

ERIK LINDSTRÖM

CARE + CLEANING

MAINTENANCE

Vacuum your handmade rug at least once a week—and more frequently in high-traffic areas—to prevent dust, dirt and debris from settling into the fibers. Use a vacuum with adjustable suction and set the beater bar or rotating brush to its highest height to avoid damaging the rug's pile. Miele vacuums are recommended for the regular care of hand-knotted wool and silk rugs.

FADING

Erik Lindstrom rugs are made with premium, fade-resistant Swiss dyes. However, no rug dye or natural fiber is completely resistant to prolonged exposure to direct sunlight. To minimize fading and maintain consistent color, protect your rug from intense UV exposure and rotate it periodically so that any gradual fading occurs evenly.

SPROUTING

Sprouting occurs when individual strands of wool or silk extend slightly above the surface of a handmade rug. Because hand-knotted rugs are individually woven and hand-sheared, occasional sprouts are a normal characteristic and do not mean the rug is unraveling. Carefully trim the raised yarn level with the surrounding pile using sharp scissors. Never pull a loose strand.

ABRASH

Abrash is the subtle variation in color and tone that can appear within a hand-knotted rug. Because hand-spun yarn naturally varies in thickness and absorbs dye differently, delicate bands or striations may develop during the dyeing and weaving process. Abrash is not a defect; it is a desirable hallmark of an authentic handmade rug, adding depth, texture and individual character that distinguish it from a machine-made rug.

SHEDDING

Some shedding is normal with a new wool or natural-fiber rug. It is caused by excess fibers that were not fully incorporated into the yarn during spinning and is not an indication of inferior quality or construction. Vacuum the rug regularly during the first several weeks, and the shedding should gradually subside. Use a low or moderate suction setting and avoid vacuum heads with teeth, aggressive beater bars or stiff rotating brushes, as these can pull fibers and damage the rug's pile.

SPILLS

Act quickly when a spill occurs to prevent it from becoming a permanent stain. Natural fibers such as wool and silk are durable and can often be cleaned successfully when spills receive immediate attention.

For dry spills, carefully vacuum the affected area. For liquid spills, gently blot with a clean, absorbent white cotton cloth or white paper towel. Never rub or scrub the rug, as this can push the liquid deeper into the pile and spread the stain. Begin at the outside edge of the spill and work toward the center.

If residue remains, apply a small amount of carbonated water and continue blotting. A diluted solution of lukewarm water and mild dish soap may also be used sparingly. Do not oversaturate the rug, and allow the area to air-dry completely—never use direct heat.

Rugs made with bamboo silk, hemp, cactus fiber or nettle should be professionally cleaned. Professional rug cleaning is also recommended for large spills, persistent stains or any spot that does not respond to gentle treatment.

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