



MERIDIAN
ELEVATED ESSENTIALS

MERIDIAN GENERAL CARPET WARRANTY

Conditions and Homeowner Obligations

To maintain and protect your coverage under the terms of these warranties, you must do the following:

1. Know which warranties apply to your particular carpet. Warranties are stated on samples in the store at the time of purchase. It is your responsibility to know which warranties apply to your carpet.
2. Keep proof of your purchase in the form of a bill, invoice, or statement from your Meridian retailer that shows the price you paid for the carpet (excluding labor).
3. Have your carpet installed by a professional installer trained in installation methods outlined by the Carpet and Rug Institute. The Carpet and Rug Institute Carpet Installation Standards must be followed in order to qualify for Meridian carpet warranties. Proper installation is as important as the original quality and durability of the carpet. An improperly installed carpet will not look good nor wear well and may cause delamination, buckling, wrinkling, and loss of tufts in the seam areas.

Before a new carpet is installed, it is recommended that it sit overnight, preferably unrolled, in an area with a temperature not less than 65°F. This allows the backing to become more pliable and easier to install. It also allows the “new carpet smell” to dissipate. Testing within the carpet industry has not found any harmful emissions from carpets. The latex used to lock the tufts in place does produce a smell sometimes referred to as “new carpet smell.” Industry studies show 90-95% of the “new carpet smell” dissipates within 24-72 hours.

Depending on your room dimensions, a seam may be required during carpet installation. If at all possible, the seam should run perpendicular to windows in order to minimize light that reflects off the seam. Seams do show, and some constructions show more than others. There are no invisible seams.

4. Install your carpet with cushion meeting specifications for the warranted Meridian carpet.

The cushion under your carpet is one of the carpet’s most important components. It is the base that helps the carpet retain its texture and appearance. A cushion that is too soft can adversely affect the performance of the carpet. A cushion that is too thick interferes with the anchoring of the carpet. Some warranties may be extended based on the carpet manufacturer and select cushion. Ask your qualified Meridian retailer for more information.

To meet warranty requirements, carpet must be correctly installed in a proper indoor installation with a cushion meeting minimum requirements.

MINIMUM WARRANTY REQUIREMENTS FOR CUSHION

Cushion must meet FHA/HUD requirements, following the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) Installation Standard effective October 1, 2009. Minimum density is five (5) pounds per cubic foot; thickness should be a minimum of $\frac{3}{8}$ inch and maximum of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

For berber-style carpets, CRI recommends a minimum density of eight (8) pounds per cubic foot; thickness should be no less than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and no more than $\frac{3}{8}$ inch.

5. Maintain your carpet according to our “Carpet Care and Guidelines”, including having a minimum of one (1) professional cleaning every 18 months using cleaning products, equipment, systems and services specified/certified with the Carpet and Rug Institute Seal of Approval. (Visit www.carpetrug.org for a complete list of certified products.) You must show proof of cleanings in the form of a bill, invoice, or statement for cleaning services. Along with these documents, it is recommended to keep a 2' x 3' piece of carpet from your installation for your warranty or in case you ever need to make a repair.

6. Only clean your carpet with cleaners specified with a CRI Seal of Approval. Do not clean your carpet with household bleach.

MERIDIAN WARRANTY DETAILS

Limited Lifetime Stain Resistance Warranty

Meridian warrants that the surface pile of this carpet will resist stains from any food and beverage (including mustard, hot coffee and herbal teas); bleach, provided that bleach spills are accidental and bleach is not used as a cleaning agent, which will void the warranty; benzoyl peroxide (a common ingredient in acne medications); and other water-soluble, non-wax or non-oil based stains for the life of the carpet from the original date of installation. Meridian further warrants that if above-mentioned stains are saturated and result in wicking, these stains will release with additional re-cleaning for the life of the carpet from the original date of installation. (Wicking is defined as a re-appearance of previously cleaned stains due to liquid remaining in carpet backing or padding.) If permanent staining should occur that cannot be removed using recommended methods by a certified carpet-care professional, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the “Meridian’s Limited Liability” section of this warranty brochure.

What Is Not Covered

In addition to the warranty exclusions listed in the “Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions” section of this brochure, also specifically excluded from this warranty is damage or stains caused by vomit, feces, urine other than pet (domestic dog or cat) urine or stains caused by acids or oil based or wax-based substances including, but not limited to, tar, shoe polish, paints, lipstick or mascara.

Limited Lifetime and P.E.T. Stain Resistance Warranty

Meridian warrants that the surface pile of this carpet will resist stains by most household foods and beverages for the life of the carpet from the original date of installation. If permanent staining should occur that cannot be removed using recommended methods by a certified carpet-care professional, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty booklet.

What Is Not Covered

In addition to the warranty exclusions listed in the "Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions" section of this brochure, also specifically excluded from this warranty is damage or residual stains caused by non-food and non-beverage substances, in addition to foods and beverages that contain strongly colored natural disperse dyes as found, for example, in mustard, coffee, herbal tea, red wine and hot beverages, as well as substances which destroy or change the color of carpets such as bleaches, acne medications, drain cleaners, plant food, vomit, urine other than pet (domestic dog or cat) urine and feces. This warranty applies only to carpet manufactured with specific above-mentioned fibers and not to any other product.

Limited Stain Resistance Warranty

Meridian warrants that the surface pile of this carpet will resist stains by most household foods and beverages for a period of time from the original date of installation. If, within the warranted period, permanent staining should occur that cannot be removed using recommended methods by a certified carpet-care professional, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty booklet.

What Is Not Covered

In addition to the warranty exclusions listed in the "Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions" section of this brochure, also specifically excluded from this warranty is damage or residual stains caused by non-food and non-beverage substances, in addition to foods and beverages that contain strongly colored natural disperse dyes as found, for example, in mustard, coffee, herbal tea, red wine and hot beverages, as well as substances which destroy or change the color of carpets such as bleaches, acne medications, drain cleaners, plant food, vomit, urine and feces.

Limited Lifetime Full Pet Stain Warranty

Meridian warrants that the surface pile of this carpet will resist stains from pet (domestic dog or cat) vomit, urine, or feces for the life of the carpet from the original date of installation. If above-mentioned stains are saturated and result in wicking, these stains will release with additional re-cleaning for the life of the carpet from the original date of installation. (Wicking is defined as a reappearance of previously cleaned stains due to liquid remaining in carpet backing or padding.) If permanent staining should occur that cannot be removed using recommended methods by a certified carpet-care professional, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty booklet. This warranty applies to above-mentioned urine or feces stains only and does not cover odors.

What Is Not Covered

Specifically excluded from this warranty is damage or stains caused by any vomit, urine, or feces other than pet (domestic dog and cat). Pet urine can erode and destroy carpet backing, resulting in carpet delamination which is not covered under this warranty. This warranty applies to above-mentioned urine or feces stains only and does not cover odors. This warranty applies only to carpet manufactured with specific above-mentioned fibers and not to any other product.

Meridian Limited Lifetime Pet Urine Stain Resistance Warranty

Meridian warrants that the surface pile of this carpet will resist stains from pet (domestic dog or cat) urine for the life of the carpet from the original date of installation. If above-mentioned stains are saturated and result in wicking, these stains will release with additional re-cleaning. (Wicking is defined as a re-appearance of previously cleaned stains due to liquid remaining in carpet backing or padding.) If permanent staining should occur that cannot be removed using recommended methods by a certified carpet-care professional, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty booklet.

What Is Not Covered

In addition to the warranty exclusions listed in the "Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions" section of this brochure, also specifically excluded from this warranty is damage or stains caused by any vomit or feces, or any urine other than pet (domestic dog and cat) urine. Pet urine can erode and destroy carpet backing, resulting in carpet delamination which is not covered under this warranty. This warranty applies to above-mentioned urine stains only and does not cover odors.

Meridian Limited Lifetime Soil Resistance Warranty

Meridian warrants that this carpet will not have a noticeable color change due to deposits of dry soil resulting from normal, indoor household foot traffic for the life of the carpet from the original date of installation. "Noticeable color change" is defined as a rating of less than 3 using standardized rating scales (Gray Scale AATCC Evaluation Procedure 1 or equivalent in the U.S.). If permanent noticeable color change should occur that cannot be removed using recommended methods by a certified carpet-care professional, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty booklet.

What Is Not Covered

In addition to the warranty exclusions listed in the "Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions" section of this brochure, also specifically excluded from this warranty are damage or color changes caused by grease, mud, asphalt, tar, paint, ink, rust, blood, cement, urine, feces, vomit, or from materials that permanently destroy dyes or alter colors (such as bleaches, acne medications, drain cleaners and plant food), or changes in appearance or color due to burns, pets, tears, cuts, pulls, shading or pile reversal, fading, furniture depressions or athletic equipment.

Meridian Limited Soil Resistance Warranty

Meridian warrants that this carpet will not have a noticeable color change due to deposits of dry soil resulting from normal, indoor household foot traffic for a period of time from the original date of installation. "Noticeable color change" is defined as a rating of less than 3 using standardized rating

scales (Gray Scale AATCC Evaluation Procedure 1 or equivalent in the U.S.). If permanent noticeable color change should occur that cannot be removed using recommended methods by a certified carpetcare professional, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty booklet.

What Is Not Covered

In addition to the warranty exclusions listed in the "Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions" section of this brochure, also specifically excluded from this warranty are damage or color changes caused by grease, mud, asphalt, tar, paint, ink, rust, blood, cement, urine, feces, vomit, or from materials that permanently destroy dyes or alter colors (such as bleaches, acne medications, drain cleaners and plant food), or changes in appearance or color due to burns, pets, tears, cuts, pulls, shading or pile reversal, fading, furniture depressions or athletic equipment.

Meridian Limited Abrasive Wear Warranty

Meridian warrants that the surface pile of this carpet will not sustain more than 10% abrasive wear for a period of time from the original date of installation. "Abrasive wear" means fiber-loss from the carpet through normal abrasion, not from crushing or flattening of the carpet pile in any area, or from staining, soiling, fading or other changes in carpet appearance. If, within the warranted period, the pile weight of the carpet, when compared to non-traffic areas, loses more than 10% of its weight, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty brochure.

What Is Not Covered

In addition to the warranty exclusions listed in the "Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions" section of this brochure, also specifically excluded from this warranty is damage caused by tears, pulls, pilling, burns, furniture, wheel traffic, or athletic equipment.

Meridian Limited Texture Retention Warranty

Meridian warrants that this carpet will maintain its texture retention, not showing excessive pile crushing or matting from ordinary foot traffic as a result of the tufts losing twist, for a period of time from the original date of installation. "Texture retention" is the ability of the carpet tufts to retain their visible shape, as measured by the degree of bursting, opening, or untwisting of the tufts at the surface of the carpet.

Texture retention is measured against standardized rating scales ranging from 5.0 (new or no change) to 1.0 (severe change), ISO Standard 9405-1990. To perform as warranted, this carpet must retain a texture rating of at least 2.5 under warranted conditions. If, within the warranty period, a texture rating of less than 2.5 occurs under warranted conditions, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty brochure.

What Is Not Covered

The items listed in the "Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions" section of this brochure are excluded from this warranty.

Meridian Limited Lifetime Anti-Static Warranty

Meridian warrants that this carpet will not generate static greater than 5.0 kilovolts (using AATCC Test 134-79) for the life of the carpet from the original date of installation. If static greater than 5.0 kilovolts is generated, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty booklet.

What Is Not Covered

The items listed in the "Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions" section of this brochure are excluded from this warranty.

Meridian Limited Fade Resistance Warranty

Meridian warrants that this carpet will not show a permanent color change due to exposure to sunlight greater than one unit as measured by the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC) Gray Scale for standard comparison of the extent of color differences for a period of time from the original date of installation.

If, within the warranty period, a color change due to atmospheric contaminants should exceed the AATCC Gray Scale criterion, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty brochure.

What Is Not Covered

The items listed in the "Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions" section of this brochure are excluded from this warranty.

Meridian Limited Manufacturing Defects Warranty

Meridian warrants this residential carpeting against manufacturing defects for a period of time specified from the original date of installation. If, within the warranted period, this carpet is determined to be defective, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty booklet.

What Is Not Covered

The items listed in the "Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions" section of this brochure are excluded from this warranty.

Meridian OptiBack™ Ten-Year Limited No Delamination/Buckle Free Warranty

Meridian warrants that carpet with the OptiBack™ backing system will remain free of delamination and buckling for a period of ten (10) years from the original date of installation.

Delamination, which can lead to buckling, is defined as the separation of the secondary backing from the primary backing. If, within the warranty period, delamination and/or buckling of the warranted carpet occurs under the warranted conditions, Meridian will handle such claims as stated in the "Meridian's Limited Liability" section of this warranty brochure.

What Is Not Covered

In addition to the warranty exclusions listed in the “Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions” section of this brochure, also specifically excluded from these warranties are any buckling or delamination issues that result from damage to the backing system during installation, from improper seaming, from heavy furniture, or from over-wetting due to improper cleaning, flooding, or any other over-wetting cause.

The following prorated schedule applies for all Meridian warranties:

Lifetime Warranty

1st Year 100%
2nd Year 100%
3rd Year 100% 4th
Year 100%
5th Year 100%
6th Year 100%
7th Year 100%
8th Year 90%
9th Year 90%
10th Year 90%
11th Year 80%
12th Year 70%
13th Year 60%
14th Year 50%
15th Year 40%
16th Year 30%
17th Year 25%
18th Year 20%
19th Year 15% 20+
Years 10%

20-Year Warranty

1st Year 100%
2nd Year 100%
3rd Year 100% 4th
Year 100%
5th Year 100%
6th Year 100%
7th Year 100%
8th Year 90%
9th Year 90%
10th Year 90%
11th Year 80%
12th Year 70%
13th Year 60%
14th Year 50%
15th Year 40%
16th Year 30%
17th Year 25%
18th Year 20%
19th Year 15%
20 Years 10%

15-Year Warranty

1st Year 100%
2nd Year 100%

3rd Year 100% 4th
Year 100%
5th Year 100%
6th Year 100%
7th Year 100%
8th Year 100%
9th Year 90%
10th Year 90%
11th Year 80%
12th Year 60%
13th Year 40%
14th Year 20%
15th Year 10%

10-Year Warranty

1st Year 100%
2nd Year 100%
3rd Year 100%
4th Year 100%
5th Year 100%
6th Year 90%
7th Year 80%
8th Year 70%
9th Year 60%
10th Year 50%

5-Year Warranty

1st Year 100%
2nd Year 100% 3rd
Year 50%
4th Year 30%
5th Year 10%

Carpet Warranty and Carpet Characteristic Exclusions

UNLESS THE WARRANTY FOR YOUR MERIDIAN PRODUCT LISTED IN THIS WARRANTY BROCHURE SPECIFICALLY AND EXPRESSLY COVERS ANY ITEM LISTED BELOW, ALL MERIDIAN WARRANTIES EXPRESSLY EXCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

Accidents, Abuse, or Abnormal Wear

These Meridian warranties do not cover water damage from plumbing or appliance failure, storms or flooding, or damage incurred by or resulting from accidents or abuse such as staining, soiling, burning, cutting, or damage (other than specific domestic dog or cat urine stain coverage) caused by pets.

Area Rugs

No coverage is provided under these Meridian warranties for area rugs.

Carpet on Stairs, In High-Traffic Areas, Bathrooms, and Kitchens

These Meridian warranties do not cover damage to or appearance changes on carpet installed on stairs, in bathrooms, kitchens, outdoors, or in high-traffic areas or areas subject to other than ordinary shoe traffic.

Carpet Stains Resulting From Commercial Use

These Meridian warranties do not cover any carpet stains incurred by or resulting from commercial use (i.e., contracted services, in-home businesses, etc.).

Carpet Wear or Routine Maintenance

These Meridian warranties do not cover normal carpet wear, routine cleaning and/or regular maintenance.

Changes in Appearance

All carpets will change in appearance over time, primarily due to foot traffic. Carpet in heavy traffic areas will exhibit the most change. A good-quality cushion will help extend the carpet's appearance. Over time and with use, the tips of the tufts in cut-pile carpets will lose some twist, causing the carpet to bloom. This is a normal characteristic of carpet and is not considered a manufacturing defect.

Crushing

Crushing is the compaction of the pile thickness due to foot traffic or furniture. Regular use of a vacuum with a beater bar in high-traffic areas may help reduce changes in carpet's appearance. See C) Regular Vacuuming in the CARPET CARE AND GUIDELINES section of this brochure for additional information and vacuuming recommendations.

Defects, Conditional

These Meridian warranties do not cover defects of conditions covered by other warranties.

Defects, Visible Upon Installation

Once the carpet is installed, no warranty coverage will be provided for defects in the carpet which were clearly visible and should have been discovered prior to or during installation.

Differences in Samples

These Meridian warranties do not cover minor and normal differences between the color and texture of the retail store sample and true color and texture of the actual carpet.

Fading, Color Changes or Color Loss

These Meridian warranties do not cover sudden changes in carpet color resulting from external causes (other than those specifically mentioned in this warranty brochure) such as fading due to spills of household chemicals and other non-food and non-beverage substances or gradual fading over time from emissions from heating fuels, pesticides, cleaning agents, benzoyl peroxide and other household items. Care should be taken when using these items.

Filtration Soiling

Dust, dirt, pollen, cooking vapors, and other airborne pollutants may appear as dark lines along walls, vents, and doorways. This is usually due to an imbalanced ventilation system that is incapable of removing the volume of air entering the room. The excess air escapes through gaps between floors, walls, and doorways. Professional cleaning may remove discoloration in affected areas, but the

condition will usually return unless ventilation problems are corrected. Carpet of any quality will perform the same if subjected to filtration inefficiencies.

Footprints

Cut-pile carpets will show footprints and vacuum cleaner marks. This is characteristic of carpet and is not considered a manufacturing defect. Selecting a carpet with a lower pile height and denser construction will help to minimize this effect.

Geographic Locale

These Meridian warranties apply only within the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Improper Cleaning and Maintenance or Inadequate Care

These Meridian warranties do not cover damage to your carpet caused by improper cleaning, improper maintenance or cleaning materials or inadequate care. Your Meridian carpet requires routine cleaning and maintenance. Maintenance requirements and recommendations are listed in this brochure under "Carpet Care and Guidelines." All cleaning receipts should be retained.

Improper Installation

These Meridian warranties do not cover damage to your carpet caused by improper installation. Examples include, but are not limited to, wrinkling due to insufficient stretch, loss of tufts due to improper seam sealing, and seam peaking. The Carpet and Rug Institute Carpet Installation Standards conform to proper installation procedures and must be followed. The International Floor Covering Installers Association (1-816-231-4646) maintains a directory of qualified carpet installers.

Inadequate Cushion

These Meridian warranties do not cover damage to your carpet caused by inadequate cushion.

Indentations

Furniture or other heavy objects can cause indentations in your carpet. Furniture coasters will help distribute the weight of heavy objects over a larger area. Brushing the affected carpet area with your fingertips will usually restore the crushed tufts to their original position. This is not considered a manufacturing defect.

Matting

Entanglement of fibers and tufts of yarn tips may be caused by a cushion failure; usually it is due to improper maintenance. Residue from a spill that was not cleaned up thoroughly or cleaning residue that was not rinsed completely will lead to matting.

Odors

These Meridian warranties do not cover carpet odors.

Outdoor Installation

The Meridian warranties do not cover carpet installed outdoors. All carpets manufactured by Meridian are intended solely for use as indoor floor coverings and are not recommended for any other purpose.

Pad Failure

These Meridian warranties do not cover defects or damages caused by failure of the carpet pad. Deterioration of the padding can cause problems with your carpet. Please see the pad manufacturer's warranty statement for more information.

Problems with Moisture

These Meridian warranties do not cover problems caused by wetting or persistence of excessive moisture. For immediate assistance, contact a certified water damage restorations specialist. The Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification (IICRC) (1-800-835-4624) maintains a registry of trained, certified specialists.

Products Other Than First Quality

These Meridian warranties apply to first quality products only and are not applicable to carpet sold as second quality, irregular, used or mill end.

Residences Other Than Owner-Occupied, Single-Family

These Meridian warranties apply only to carpet for owner-occupied, single-family, indoor residential installations and do not cover carpet installed in any commercial or business places, daycare facilities and/or rental properties.

Shading

Shading is a change in pile direction that results in an apparent change in color due to the light reflecting in different ways. Solid color cut-pile carpets will exhibit this more often than textured or patterned carpets. This is normal. Severe cases of shading are also known as pooling or watermarking and can result in permanent pile reversal after installation. No cause for this is known, and it is usually confined only to certain areas of an installation. Pooling or watermarking is not considered a manufacturing defect.

Shedding

Shedding is a normal characteristic of cut-pile carpets. It is more apparent in staple products than continuous filament products. Regular vacuuming using a vacuum cleaner with a beater bar will remove most of the loose fibers during the first year. See C) Regular Vacuuming in the CARPET CARE AND GUIDELINES section of this brochure for additional information and vacuuming recommendations.

Stain Reappearance (Wicking)

These Meridian warranties do not cover reappearance of previously cleaned stains. If warranty conditions set forth in this brochure are met, stains that are saturated and result in wicking will release with additional re-cleaning. Transferability

These Meridian warranties are extended only to the original purchaser and are not transferable.

Wrinkling or Buckling

Wrinkling may occur after installation and can be caused by excessive humidity, inadequate cushion, or failure to use the recommended installation procedures found in the Carpet and Rug Institute Carpet Installation Standards, especially relative to power stretching. A competent installer can usually correct this problem.

Yellowing

Yellowing can have many causes, such as BHT (butylated hydroxy-toluene) off-gassing from rebond pad, yarn lubricants, over-application of stain-resistant treatments, changes in alkalinity, cleaning solutions, general soiling, and fume fading.

White vinegar applied to a clean white towel and held on the carpet will indicate if yellowing can be removed. If this works, a 10% solution of citric acid applied by a professional cleaner will usually remove yellowing. Yellowing is characteristic of carpet and not considered a manufacturing defect.

Disclaimer of Implied Warranties

ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES WHICH MAY ARISE BY IMPLICATION OF LAW OR APPLICATION OF COURSE OF DEALING OR USAGE OF TRADE— INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE— ARE EXPRESSLY EXCLUDED. NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS, IMPLIED, STATUTORY, OR OTHERWISE, EXTEND BEYOND THOSE EXPRESSLY SET FORTH IN THIS WARRANTY BROCHURE, AND ALL SUCH WARRANTIES ARE EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMED. By implied warranties we mean ones that the law presumes to have been given by the seller even though they are not set out in writing. PLEASE NOTE: Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, or limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

Meridian Limited Liability

Provided that you have complied with the Meridian General Warranty Conditions and Homeowner Obligations included in this warranty brochure, Meridian shall have as its entire liability and exclusive remedy the warranty liability described in this section. Meridian's liability under this limited warranty shall be limited to the actual cost of repair or replacement of only the affected area of the carpet extending to the nearest wall, doorway, or entrance. Meridian reserves the right to correct any defect prior to the carpet being removed, replaced, or any settlement being offered. Upon determination of a valid claim and that the carpet cannot be restored by repair, Meridian will arrange a credit to your retailer equal to a percentage of the cost of the carpet replacement only. Credit will be issued based upon the length of time your carpet has been in use. The credit will be good only toward the purchase of new Meridian carpet. There will be no cash payment.

MERIDIAN SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR AND WILL NOT PAY CONSEQUENTIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR SPECIAL DAMAGES OF ANY KIND WHATSOEVER UNDER THIS WARRANTY. Some states do not permit exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the exclusion or limitation may not apply to you. The limited warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state. Except for these rights, the remedies provided under these warranties state the entire limit of Meridian responsibilities.

Carpet Care and Guidelines

A) Selection

- When selecting carpet color, you should view large carpet samples during the day and by lamplight in the evening in the area of installation. The color you choose will look different under different lighting conditions.
- Light-colored carpets will show more soil and require more maintenance than dark-colored. Darker colors of carpeting are more effective in high-traffic areas. Multi-colored and patterned carpets are especially effective in hiding soil.
- The performance and quality of a carpet is directly related to the amount and quality of fiber that goes into the pile. The better the fiber and the denser it is packed, the better the carpet's performance. Thin, less-dense carpet will lose its surface appearance faster. Meridian recommends buying the highest quality you can afford.

B) Stain Removal

Most household spills can be easily removed using the steps below. Treatment of the affected area should begin immediately upon discovery as stain removal becomes more difficult with time. To start, locate your stain on the Common Stains Chart and follow these steps:

- First, use a spoon, dull knife or Cleaning Key to remove as much solid material as possible.
- Always work from the outside of stain to the center to prevent spreading, especially with large stains.
- Blot up liquid spills with a white towel or paper towel.

If stain returns—a condition known as “wicking”—simply repeat stain removal procedures, paying special attention to blotting and removal of all moisture.

C) Regular Vacuuming

Most dirt, and even dust, takes the form of hard, dry particles which can be removed with a vacuum cleaner. When left in the carpet, these gritty, sharp particles abrade the pile of the carpet. Regular vacuuming literally extends your carpet's life as well as enhancing its appearance, so the type of vacuum cleaner you use is important.

A vacuum's performance will vary based on the carpet's fiber type and construction. A good vacuum typically has features that allow you to adjust the height, beater bar rotation and fan speed. Vacuums with large wheels, self-propelled vacuums and/or specialty tools can also help ensure easy and effective carpet maintenance.

Features

Adjustable height is the most important feature because this enables the machine to be used on a wide variety of carpet constructions. If your vacuum is set too high above the carpet surface, the vacuum can't attract the gritty soil below. If the setting is too low, the vacuum's beater bar or brushes can "fuzz" the carpet's surface, causing it to look worn and frayed.

When vacuuming high pile, wool, wool-blend, and premium soft carpets, look for the following features that will allow you to easily maintain your carpet:

- Adjustable Height

Use the highest setting where appropriate

- Efficient Airflow

Avoid vacuums with very concentrated or sealed suction

- Large Wheels

Vacuum should glide easily across the carpet

When vacuuming thick loop, casual frieze or long pile carpets such as "shag," you may need to completely disengage the beater bar and vacuum with suction only. For all other carpet constructions, use a vacuum with a rotating brush or beater bar. Change the bags often and check the beater bars for burs and gouges to prevent damage to the surface of the carpet.

D) Cleaning Recommendations

- Vacuum high-traffic areas daily, medium-to-high traffic areas twice weekly, and the entire house at least once a week with a vacuum that carries the Carpet and Rug Institute Seal of Approval. (Visit www.carpet-rug.org for a complete list of certified products.)
- Even with regular vacuuming, soil particles and oily dirt will cling to carpet fibers. Foot traffic drives these particles and dirt deep into the carpet. Meridian requires professional hot water extraction every 18 months using cleaning products, equipment or systems that carry the Carpet and Rug Institute Seal of Approval. (Visit www.carpet-rug.org for a complete list of certified products.) Periodic cleaning by a certified carpet care professional using the hot water extraction method will refresh carpet appearance.
- The most-used areas— entrances, doorways, traffic lanes and in front of chairs— will collect dirt faster than other areas. Clean these areas as soon as they begin to show soil. This will stop dirt from spreading and will extend the time between professional cleanings.

If you have any questions, please visit www.meridian-flooring.com or contact your Meridian retailer.