

How to use a Vax like a Pro.

This is a general guide, not a manual for professional carpet cleaning. This will help you maintain your carpet until it's time to get a professional in. Any questions, feel free to ask me 07846142202

What you will need.

Pump up sprayer (at least 5 litres), two nylon brooms (used for inside the house), vacuum cleaner, nail brush (for spot cleaning), hand trigger sprayer and clean white terry towels.

Optional extra - Whole room fans, measuring jugs and buckets, wooden lolly stick or pen lid (something to pick at spots on the carpet) 03 spray jet "V" shape spray jet, these help control the spray. How to prepare.

VAX - Make sure your machine is clean, and all filters (if any) are clean. Vacuum cleaner - empty your dust bin, ensure the brush roll (upright) is free of any hair.

Sprayer - fill your sprayer with 2 litres of warm water, pour the correct amount of solution to 3 litres, and pour the remaining 1 litre in. So you have 3 litres of pre-treatment in your sprayer.

Hand sprayer - mix 50/50 in your hand sprayer. This is for heavier soiled areas.

Move furniture - before you can get to work, move all small furniture, things like your sofa and large tables, work around those. You can go around anytime that doesn't get moved at all.

Do's and don't

Do. Use shoe protectors if possible, or use clean footwear

Don't. Over spray, never apply too much, just enough to cover and saturate the soil and carpet fibres

Do. Take your time when vacuuming, this is the foundation for a successful clean. PRO TIP

Don't. Put furniture back straightaway, give as much time to dry as possible around 2 hours

Do. Use clean cloths, short strokes and blot, never rub, that causes damage

Vacuum the carpet

Vacuum all areas of carpet, vacuum the carpet from one side to the other and back again. Vacuuming twice over, this may seem like a lot, but 85% of the visible dirt is dry soil, 15% is wet soil, and this is what the dry soil is sticking to. Not only this, you will reduce the amount the chance of a blockage later on.

As you're vacuuming, take note of any spots and feel them for texture differences. Do they feel like glue? Food? Sticky residue?

Pre treatment

Treat any spots with your spotter bottle and agitate with the nail brush or spotting tool (pen lid lolly stick) and then blot with a towel to check for transfer. If nothing transfers over to the towel you will need specialist treatment which without professional knowledge you may struggle. So move on to the next one.

Spray the rest of the carpet, taking care to not spray up the walls, tray to aim 6" away from the wall. This solution is for water soluble soiling, so unless anything like food and drink, foot fall traffic has been there you're ok not treating that area. It's not necessary.

Spray in even strokes and maintain a rhythm, slightly overlapping.

Brush in

Once you've treated one area. Brush the treatment I use even strokes, again overlapping each stroke evenly.

Leave for 10 mins, have a cuppa.

Vax over

Plug in outside the room, near your finish point. This saves walking back in or the lead getting in your way.

Starting at the furthest point away from your exit. Spray rinse and pull back around one metre, push back away and start again next to your first pass work in a "W" pattern.

Dry passes

After you've worked your way across, work your way back going back over the area just using the vacuum. This will extract all residual moisture leaving only minimal moisture behind to dry naturally. This rinse and extract will take a while but it's extremely important to take your time and give it as much time as it needs. No shortcuts will help you out, they will only extend the dry time and potentially cause problems later.

Brush to reset the pile

Brushing the pile in one direction will help expand the pile, part any fibres holding moisture, and aid with evaporation.

Leave to dry

Once done, place any fans you have, open at least one window at each end of the room. This will move air through the room, realising the humidity, and encourage evaporation.

Hope this little article makes sense. It will be improved over time.

Web Version



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