

# REALLYCLEANFLOORS

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## Residential Carpet Cleaning Frequency Chart

Did you know that according to the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration (IICRC) you should have your carpets cleaned **AT LEAST 1 TIME PER YEAR** depending on the amount of traffic. The IICRC is a professional association that trains & monitors cleaning technicians throughout North America. To help you decide how often your carpets need to be cleaned, I have included a chart from the IICRC S100 Standards. These standards provide the guidelines used by the Carpet Industry to give your carpet the longest life possible.

**Cleaning Frequency Guidelines**  
from the IICRC Standard for Carpet Cleaning S001-1991

Traffic Soil Rating	Carpet Owner/Maintainer		Professional Carpet Cleaner/Restorer	
	Vacuuming	Spot Cleaning	Heavy-Use Area Cleaning	Restorative Cleaning
<b>Light Soil</b>	<i>1 time per week</i>	<i>Daily or as soon as the spots are noticed.</i>	<i>Traffic areas every 12-18 months</i>	<i>Every 2 years per manufacturer warranty</i>
<b>Normal Soil</b> (Families with children, elderly)	<i>1 to 2 times per week</i>	<i>Daily or as soon as the spots are noticed</i>	<i>Traffic areas every 6 to 12 months</i>	<i>Annually</i>
<b>Heavy Soil</b> (Families with pets, smoking)	<i>2 to 4 times per week</i>	<i>Daily or as soon as the spots are noticed</i>	<i>Traffic area every 3 to 6 months</i>	<i>Semi-annually (2 times annually)</i>
<b>Extreme Conditions</b> (large families, multiple pets)	<i>Daily</i>	<i>Daily or as soon as the spots are noticed</i>	<i>Traffic lanes every 2 to 3 months</i>	<i>Quarterly (4 times annually)</i>

This table is intended to serve as a guideline for recommended cleaning frequencies from a public health perspective. Originally published in a letter from the U.S. EPA, this schedule has been adopted as part of the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification's (IICRC) Carpet Cleaning Standard S001-1991. Complete copies of the IICRC Carpet Cleaning Standard can be obtained by calling the Institute at 360-693-5675. (From: U.S. EPA Letter, January, 1989)