

Carpet Installation *Get-Ready* Checklist

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1. Before You Buy New Carpet...

- Get several free estimates from locally-owned carpet dealers. [See who I recommend near you](#)
- Take your time choosing. Take several samples home. [How much does carpet cost?](#)
- Never buy carpet on the first visit or allow a salesperson to pressure you into buying right now.
- Do your carpet homework! Learn [what makes one carpet better than another](#).
- Make sure you get [accurate carpet measurements](#).
- Get bids and estimates in writing and try to get every detail written down!
- Learn how to avoid carpet scams and the [secrets to choosing new carpet](#) wisely.
- Do all interior painting at least one month prior or wait until after the carpet is installed.

2. During the Carpet Buying Process...

- Learn what grade of carpet you need based on your needs, goals, lifestyle and budget.
- Take my free [Carpet Foot Traffic Test](#) to see what grade of carpet you might need.
- Shop for the grade of carpet you require and find several [carpet styles and colors](#) that you like.
- Take several carpet samples home to consider your [best carpet choice](#).
- Take your time [choosing the right carpet](#) and padding for your needs and goals.
- Keep the original sales receipt with the price of carpet shown separately.

3. On Installation Day...

- Have all furniture, fragile wall hangings and knick-knacks removed from rooms to be carpeted.
- Have rooms pre-heated to at least 70 degrees, 3 hours before and during installation.
- Make sure kids and pets are safely out of the way, and all valuables are safe and secure.
- Check the carpet color and style to make sure it is the same carpet you ordered.
- Use the original carpet sample for comparison purposes, if possible.

4. After Installation...

- Do a walk-around with the installer and inspect the job thoroughly.
- Make sure all your concerns are addressed before the installer leaves your home.
- Get your installation warranty in writing.
- Get the name and phone number of the installer. (Contractor license number?)
- Do not make the final payment until you are fully satisfied.

5. Carpet Care and Maintenance

- Read the manufacturer's [carpet warranty](#) and follow all suggestions and requirements.
- Vacuum your carpet regularly. Spot clean as necessary. Never use bleach on your carpet.
- Consider buying a new vacuum. Visit my [Best Vacuums](#) page to learn more.
- Keep all receipts for professional carpet cleaning as proof of proper maintenance.
- Always hire a professional and [certified carpet cleaning company](#).
- Never use a rented carpet cleaning machine while your carpet is under warranty.