applied to all residential carpets during the manufacturing process. Normal foot traffic wears this protective coating off the fibers. Carpet

protector can be restored to the fibers after cleaning.

### Is it OK to walk on the carpets while they are still damp from cleaning? **YES.**

Walking on damp carpet will not damage it. There are several things to bear in mind:

1. Damp carpets will quickly clean the bottom of your shoes so it is advisable to thoroughly clean shoes before walking on a damp carpet.
2. If any furniture is readjusted or placed onto the damp car-

pet, it is possible for metal to rust or wood stain to bleed into the carpet, creating a permanent stain. Be sure that any furniture that is placed on a damp carpet has either plastic or aluminum foil placed between the carpet and the furniture.

3. Be careful –it's important! When you step from a damp carpet onto a hard surface it can be very slippery. Place a towel at the doorway on the hard surface floor to wipe your shoes as you walk on and off the carpet.



Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Specialist

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