



We love our furry family members. But let's face it, at times they make bigger messes than our own flesh and blood do. We are here to provide tips and tricks for cleaning up after your pet on various types of floors!

## **CARPET CLEANING TIPS**

### **Poop (it happens!)**

First, you'll need to pick up the poop. Hopefully it's a clean one, but a lot of times, if your pet is going to the bathroom in the house, they might be a little sick and it's not so clean of an accident. If that's the case, pick up as much as the poop as you can and dispose of it how you wish.

Next, you'll need to treat the stain. There are many people who prefer store-bought mixtures (which is fine as long as you test it on a small portion of your carpet first) but we're going to tell you how to treat the stain with products you have at home.

- 2 cups of warm water
- 2 tablespoons washing soda
- 2 tablespoons hydrogen peroxide
- 1 tsp. Dawn Original dish soap

Even though this isn't a store-bought mixture, we still recommend testing a small area of your carpet first to make sure it doesn't discolor your carpet fibers.

Once you've tested a small area of your carpet, lightly dab the mixture onto the stain with a clean cloth. Then grab a scrub brush and work it into the fibers. Next, take a damp cloth and dab the spot to transfer as much of the stain from your carpet onto the cloth. Rinse the cloth and repeat as many times as necessary.

We also recommend neutralizing the smell because your pet will continue to smell it and might continue to go to the bathroom in that spot. Again, we prefer using natural products – it's safer for the environment and for our family members. Spray the area with a 50/50 mix of warm water and white vinegar and let it dry.

### **Urine**

The most important thing to do with urine accidents is to blot up as much as possible. The scent of urine can be difficult to get rid of. We recommend blotting the urine-soaked area with old towels, paper towels or even brown paper bags. If you happen to have a shop vac in your home, even better.



Depending on how dark the urine is, you may or may not need to treat for a urine stain as well. If that's the case, use the method outlined above.

Again, it's so important to neutralize the smell in the carpet because if not, your furry friend will continue to go in the same spot over and over again. The 50/50 water and white vinegar mixture will do the trick! Make sure you wet the area enough, because if you do not, it will have a lingering smell. Once the area is mostly dry from the 50/50 mixture, put some baking soda on the area and rub it in with a bristle brush. After everything has totally dried, vacuum it up so there are no baking soda clumps.

### **Vomit**

If the vomit is fresh, scoop as much of it up as you can and throw it away. If it has dried, scrape away as much as you can with a spoon or putty knife (gross, we know) and throw it away.

Use the cleaning steps outlined above to start tackling the vomit area. Depending on how long the stain has been sitting on your carpet or rug, you may need to take extra steps. After doing the method outlined above, let it completely dry (at least 1 day). Now is the trick that truly is tricky depending on the type of carpet you have... iron away the stain!

1. Fill your clothing iron with water and set it to "steam." If your carpets are wool, use the high heat setting. If your carpet is nylon or a blend, use the low setting.
2. Open your windows, then mix 2 tablespoons household ammonia and 1 cup of very hot water and spray on the area.
3. Place a towel ON TOP OF THE STAIN.
4. Put the iron on the towel and keep it in constant motion as you "iron" the entire area over the stain for about 20 seconds. The stain will begin to transfer from the carpet to the towel.
5. Lift the towel, find a clean place on it and continue to do this process until the stain disappears.
6. Let the area dry completely, then sprinkle it with baking soda and vacuum thoroughly to remove any lingering smell.

Keep in mind, the quicker you tend to any pet accidents, the easier they are to clean!