

## ***THE CARPET FACTOR***

# **Carpet Maintenance**

You paid a great deal of money for your carpet, so why not maintain it properly to maximize your investment? We have put together some general guidelines which should help you keep your carpet looking and feeling new for years to come.

Regular thorough vacuuming removes soil from among fibers of carpets, thus keeping their good appearance and extending their life. Most carpeted areas need this vacuuming at least once a week. Seldom used areas may not need to be vacuumed as frequently.

Dry soil from shoes, crumbs, etc. may stay on the surface of the carpet for a short period of time before working their way down into the carpet. This surface soil can be removed easily if vacuumed regularly. Vacuuming on a regular basis will also remove dust, pet hairs, and lint before they can be ground into the carpet.

Gritty or heavy soils will sink in between carpet fibers faster and are generally harder to remove from your carpet. Vacuuming is still the best way to remove this gritty soil, but you must go over the same area more than once and be sure to use a slower stroke to allow the suction of the vacuum to pull this grit from your carpet.

Eventually carpets need some type of cleaning to remove soil that sticks to the fibers. How often depends on amount of use and the soil the carpet receives. Have your carpet professionally cleaned periodically. Or you may find it more convenient to have it done professionally each time special cleaning is needed, rather than doing it yourself.

Professional cleaners use similar methods to home cleaning, but they have the knowledge, equipment, and experience necessary to do a more thorough job of removing embedded soil. Professional cleaners can also handle spot removal, re-dyeing, rebinding and repairs. Always alert the cleaner to the location and cause, if known, of spots and stains that require attention.



## **Coat Conditioners for Your Pet**

If you'd like to add some shine to your pet's fur, try these tips from animal experts:

- Add a teaspoon of vegetable oil – safflower, corn, canola, or soybean – to your cat or dog's food every morning.
- Feed your pet a cooked egg yolk or whole egg once or twice a week. You can add a chopped hard boiled egg to your pet's food.
- Brush your pet's fur daily. Veterinarian Dr. Petra Drake says brushing removes dead hair and spread the skin's natural oil, Making a glossy coat.

## Honey-Baked Meats Provide Extra boost of Nutrition

If your holiday table includes either a honey-baked turkey or ham, nutritionists say the sweet coating is a healthy addition. According to Dr. Nicki Engeseth, a chemist with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, honey contains antioxidants that may help protect against heart diseases. Her research also found that honey helps prolong the freshness of meat and guards against harmful byproducts of meat oxidation that increase the risk of heart disease.



## Is Your Home Ready for Winter?

It's time to think about winterizing your house, no matter whether you'll be there all winter or plan to be away for an extended period. The tasks aren't overwhelming, and if you plan to be home, you'll be glad you did, because the steps you take will protect your property and save you dollars in heating costs.

**Seal Leaks around Doors and Windows.** Add or replace worn weather-stripping around doors and windows.

- Caulk gaps where necessary.
- Replace worn door stops at the bottom of doors.
- Replace old windows with energy efficient windows.

**Heating System Checks**

- Have a heating professional do a routine-check before cold weather arrives.
- Vacuum the vents and other heating components.

**Check the Roof**

- Replace loose shingles.
- Make sure the flashing around the chimney or vent pipes is watertight.
- Check the bricks and mortar.

**Winterize the Plumbing**

- Take care of known issues with pipes that freeze. Heat tape can be used to keep them warm during extremely cold weather.
- Learn how to turn off water at its source so that you can stop leaks immediately if they start.
- Drain water from outdoor faucets when you think a hard freeze is coming.

## Creating a Comfortable Guest Room

Interior designer Kerstin Dieterich knows how to make guests feel welcome. Here are some of her ingredients for a winning guest room:

How many times did you stay in a home of a well-meaning person only to realize that you are sleeping in their “stash it all” room? Or perhaps the room had the stale feeling of being a long forgotten kid’s room?

Treat your guests to a room that will make them feel welcome and wanted! Your guests have traveled to be with you so let them enjoy the comfort and privacy that they deserve. As a reward they will enjoy to have a place to retreat to and give you some space and peace when you need it most- during the busy holiday season.

How can you turn your extra space into a great guest room? Imagine a B&B you once visited or a place you vacationed in:

1. De clutter-put away stashes and boxes and items that your guest will not use. Clear dresser tops and empty a drawer or two. Some space to put their own things will be appreciated. Also have some hanging space and empty hangers in the closet.
2. A night stand with a nice reading lamp and an alarm clock.
3. A bed with a good mattress for a good night sleep. Consider an instant air bed, if space is an issue.
4. Fresh bedding and linens-go get “a bed in a bag ensemble”; this dresses up the room instantly. Keep the design simple; men don’t care too much for pink ruffles.
5. Add some extra pillows and a throw in the winter.
6. Paint the room a soft neutral tone. Perhaps pull out a color from the bedding ensemble.
7. Shades or curtains for privacy and light control-a must for vacationers. A metal curtain rod with drapery panels give the room a touch of luxury.
8. Hang some artwork as a finishing touch; remove your gallery of personal pictures.
9. A comfortable chair and a small table or desk is a good choice.
10. Some fresh flowers would make everybody feel special.

Kerstin Dieterich would be glad to assist you with any Interior Design related dilemma. Please call her at 650-596-0988.



## Food & Toy Drive

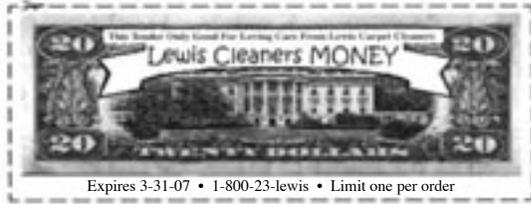
This holiday season we are asking for your support of our Fifth Annual Food and Toy Drive. Last year the food raised by Lewis Cleaners was giving to the SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK where they distributed all the donations to 618 different agencies that help feed families with children, Singles and Senior Citizens. This year the food raised will be donated to Salvation Army and The Redwood Family House.

On Wednesday December 20, 2006 our entire staff will wrap all the gifts for the children. With the help of Santa Claus we will deliver to all the families and children at the Redwood Family House. We will once again have a Holiday party and help bring some Holiday Cheer to the Families in need this Holiday Season.

\*\*\*\* **BONUS** \*\*\*\*

If you are able to help with our food and toy drive you will receive a \$30 gift certificate for any of our services.

Use Lewis Cash for any of our services



**\$\$ LEWIS CASH \$\$**

## Cranberry Salad

Try this recipe for a colorful side dish this holiday season.

- 2 cups cranberries
- 1 package lemon jello
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup of sugar
- grated zest of 1 orange
- 1/2 cup celery, finely chopped
- 1 cored apple (with skin on), grated



Boil 1/2 cup of water and stir and dissolve jello; add 1/2 cup cold water and put in fridge for an hour (it should be starting to jell but not firm). Chop cranberries in blender and combine with all other ingredients in jello – let set till firm in fridge; three to four hours.



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## FREE Cash or Cleaning

### Referral Reward Program

For each new client that you send us, we will reward you with a 10% referral certificate that can be used toward CASH or Free Cleaning!

Simply refer your friends, neighbors or co-workers and we will reward you automatically. Remember that we offer a 100% money back guarantee so you can be sure that we will take the absolute best care of your referrals. Call our office for some business cards, newsletters or goody bags to hand out to friends.

“The Lewis Carpet Team has cleaned at my home and office, they both look like new. The quality of their work was beyond our expectations. Would we use them again? In a heartbeat.”

Paula Uccelli  
Redwood City, CA

“I am always pleased with the care and thoughtful that your employees show. Your staff is always pleasant and courteous. I really enjoy seeing the same smiling friendly faces each time. Mike is a great worker.”

Debra Barrs-Stevens  
Hillsborough, CA

To view more testimonials go to:

[www.4carpetcleaning.com/customers.html](http://www.4carpetcleaning.com/customers.html)

OUR MISSION: To Provide You With The Most Outstanding Service Experience Possible!  
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