



Carpet: It's Just Good for You

Everyone is concerned about better health. We shop for healthy foods. We take our vitamins. We visit our doctor on a regular basis. We drink filtered water. What we might not appreciate is the value of filtered *air*.

How do you effectively filter the air in your home? You are right... changing the filters in your furnace system on a regular, scheduled basis. If you wait too long, you know it because the filter is just so darned dirty. It makes a mess when you change it. So you vow to do it more often, and maybe you even put it on your wall calendar so you don't forget. You might even pick up a better quality filter, such as one that uses HEPA standards.

But what about the *biggest* filter in your home? Wonder what it is? Just look down... if you have carpet, that's the filter that often gets ignored. If you don't have much carpet, odds are you have area rugs covering those hard floors. Those area rugs are filters, too.

Carpet in a home is a protection for you, because it traps all kinds of allergens that can be the bane of asthma sufferers. Carpet is a filter and, like all filters, has to be either changed or cleaned. It's not practical to change your carpet every year or so (heck, no one could afford that!) but you can – and should – have it cleaned.

Remember, allergens are very light and float in the air, and are respiratory concerns, especially for allergy and asthma sufferers. Carpet helps to keep those particulates to a minimum.

There are many documented studies about how homes and facilities, such as schools, are healthier because of carpet and regular cleaning schedules.

So enjoy your carpet... and have it cleaned by your favourite carpet cleaning pro!

**DUMB IDEAS OR NOT?
YOU CHOOSE!**

 "I don't wash my car, I just wipe the dust off with a dry rag." Dumb Not

 "I never wash my hair. I just brush the dirt right out of it!" Dumb Not

 "We got a new vacuum cleaner. So we rarely need professional carpet cleaning." Dumb Not

**Pick dumb every time? You're a winner!
No one can call you dumb! So every few months
get your carpet cleaned by a professional.**

Here's why. A sweeper removes only dry soil.
Not the oily, sticky soils that are the problem.
The more you have, the less likely vacuuming is going
to work because of "binders" in those oily/sticky soils.

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Leaks Happen - Be Ready!

When leaks occurs (and statistics say water damage claims are among the highest with insurance companies) you need to act quickly. The #1 concern is to think "safety first." Before entering into any areas of the home that are damage from flood waters, be sure that the power is turned off. Nothing is worth getting an electrical shock!

Next, find the water turn-off valve and stop the flooding. Many homeowners aren't sure where the water turn-off valve is located. Now is the time to figure that out, and even put a tag on it so it is easy to find, especially in the dark or in the beam of a flashlight. Don't delay... find that valve and mark it!

It's always best to be prepared. Contact your water damage restoration contractor and get the info you need to be safe... just in case.