RECOMMENDED CARE AND MAINTENANCE
FOR
MOHAWK AVIATION CARPET
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Aircraft carpet is a sizeable investment in both monetary terms and overall airline image. Naturally, you want your carpet to remain attractive and highly functional long after it is installed. A well-programmed maintenance schedule will extend your carpet’s performance, appearance and life—so treat it like it’s your own.

THE LONGER CARPET LASTS THE LESS IT COSTS

Carpet performance starts with the right carpet selection. Proper maintenance for aircraft carpet will extend the life of the floor and provide significant savings in carpet replacement costs including labor for installation and removal, installation supplies, and fabrication of carpet parts. To be truly cost-effective, maintenance must be carried out with systematic frequency over the life of the carpet. Ironically, today’s carpets are engineered to disguise soils and stains. This sometimes masks the need to vacuum and clean on a regular basis. A consistent and effective maintenance program can dramatically extend the life of your carpet. Other important factors for a consistent and effective maintenance program include:

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS - Mohawk Aviation Carpet, a division of The Mohawk Group, is committed to manufacturing processes that have the least impact on our environment. We practice conservation of energy and recycle by-products of manufacturing—thus reducing landfill waste. Protect your investment and be environmentally conscious. The proper maintenance program will keep your carpet out of landfills longer, and provide a healthier environment in which to work. In addition, utilizing Mohawk FloorCare Essentials cleaning products ensure that you are using products that have been recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Design for the Environment (DfE) Program.

CLEAN AIR - The cleaner the carpet, the better the air. Properly maintained carpet can act as a filter, improving the air in the aircraft cabin, resulting in better customer experience.

A GOOD REFLECTION ON YOUR AIRLINE - An effective maintenance program will protect your carpet investment. When your carpet looks good it’s a positive reflection on your company.

KEYS TO EFFECTIVE MAINTENANCE

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE - Dirt is everywhere. Keeping it out of the aircraft is easier and less expensive than removing it.

VACUUMING - Regular vacuuming is the most important part of any maintenance program.

SPOT REMOVAL - Spots are inevitable, but they don’t have to be permanent. Remove a spill quickly and there is less chance it will become a stain.

RESTORATIVE / DEEP CLEANING - No matter how conscientiously you work at it, daily maintenance will still leave some soil behind. Regularly scheduled deep cleaning, using hot water extraction, is most effective at removing embedded abrasive soil.
CARE OF MOHAWK SKYLON CARPET

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

The use of walk-off mats will significantly reduce maintenance costs. Walk-off mats trap soil and make it easier to keep soil out which is less expensive than removing it.

Mat Facts
- Place a mat outside, in the Jetways and inside for best results.
- Today mats are available to fit any type of entrance situation.
- It has been estimated that removing a pound of dirt, once inside an aircraft, costs more than $500.00.
- Mats are particularly important in locations where passengers and cleaning/maintenance crews are boarding from the tarmac.
- An effective matting system is a useful tool to improve the appearance of your aircraft carpet and will help reduce maintenance costs.

VACUUMING

Vacuuming is the most effective way to remove soil. Vacuuming of aircraft should be daily, however, frequency will likely be influenced by routing schedules, overnight locations etc.

SPOT REMOVAL

Spills should be extracted or blotted up and rinsed immediately. Always work from the edge towards the center of the spill. Never rub, it may spread the stain and damage the carpet fiber.

RESTORATIVE / DEEP CLEANING

Mohawk Skylon Carpet is not typically replaced because it wears out but rather because it “uglies out” due to soiling and staining. A well-planned maintenance program should include regularly scheduled deep cleaning.

Deep cleaning restores the carpet’s appearance by extracting soil and substances that can damage your carpet. Mohawk recommends hot water extraction as the most effective method to give restorative deep cleaning results.

Hot water extraction is the industry’s most frequently used method of deep cleaning. Hot water and a cleaning solution, in the manufacturer’s recommended mix, are sprayed into the carpet. This solution mixes with the soil as powerful vacuum extraction removes the solution and the loosened soil in the process.

Mohawk FloorCare Essentials Carpet Cleaner and Traffic Lane Prespray are specially formulated to be used when deep cleaning aircraft.
Mohawk Aviation Approved Carpet Cleaning Products

**S40 Gel Carpet spot remover**
This product is specially formulated for the removal of gum, paint, tar and grease.
- Emulsifies all soils and asphaltines
- Safe for all man-made fibers

**C51 Traffic Lane Prespray**
This product is a concentrated, neutral pH traffic lane pre-spray developed with an advanced surfactant/solvent system designed specifically to remove heavy traffic stains and oily residues from carpet; while avoiding damage to carpet backing. The surfactant system is selected to achieve maximum cleaning at hot water extraction temperatures (180-210°F). C51 Traffic Lane Prespray thoroughly cleans heavy soils and greasy build-up from carpets and is safe to use on advanced generation and wool carpets when used as directed.
- Easy to use pre-spray solution
- Carpet & Rug Institute – Approved
- EPA Design for the Environment – Recognized for safer chemistry
- Emulsifies all soils and asphaltines
- Safe for all man-made fibers
- Meets the requirements of Boeing D6-7127
- Aircraft carpeting that has been properly certified to pass the FAR 25.853 vertical flammability requirements as shipped, will not be adversely affected by proper cleaning with C51.

**C10 Carpet Cleaner**
The number one cause of re-soiling in carpets is detergent residues remaining in the carpet after cleaning. C10 Carpet Cleaner safely cleans carpet without the use of detergents and harmful chemicals. The patented detergent-free technology suspends dirt and soil, reducing wear, damage to carpet appearance, and re-soiling of carpet.
- Easy to use in-tank solution
- EPA Design for the Environment – Recognized for safer chemistry
- Woolsafe – Approved
- Safe for all fibers (including wool)
- Reduces drying time to about 2 to 4 hours. (Dry time can be effected by environmental conditions.)
- Meets the requirements of Boeing D6-7127
- Aircraft carpeting that has been properly certified to pass the FAR 25.853 vertical flammability requirements as shipped, will not be adversely affected by proper cleaning with C10.

Material Safety Data Sheets, Boeing D6-7127 test results, and FAA burn test results of carpet properly cleaned with C10 and C51 can be found at [www.mohawkair.com](http://www.mohawkair.com).

Order contact info:
- orders@floorcareforlife.com
- Phone: (877) 454-3370 ext. 711
- Fax: (877) 454-3370

Carpet and cabin maintenance consultation, training, equipment, and supplies are available through Jon-Don. To order online [www.jondon.com/mohawkaviation](http://www.jondon.com/mohawkaviation) or call toll free (800) 400-9473 and mention “Mohawk Aviation”.

Recommended Cleaning Process for Mohawk Aviation Carpet

1. **Vacuum:** Thoroughly vacuum the carpet removing all loose/dry soil.
   - A slow pass against the carpet pile is more effective than several quick strokes.
   - Heavy traffic areas may require multiple passes (forward and backward) to sufficiently extract embedded soil.
   - A vacuum brush will open up the tufts.
   - Agitation will loosen the soil.
   - Slow movement allows time for air to circulate through the face yarn and extract soil.

   **Note** – The Carpet and Rug Institute features a listing of commercial vacuum cleaners that meet established standards of soil removal. Please consult [www.carpet-rug.org](http://www.carpet-rug.org) for more information.

2. **Spot Removal:** Inspect the carpet for spots such as gum, tar, grease, lipstick and other oily spots.
   - Apply **S40 Gel Carpet Spot Remover** undiluted to spot.
   - Agitate slightly with a bone spatula. The spatula has rounded edges which easily remove gum without sharp edges which may damage the carpet.
   - Do not overuse and follow up with a full carpet cleaning of the area.

3. **Pre-spray carpet: C51 Traffic Lane Prespray** – This Mohawk Aviation approved product is a specially formulated pre-spray designed for heavily soiled areas which acts to suspend soil prior to hot water extraction.
   - C-51 works more efficiently if diluted in hot water.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Oz./Gal.</th>
<th>Dilution Ratio</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Light Soil</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1:32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderate Soil</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1:16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy Soil</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1:8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   - Application is done with an electric sprayer or an in-line injection sprayer.
     - Apply evenly with spray head 8”-10” over top of carpet overlapping strokes 50%.
     - Apply ample amounts of solution to penetrate the base of the fibers.
     - Do not over-saturate carpet and allow C51 to penetrate primary carpet backing.
   - Carpeting should be vigorously raked or groomed with a carpet groomer to distribute the C51 and assist in soil suspension.
   - Allow C51 to dwell in carpet 5-10 minutes. **Do not allow to dry.**
   - Follow with hot water extraction using **C10 Carpet Cleaner**

4. **Hot Water Extraction: C10 Carpet Cleaner** – This Mohawk Aviation approved product is a surfactant and detergent free extraction cleaner specially formulated for the hot water extraction process. Hot water extraction removes soils that have been loosened and suspended by preconditioning with C51.
   - Dilute C10 Carpet Cleaner
     - Truck mounted extraction cleaners
       - Mix 60oz. C10 to 5gal. water in solution tank
       - Set mix rate to 3gph
     - Portable extraction cleaners
       - Mix 2oz. C10 for every gallon of water
   - Water temperature should be 180-210°F
   - Wand extraction technique
     - Spray as the wand is pulled backwards.
     - Release spray trigger 2-3 inches before the end of the stroke.
     - When pushing the wand forward do not spray as this may cause over-wetting.
     - Repeat as needed until satisfactory results are achieved.
   - Extraction Equipment
     - Truck mounted extraction cleaners have higher heat, water pressure, and vacuum than portable units and will help the carpet clean faster and dry quicker. Truck mounts also
allows spots such as gum to release easier from the carpet with less work. As with most things more is not better. While a truck mount has much higher capabilities for water pressure, 300 psi will flush carpet well without over wetting the backing and extending dry time. The ease of set up and tear down of a truck mount will cut production time in half.

- Portable extraction units can be used as well.

**Note** – The Carpet and Rug Institute features a listing of extraction cleaning equipment that meet established standards of cleaning efficacy. Please consult [www.carpet-rug.org](http://www.carpet-rug.org) for more information.

*Aircraft carpeting that has been properly certified to pass the vertical flammability requirements as shipped, should not be adversely affected by a proper cleaning method that removes all soil and stains, as well as rinsing of all residues from the carpet. This statement does not relate to dry cleaning solvents that may be harmful to the carpet backcoating. Extreme care should be used with spot cleaners. Dry cleaning solvents should be applied to the face yarns of the carpet only and should be thoroughly rinsed afterwards.

**CAUTION:** Mohawk does not recommend the use of a spin bonnet, as it can damage the fibers in your carpet. Use will void any warranties.

**CARE OF WOOL CARPET**

- The most important elements of maintaining your wool carpet investment includes the steps of thorough vacuuming, interim dry cleaning in high traffic areas and deep cleaning with warm (not hot) water.
- Vacuuming of wool loop pile constructions, a suction only vacuum should be used to prevent fuzzing.
- Vacuuming of wool cut pile carpets is most effective with the use of a rotary beater bar/brush.
- Periodic deep cleaning is necessary to remove imbedded soils. There are many cleaning agents, both dry and wet, that are suitable for use on wool carpet. Mohawk FloorCare Essentials Formula C10 Carpet Extraction Cleaner (in-tank solution) is a surfactant and detergent free extraction cleaner approved by the Woolsafe Organization ([www.woolsafe.org](http://www.woolsafe.org)) as safe for wool carpeting.
- Do not apply stain repellent treatments that contain silicone because they will significantly accelerate soiling.
- Care must be taken to not over-wet wool carpet.
- Immediate attention to spills will prevent the development of a stain. Remove the solid spill and use a white absorbent cloth/towel to absorb all of the spilled substance. Apply spot cleaning agent sparingly as defined in the spot removal section of this maintenance guide. Work from the edge towards the center of the spill. Never rub, as it may spread the stain.
- Test all spot and cleaning agents in an inconspicuous area to be sure it will not remove the carpet color.

**ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE FACTORS**

Many factors govern a carpet’s lifespan and appearance; from the fiber and construction to the way the carpet is installed. However, none pay more dividends than proper care. The small amount of time that it takes to implement a well-planned maintenance program can dramatically extends the life of your carpet. And remember...the longer it lasts, the less it costs.

**COLOR, PATTERN AND CONSTRUCTION**

Color, pattern and construction all help determine how well your aircraft carpeting stands up to daily use. The best carpet selection takes both performance and aesthetics into account. **No maintenance program can overcome a poor carpet choice.** Improper color selection could increase your maintenance costs. Observe the appearance of the carpet for a period of time. If soiling is apparent, increase the frequency of vacuum cleaning in that area.