



How To Remove Motor Oils From Carpet

Professional cleaners ultimate guide

Motor oil stains on carpet are notoriously difficult to remove because they contain no water and, therefore, no pH, making conventional cleaning methods ineffective.

These stains fall into the "oil and grease" category, where water-based cleaners fail entirely. Attempting to use water on motor oil only pushes it deeper into the carpet pile, spreading the problem rather than solving it.

The solution lies in using specialised solvents. Non-polar solvents like xylene or natural options such as eucalyptus oil are specifically designed to dissolve oily substances that water cannot affect. These solvents break down the motor oil's molecular structure, loosening it from the carpet fibers. Using the right solvent ensures the stain is removed effectively without further embedding or damage to the carpet.

PRODUCTS

Orange Solvent

When tackling stubborn motor oil stains that defy water-based cleaning methods, Orange Solvent is the perfect solution. Its powerful citrus blend, featuring DiLimonine solvents and emulsifiers, effectively breaks down oils and grease, lifting the stain from carpet fibers or fabrics. Unlike water, which only spreads the stain further, Orange Solvent dissolves and emulsifies the motor oil, making it easy to rinse away without leaving a trace.

EQUIPMENT

To remove motor oil from carpet, you will need:

- Absorbent white terry towel
- Orange Solvent
- Conquer
- Carpet Extraction Machine.



PROCESS

1. Apply Orange Solvent

Begin by dampening a clean, dry, white absorbent cloth with Orange Solvent. Gently blot the solvent onto the stained area, ensuring even coverage without saturating the carpet or fabric. This step helps dissolve the non-polar oils and resins in the paint.

2. Agitate the Stain

Using a spotting brush, lightly tamp the stained area to agitate the solvent into the fibers. This mechanical action helps the solvent penetrate deep into the stain, breaking down its structure for easier removal.

3. Allow for Dwell Time

Let the Orange Solvent sit on the stain for approximately five minutes. This dwell time gives the solvent adequate time to emulsify the paint, loosening its grip on the fibers.

4. Blot Away the Stain

Using a fresh, dry towel, blot the treated area to absorb the loosened paint. Alternatively, you can dry vacuum extract the solvent and stain residue. Avoid adding water during this step, as it can spread the paint further.

5. Repeat if Necessary

If traces of the stain remain, repeat the process until the stain is completely removed. Patience and thoroughness are key to achieving optimal results.

6. Rinse and Extract

Once the stain is fully removed, prespray the treated area with Conquer or a suitable prespray solution. Then, rinse and extract using wet extraction equipment to remove any remaining solvent and residue, leaving the area clean and refreshed.

FURTHER NOTES

Alternative Products

If Orange Solvent is unavailable, you can substitute it with Gum Gone a powerful aromatic solvent for oil spot removal.

Encapsulation Method

For encapsulation or low moisture cleaning methods, Actichem VDS is the perfect alternative to Orange Solvent, providing powerful stain removal without excessive wetting. Its low-residue formula complements these techniques, ensuring thorough cleaning with minimal disruption.

To finish, apply Conquer and carefully blot the area to eliminate any remaining residue. This approach not only delivers exceptional stain removal but also preserves fiber quality and achieves a clean, professional finish.

Avoid Spreading The Stain

When tackling an motor oil stain, always blot the stain instead of rubbing or scrubbing. Firstly, this will prevent fibre damage or distortion and secondly blotting will absorb the stain out of the carpet without pushing it deeper into the fibers.

Another way to avoid spreading the stain is to avoid water. As it is an oil, water will be completely ineffective in removing the stain. Rather it will dilute it, allowing it to spread and seep further into the carpet.

FURTHER RESOURCES

- [Orange Solvent PDS](#)
- [Gum Gone PDS](#)
- [Conquer PDS](#)
- [Actichem VDS PDS](#)
- [Spotting Guide](#)
- [Knowledge Centre](#)

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