
**Textile floor coverings — State of the
art on maintenance and cleaning**

*Revêtements de sol textiles — Etat de l'art relatives à l'entretien et au
nettoyage*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 219, *Floor coverings*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/TS 21868:2021), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- clarifications to the terms and definitions were added;
- clarifications to the requirements were added;
- [Table 1](#) “Fibre identification burn test” was deleted.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

This document is designed for legislators, related enterprise associations, textile floor coverings manufacturers, and textile floor covering maintenance and cleaning enterprises to develop their own specific textile floor covering maintenance or/and cleaning standards or procedures in accordance with the local conditions. Due to diversity of different regions in climates, customs and developing levels in the world, it is extremely difficult to create a specific textile floor covering maintenance and cleaning standard as a template which is globally workable. In addition, the factors which impact the result of cleaning are so abundant and the combinations of these factors are so tremendous that particular programmes are necessary to acquire the best result of textile floor covering cleaning.

This guidance standard manages to list all the factors which affect the final results of cleaning, against which legislators, relative enterprises associations and textile floor covering maintenance and cleaning enterprises are able to establish the above-mentioned particular programmes (procedures or criteria) in their standards accordingly. Therefore, this standard is not intended to be used by end-users to perform any specific maintenance and cleaning jobs.

This comprehensive guidance standard is intended to pave the way for legislators and related enterprise associations to establish specific standards for:

- regulating the development of the textile floor covering cleaning industry,
- promoting the development of the textile floor covering cleaning detergent and equipment industry,
- improving textile floor covering cleaning techniques, and
- improving sales of textile floor coverings,

since specific textile floor covering maintenance and cleaning standards are still absent in most nations.

NOTE The term "textile floor coverings" applies to wall-to-wall carpets, broadloom carpets, rugs, mat and tile carpets.

Textile floor coverings — State of the art on maintenance and cleaning

1 Scope

This document gives guidelines for the development of specific textile floor covering maintenance and cleaning standards, procedures and criteria to reflect local specific conditions. This document specifies the factors which will impact the final results of textile floor covering cleaning, defining maintenance and cleaning terms to highlight differences. It establishes textile floor covering maintenance and cleaning as achieving a low-cost, non-residue and environmentally friendly cleaning under the premise of maximizing the use value of textile floor covering.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

soil

any matter that is foreign to the construction of the textile floor covering

Note 1 to entry: Soil includes spill, spot, stain, and residue.

3.2

spill

wet, dry, oily or combination states of matter that are accidentally deposited on the textile floor covering

Note 1 to entry: Depending on the composition of the spill, quick response time and cleaning procedures can assist in minimizing the probability of a spill becoming a spot or a stain.

3.3

spot

foreign material on the surface of a fibre, usually changing the texture of the fibre

EXAMPLE Sticky, oily, greasy, stiff.

Note 1 to entry: Spots can usually be removed. However, some spots, if left untreated for too long, can become stains.

3.4

stain

indication of the addition of colour, frequently in liquid or pigment form that has been strongly attracted to the textile floor covering fibre

Note 1 to entry: This added dye or pigment can bind to a dye site and actually alter the structure of the fibre. Not all stains respond positively to removal efforts.