

Vacuum Care Instructions

Vacuuming regularly can literally extend your carpet's life, the type of vacuum cleaner you use is important. A vacuum's performance will vary based on the carpet's fiber type and construction. A good vacuum typically has features that allow you to adjust the height, beater bar rotation and fan speed. Vacuums with large wheels, self-propelled vacuums and/or specialty tools can also help ensure easy and effective carpet maintenance. Every vacuum manufacturer offers multiple models that can be used on a wide range of carpet constructions.

Extraordinarily soft carpets represent the latest in advanced extrusion technology. Because the fibers are so fine and dense, increased suction from a vacuum cleaner is created at the point of contact on the carpet surface. Therefore, in order to provide maximum care, vacuums with specific features may be necessary to use for optimum maintenance of your extraordinarily soft carpet. The following vacuum cleaner characteristics are suitable for your exceptionally soft carpets.

When vacuuming high pile, wool, wool-blend, and extraordinarily soft carpets, look for the following features that will allow you to easily maintain your carpet:

- **Adjustable Height** – A manual height adjustment feature is imperative as it allows the user to accurately set the height of the brushing action to the correct level for better cleaning and mobility.
- **Efficient Airflow** - Avoid vacuums with very concentrated or sealed suction
- **Large (wide) Wheels** – Larger wheels will help the vacuum head from sinking into the carpet pile. They also improve the effectiveness of the depth setting feature.
- **Lighter Weight Models** – Weighing less, these vacuums will exert less weight while in use and not sink as deeply into the carpet pile, being easier to move.
- **Adjustable Motor Speed** – The flexibility of adjustable motors often times lowers the brush rotation speed and allows easier operation and gentler cleaning.
- **Optional Brush Roller Control** – For ultra-high pile carpets, it may be necessary to disengage the roller as longer fibers may entangle in the brush roll, causing damage to the tips of the fibers.




Adjustable height is the most important feature because this enables the machine to be used on a wide variety of carpet constructions. If your vacuum is set too high above the carpet surface, the vacuum can't attract the gritty soil below. If the setting is too low, the vacuum's beater bar or bushes can "fuzz" the carpet's surface, causing it to look worn and frayed.

When vacuuming thick loop, casual frieze or long pile carpet such as “shag,” you may need to completely disengage the beater bar and vacuum with suction only.

For all other carpet constructions not mentioned above, use a vacuum with a rotating brush or beater bar. Change the bags often and check the beater bars for burs and gouges to prevent damage to the surface of the carpet.

The Dixie Group supports and endorses the Carpet and Rug Institute Seal of approval program guidelines for vacuum selection. To ensure that your vacuum will conform to the highest industry standards, make sure that your vacuum cleaner is certified through the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) Seal of Approval/Green Label Vacuum Cleaner Program.

CRI combines the indoor air quality protection of its Green Label vacuum program with enhanced cleaning standards of its Seal of Approval programs to identify even better performing vacuum cleaners than the previous program. Under the Seal of Approval vacuum program, manufacturers must meet higher performance standards and are rewarded with Gold, Silver or Bronze ratings. CRI employs an independent testing laboratory to measure:

- **Soil removal**— A machine's performance in soil removal is measured precisely through NASA-enhanced X-ray fluorescence (XRF) technology. The more soil removed, the higher the rating. [Read More in CRI Test Method 112](#)  (PDF 114 KB) [Need help with PDF?](#)
- **Dust containment**— A residential vacuum must not release more than 100 micrograms of dust particles per cubic meter of air. You want all that dirt, dust and pet dander locked tight in the vacuum, not escaping back into the air where it can be inhaled. Additionally, Gold level vacuums must meet ambient air quality standards. [Read More in CRI Test Method 113](#)  (PDF 156 KB) [Need help with PDF?](#)
- **Surface Appearance Change**— The vacuum must not affect the appearance of the carpet more than a one-step change (shop speak for "not very much") based on one year of normal vacuum use. [Read More in CRI Test Method 114](#)  (PDF 46 KB) [Need help with PDF?](#)

Before being considered for the Bronze, Silver or Gold Seal of Approval ratings, a vacuum cleaner must comply with the carpet fiber protection standard as well as meet both the corresponding soil removal standard and dust containment. The CRI Seal of Approval program makes vacuum cleaner selection easier for you. So look for the Seal of Approval logo or label on packaging, displays and on the machine itself.

The link below is to the CRI (Carpet and Rug Institute) Seal of Approval program
<http://www.carpet-rug.org/residential-customers/cleaning-and-maintenance/seal-of-approval-products/vacuums.cfm>

For specific vacuum information, contact the manufacturer directly with the numbers below.*

Bissell – 800.237.7691 or www.bissell.com

Hoover – 800.944.9200 or www.hoover.com

Dirt Devil – 800.321.1134 or www.DirtDevil.com

Electrolux – 800.896.9756 or <http://smallappliances.electroluxusa.com/>

Eureka – 800.896.9756 or www.eureka.com

Kenmore – 888.536.6673 or www.kenmore.com

Oreck – 800.989.3535 or www.oreck.com

Panasonic – 800.211.7262 or www.panasonic.com

Cost Level	Manufacturer	Model	Height Adjustment	Light-Weight	Brush Control	Large Wheels
Entry	Bissell	Pow erforce 71Y7-w	5 Level	✓		✓
Entry	Dirt Devil	Windtunnel UD70115	5 Level			✓
Entry	Eureka	Airspeed AS5203A	4 Level	✓	✓	✓
Entry	Hoover	Nano UI-170120	Self Adjust	✓	✓	
Value	Hoover	Windtunnel UI-170120	5 Level			✓
Value	Hoover	Windtunnel Plus UH70205	5 Level		✓	✓
Value	Hoover	Windtunnel USS780-950	5 Level			✓
Mid	Hoover	Windtunnel Max	7 Level		✓	✓
Mid	Kenmore	Progressive Canister 21514	4 Level	✓	✓	
Mid	Kenmore	Progressive Canister 21614	4 Level	✓	✓	
Mid	Panasonic	MC-UG725	4 Level		✓	
Mid	Panasonic	MC-UG725	Self Adjust	✓		✓
High	Oreck	Magnesium LW100	Floating	✓		✓
High	Kenmore	Progressive Canister Z1714	4 Level	✓	✓	
High	Panasonic	MC-UG727	Self Adjust	✓		✓
High	Oreck	Quest Pro	6 Level		✓	
High	Panasonic	MC-UG729	Self Adjust	✓		✓
High	Hoover	Canister S3855	4 Level	✓	✓	
High	Panasonic	MC-GG523	4 Level	✓		✓
High	Oreck	Magnesium R5 LW100	Floating	✓		✓

*The Dixie Group Does not recommend specific vacuum brands.