

The following procedures are necessary in helping to preserve your turf.

- Keep it clean
- Brush periodically
- Do not abuse
- Report any problems promptly to the manufacturer

## I. KEEP IT CLEAN

### A. *Dust, pollen, and airborne pollutants*

Rainfall is the best cleanser. In areas where rainfall is scarce, an occasional water flush is beneficial to cleanse the turf. For lightly soiled areas, it may be necessary to sponge mop with a five (5) percent solution of low sudsing household detergent in hot water followed by a thorough rinsing with hot water. For heavily soiled areas, repeat procedure for lightly soiled areas follow with sponge mopping using a three (3) percent solution of household ammonia in hot water followed by a thorough rinsing with hot water.

### B. *Stains and other blemishes*

The first rule is promptness. It is always easier to clean up a fresh spill than one that has dried and hardened. Remove any solid or paste-like deposit with a spatula or table knife. Blot up excess liquids with paper towels, a clean cloth, or a dry absorbent, such as kitty litter or fuller's earth. Dry absorbents can then be swept or vacuumed up afterwards.

Synthetic fibers have good resistance to staining. However, it is important to realize they are only one part of a sophisticated system of various components designed for overall performance. Some cleaning agents safe for the face fibers can be harmful to other components of the turf system. Therefore, cleaning agents are grouped into two sets, one of which can be used in liberal amounts directly on the turf surface, and the second of which should only be applied by rubbing a cloth soaked in the cleaner in order to minimize penetration of possible harmful agents below the turf surface. In the first group of cleaners which generally can be applied without any special precautions are the following:

- A bio-friendly cleaner. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- A warm, mild solution of granular household detergent or any low sudsing detergent for fine fabrics. Use approximately one teaspoon to one pint of water. This will handle most waterborne stains including:

Coffee	Vegetable Juice	Ice Cream	Ketchup	Blood	Water Colors
Tea	Fruit Juices	Cocoa	Mustard	Urine	Latex Paint
Cola	Alcohol	Milk	Butter	Dye	Glue

- A three (3) percent solution of ammonia in water may be used in lieu of household detergent for more stubborn stains.
- Do not use cleaners that contain chlorine bleaches or caustic cleaners (ph above 9) or highly acidic cleanses (ph below 5)
- Rinse area thoroughly with clean cold water to remove any traces of soap or ammonia
- Blot up excessive liquid

The second group of cleaners, where agent must be applied sparingly and care taken to avoid penetration beneath the turf are the following:

- Mineral spirits or a grease spot remover like perchlorethylene (dry cleaning solution) of the type sold by most variety stores and supermarkets. In general, cleansers in this category should handle most oil-based stains including:

Asphalt	Cooking Oil	Lipstick	Paraffin Wax	Suntan Oil
Tar	Shoe Polish	Motor Oil	Ballpoint Ink	Crayon
Gum	Floor Wax	Grease	Nail Polish	

**CAUTION** Mineral spirits and other petroleum based solvents are flammable. Do not smoke or permit open flames near where these are being used.

Be sure the area is well ventilated where solvent cleaners are used.

*C. Animal Waste*

Neutralize with mixture of white distilled vinegar in an equal amount of water. Flush thoroughly with water after application.

*D. Gum*

In addition to dry cleaning fluid, chewing gum can be removed by freezing. Aerosol packs of refrigerant are available from most carpet cleaning suppliers for this purpose, or dry ice can be used. After freezing, scrape with a knife.

*E. Fungus or mold spots*

A one (1) percent solution of hydrogen peroxide in water can be sponged on to the affected area. Flush thoroughly with clean water after application.

*F. Oil paints and more difficult stains*

Please consult the manufacturer as these may require a commercial carpet cleaner.

## II. PERIODIC BRUSHING

Matting of fibers may occur in areas of high foot traffic, especially if fibers have become soiled with dirt and other airborne pollutants.

Periodic “cross brushing” of the turf can help restore the aesthetic appearance of the turf . “Cross brushing” means all brushing activity takes place against the grain, nap, or sweep of the turf fibers. By brushing against the turf, the fibers will become erect. A brush with synthetic bristles should be used. Never use a brush with metal or wire bristles as these will change the turf fibers.

## III. DO NOT ABUSE

Although your turf is made of tough, durable fibers, certain precautions should be taken to prevent damage to the turf.

- Lighted cigarettes cannot ignite the turf, but they can damage the turf by melting the fibers. Cigarettes, fireworks, and open flames should be kept away from the turf.
- Furniture and equipment with sharp or jagged edges should not be placed on turf as this may puncture or tear the turf.
- When using heavy equipment on the turf be sure to use multiple layers of plywood to distribute the weight of the load equally throughout the turf area.
- Never leave a parked vehicle idling on the turf.
- Cap off or remove nearby sprinkler heads. Water from sprinkler systems can leave mineral deposits on turf that may cause discoloration.
- Make sure turf is not exposed to sunlight reflected from windows or other reflective surfaces as this could melt the fibers.

## IV. REPORT ANY MINOR PROBLEM

Minor problems can become major problems quickly if not corrected. Any problem should be reported promptly to the manufacturer

## V. CONCLUSION

The proper care and maintenance program can enhance the aging, usefulness, and aesthetics of your turf.

This is a care packet to help improve the life of the turf. These are necessary to prevent damage to the turf system.