

Ten tips for easy carpet care

A key to low maintenance living is selecting basic decor elements for your home that are easy to care for.

Carpeting, a major household investment and one of your most important decorating considerations, should be selected with color, texture and style in mind. These are important factors in carpet maintenance.

Here are 10 tips for easy carpet care that you should remember.

- * Select a dense pile carpet, made with yarn of the same height, for high traffic areas like hallways and children's rooms. Soil tends to stay on top of its tight surface, so it is easy to clean. It also performs well and hides footprints and furniture marks.
- * Remember, the carpet fibre you select is critical to carpet performance. A manmade fibre like nylon is more durable than natural fibres and provides the best in performance, color and style at a reasonable price.
- * If you have pets, consider a dense, low-cut pile carpet that will not show claw marks easily.
- * Carpet reduces foot fatigue and breakage in the kitchen, but in this room where food and drink abound, avoid

light, solid-color carpets in favor of subtle prints and multi-colored saxones that help hide stains.

- * The most important thing you can do to protect your carpet is regular vacuuming. Thorough vacuuming once a week will help your carpet look better and last longer.
- * Clean up spills and stains immediately. Never rub or brush a spill or spot; use a blotting or dabbing motion.
- * Use a spoon or the back of a knife to remove semi-solid or greasy substances from carpeting.
- * To get up chewing gum or wax from a carpet, freeze the spot with an ice cube, shatter the frozen mass with a hammer, vacuum up the chips, apply solvent, wait a few minutes and then blot up the stain.
- * If you get a small cigaret burn or other burn on your carpet, just snip off the darkened fibres and wipe with a sponge, soapless cleaner and water.
- * If you vacuum regularly and remove stains promptly, your carpet should only need a major cleaning every one to three years. When it starts to look dull and matted it's time for a major cleaning.



Exclusive vs. M.L.S. listing

57-224



REAL ESTATE AND YOU

Jamie Johnston

usually about one per cent.

Looking at that cost, it does not automatically follow that what you receive, after real estate commissions, will be less. By selling on M.L.S., you expose your house to more buyers. More buyers means the chance to get a higher price, which may more than offset that extra one per cent. More buyers may also mean a quicker closing and possession date, which can also save you money.

"For a free booklet: 'How to Sell Your Home', please contact the Canada Trust Realtor office nearest you."

(NC)—Once you've decided to list your house for sale you must then decide whether to go exclusive or M.L.S. (Multiple Listing Service).

An exclusive listing is given to one company and only salespeople from that company can sell your house. If the company has a large number of salespeople, an exclusive listing may still generate a lot of interest. If the company has only a few salespeople, it may be a different story.

On the other hand, an M.L.S. listing means that not only the company who lists your house, but all other real estate companies who are members of the local real estate board can sell your house.

Since no one company dominates a major real estate market, the cooperation of all real estate brokers usually improves your chances of a sale.

The drawback, of course, is you pay extra for the M.L.S. service—



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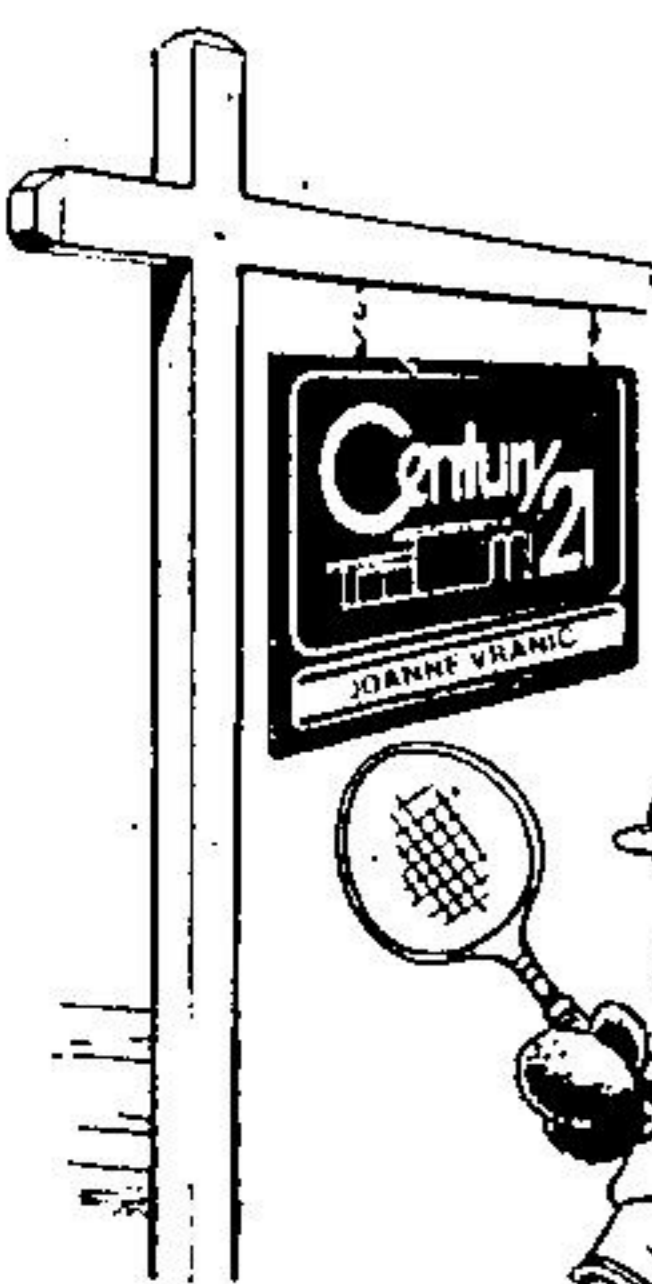
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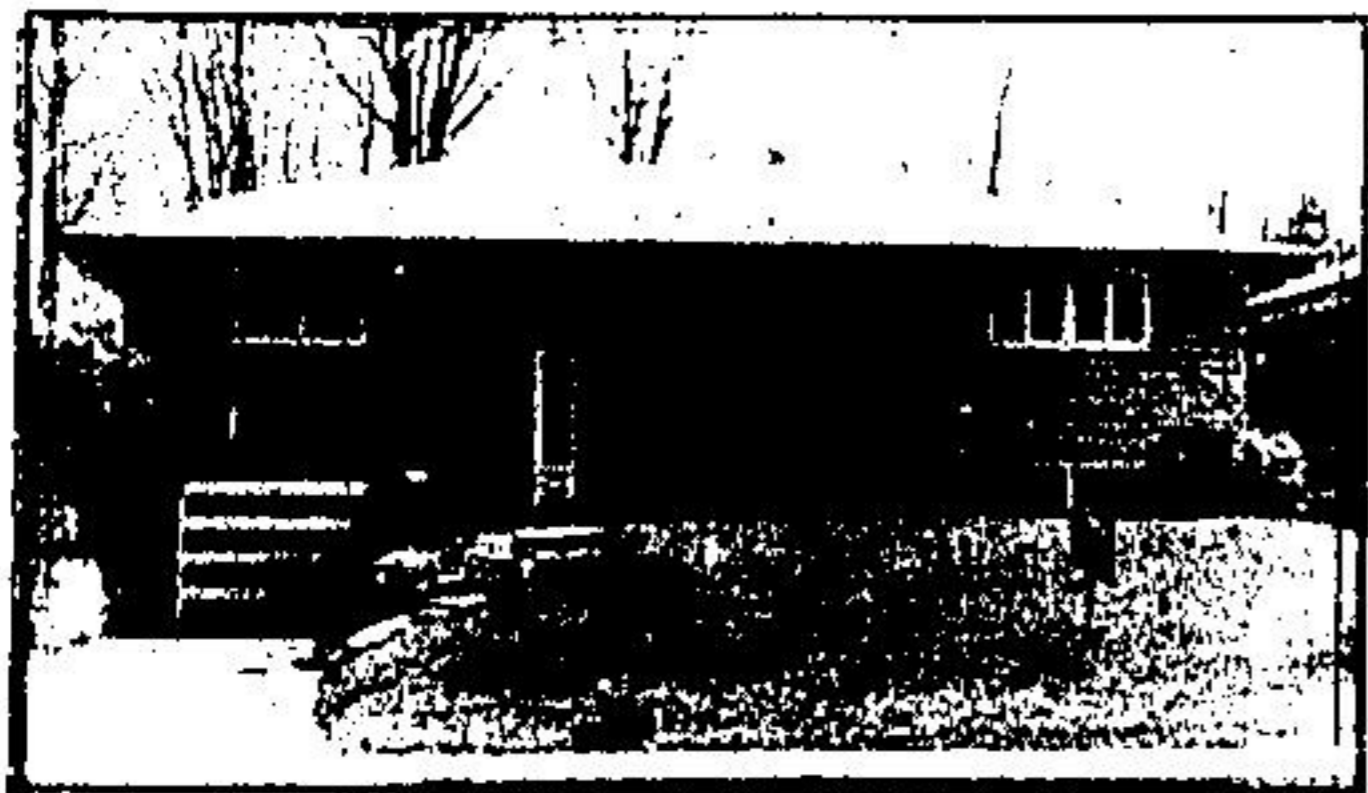
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