

# CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS No. 04

for Needle fleece (rolls)

e.g. Terrano

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## **1.0 Introductory remarks**

Please be sure to observe the instructions and information in the General Cleaning Instructions, which you can view in their entirety on our website [www.anker.eu](http://www.anker.eu).

## **2.0 Maintenance cleaning**

The maintenance and cleaning of a needle fleece must begin immediately after laying. "Maintenance cleaning" refers to the daily removal of stains and the thorough vacuuming of loose dirt (also daily).

### **2.1 Vacuuming**

Use only a floor vacuum equipped with just a smooth nozzle for maintenance cleaning of needle fleece.

The brushing process of brush vacuuming is not suitable for needle fleece.

Do not move the vacuum cleaner too fast. Speed is detrimental when vacuuming. A vacuum must be given the chance to collect the dirt. A vacuum can only do this when it has a chance to suck up the dirt and soiling. Experience has shown that a maximum time of 10 s/m<sup>2</sup> is required for proper vacuuming, which is equivalent to an hourly capacity of approx. 360 m<sup>2</sup>. Moving the vacuum cleaner too fast when vacuuming does not clean, but only produces noise – a double disadvantage: no cleaning and unnecessary noise.

### **2.2 Stain removal**

To permanently remove stains, it is important to not only dissolve the stain substance but to actually extract it from your ANKER needle fleece; this is not easy on account of its structure. Generally, only the surface of a needle fleece is cleaned, not the pile cross-section – the product is not deep-cleaned. Soiling that penetrates deep into a needle fleece can no longer be removed.

As some stain substances can have an aggressive effect over time, stains should be treated as soon as possible. This not only achieves a greater cleaning effect but also reduces the likelihood that long-term damage to the fibers or dyes occurs.

A large proportion of all stains can be removed using plain water. Fresh, wet stains can be dabbed or absorbed using an absorbent cloth or paper towel. Coagulated or dried substances must be detached using a scraper or the back of a knife and then brushed and vacuumed. Re-moisten water-soluble stains with a little water and dab them up again. Stains should be dabbed wherever possible, and never rubbed in. Always remove the stains by working from the outside in, so as not to make them larger unnecessarily. Repeat this treatment as necessary.

Just a few stain types are removable solely using solvents. In this case, special treatment using common commercial stain removers is necessary. Never apply them to the textile floor covering directly, but only via a saturated white cloth, in order to avoid damage to the pile and dye, damage to the backing coating or dissolving of the glue.

For reasons of environmental protection, unknown stains should initially be treated as water-soluble. If this doesn't work, clean the stain with a stain remover once it has dried.

Treated sites must first be allowed to dry completely and then brushed before they can be walked on. Many stains can also be removed "dry" using carpet cleaner granules. Spread the granules, brush them in using a hand brush and then vacuum when dry.

## **2.3 Cleaning interval**

If the intervals between the individual cleanings are very long, it may become impossible to remove stains completely. Additionally, the entire floor covering becomes unattractive and gray, and its appearance becomes progressively worse. Consequently, in addition to deep cleaning, which should be performed at least once a year, regular interim cleaning is highly recommended as well. Interim cleaning is the cleaning of specific floor covering sections – such as walkways, stairs, hallways and the like. Granule cleaning is ideal for this purpose.

When the more heavily used areas are cleaned more often from the beginning according to a specific plan, the entire carpet will always remain in good condition.

## **3.0 Cleaning sequence**

Proper professional cleaning of carpeting is always performed according to the standard RAL 991 A3 or its respective national equivalent. This forms the prerequisite for verifying the cleaning work performed and thus for the comparability of the price of cleaning.

RAL 991 A3 defines the proper and professional procedure:

1. Examination of type of floor covering
2. Examination of type of fixing
3. Brush-vacuuming
4. Examination of stains/stain removal
5. Deep cleaning
6. Examination of stains/post-removal
7. Brush-vacuuming

## **3.1 Dry-cleaning methods**

### **3.1.1 Granule cleaning method**

Another dry-cleaning method is granule cleaning, which ANKER-TEPPICHBODEN also recommends. It enables problem-free cleaning of separate sections, because no drying time is required. Your ANKER needle fleece can even be walked on during the cleaning process without being damaged.

The floor covering is first thoroughly vacuumed. A cleaning fluid is then sprayed using a spraying pump at a constant spray pressure and immediately rubbed in. This is achieved most effectively using special machines with two counter-rotating roller brushes.

The next step is to spread the cleaning granules over the areas to be cleaned – approx. 50 - 100 g/m<sup>2</sup>, depending on how dirty they are. Only use as much granulate as can be brushed in immediately afterwards, as the active cleaning agents contained in the granules are released and begin to dissipate immediately after spreading. The moist granules are then brushed into the floor covering with the same machine. This brushing releases special soiling solvents that remove the dirt from the surface and bind it. The brushing process also removes stains.

The granules remain in the carpeting until it is dry, which can take from one to two hours. However, as your ANKER needle fleece can be walked on during the cleaning process, the application time is not important. The dirt-laden granulate is then removed from the carpet by thorough vacuuming.

## **3.2 Wet-cleaning methods**

Here, the cleaning agent is applied on and in the pile of the ANKER needle fleece. The following wet cleaning methods are commonly used:

### **3.2.1 Scrubber system**

As a wet cleaning process, ANKER-TEPPICHBODEN recommends above all the scrubber system, an extremely effective "half-wet" system. This cleaning machine does not use a rotating brush, as is common, but rather a swinging scrub brush that moves mainly vertically into the ANKER carpet pile at a high speed.

The carpeting is first thoroughly brush-vacuumed. A cleaning fluid is then sprayed using a spraying pump at a constant spray pressure.

A small quantity of water is sprayed on the carpeting inside the scrubbing machine directly in front of the scrub brush. This brush rubs in the mixture of water and cleaning agent, which is suctioned up immediately afterwards. It is thus the gentlest possible method for cleaning your floor covering. If the carpeting is sprayed with water only once or twice in the course of such a cleaning process, it is scarcely wet afterwards and is usable without restrictions after just 2-3 hours, following the mandatory brush-vacuuming.

### **3.2.2 Spray extraction process**

In the gentle spray extraction process, the cleaning agent is also first sprayed on the ANKER needle fleece using a spray pump at a constant pressure. After a brief application time, plain water is sprayed into the floor covering without needle fleece support using a spray extraction machine; the dirt-bearing cleaning fluid is then suctioned up again immediately after. The dwell time of the spray nozzle on the carpeting determines whether more or less liquid is sprayed into the needle fleece locally. The floor covering is brush-vacuumed once it dries.

It is important, however, that as your ANKER needle fleece becomes wet, it may not be walked on during wet cleaning. The carpeting must be completely dry before it is opened to traffic. A wet textile has a relatively high adhesion. When it is walked on in this state, the needle fleece becomes soiled much faster than when completely dry. Depending on the amount of liquid used and the climate prevailing at the time of cleaning as well as the ventilation possibilities, it can take anywhere from 24 to 72 hours for the carpet to dry completely.

If maintaining the value of your carpeting is as important to you as it is to us, we recommend you take a look at the website of the AWT/FDT® working group [www.werterhalt.org](http://www.werterhalt.org). This is a neutral, multiple-manufacturer platform that covers issues relating to carpeting, in particular maintaining value, as well as maintenance and cleaning.

#### 4.0 Sources

<b>Soil trap and walk-off zones</b>	<b>Brush vacuums without bags</b>
<b>Miltex GmbH</b> Ohmstr. 2 68519 Viernheim, Germany Tel.: 0049 6204 – 7 08 69-0 Fax: 0049 6204 – 7 08 69-29 Email: <a href="mailto:info@miltex.de">info@miltex.de</a>	<b>Dyson GmbH</b> Lichtstr. 43 B 50825 Cologne, Germany Tel.: 0049 18 05 – 33 97 66 Email: <a href="mailto:kundendienst@dyson.com">kundendienst@dyson.com</a> .
<b>Brush vacuums with bags</b>	<b>Cleaning machines</b>
<b>SEBO Stein &amp; Co. GmbH</b> Wülfrather Str. 47-49 42553 Velbert, Germany Tel.: 0049 20 53 – 89 81 Fax: 0049 20 53 – 89 81 Email: <a href="mailto:t.dietz@sebo.de">t.dietz@sebo.de</a>	<b>Cleanfix Reinigungssysteme GmbH</b> Am Weiher 2 63505 Langenselbold, Germany Tel.: 0049 61 84 – 93 12 0 Fax: 0049 61 84 – 48 01 Email: <a href="mailto:info@cleanfix.de">info@cleanfix.de</a>

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[www.anker.eu](http://www.anker.eu)

You will find a lot of interesting information here under “Service”.

If you still have questions, give us a call. We'll be happy to help you:

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