



Pros

Cons

Cleaning Tips

Avg Price Point (sqft)

Natural Fibers

Wool

- Natural, renewable and biodegradable
- Naturally stain resistant and cleanable
- Soft hand
- Variety of colors/patterns
- Fire resistant, static resistant and provides healthy air
- Resilient—Looks better the longest

- Higher price point
- May shed/pill with heavy traffic
- Moth risk
- Sensitive to chlorine bleach

- Regular vacuuming and blotting up spills with damp towel
- Do not use a vacuum with a beater bar
- Diluted white vinegar
- Do not rub or use chemicals

\$5-\$20

Sisal/ Seagrass/ Jute

- Natural look and feel
- Strong and durable
- Great for high traffic areas, stairs
- More affordable than wool
- Biodegradable, non-toxic
- Great texture & good for layering

- Liquids can leave staining
- Rough texture (sisal)
- Can be difficult to clean

- Regular vacuuming and blotting up spills quickly
- Use salt to absorb

\$3-\$9

Silk/Tencel

- Luxurious appeal, high sheen and soft texture
- More durable than viscose

- Liquid stains can be difficult to clean
- Higher price point
- Not great for high traffic areas

- Regular vacuuming and blotting up spills quickly

\$10-\$20

Viscose

- Semi-synthetic (type of Rayon)
- Typically unique styles and designs for decorative rugs
- Cheaper than silk
- Bling

- Easier to tear or break under stress
- Not best for high traffic areas, small children, pets
- Susceptible to water and moisture damage

- Regular cleaning using a carpet sweeper
- Dry clean only
- Fabric softener will help preserve softness

\$2-\$7

Wool Blends

- Combines softness of wool with extra durability of synthetics
- Price point is lower
- Variety of patterns and colors

- Not as soft as pure wools

- Regular vacuuming and blotting up spills with damp towel

\$4-\$9

Synthetic Fibers

Nylon

- Most durable of synthetic fibers
- Soil and mildew resistant
- Strongest fiber, good for heavy traffic
- Minimal pilling and shedding
- Highly recyclable

- Prone to static
- Can have problems with bleaching, fading, urine reactions, etc

- Regular vacuuming
- Wet/dry vac or spray foam cleaner

\$3-\$7

Polypropylene /Olefin

- Superior stain resistance
- Low price point
- Resistant to bleaches and sunlight fading
- Easy to clean
- Good for outdoor, basements

- Poor resiliency, which may lead to crushing
- Color selection is limited due to dye method
- Poor abrasion resistance
- Not recyclable

- Regular vacuuming
- Blot with dry, cotton rag and use carpet cleaner to remove
- Liquid for non-oily stains, liquid for oily stains, liquid for oily stains, liquid for oily stains
- Use dull knife to remove debris

\$2-\$7

Polyester (PET)

- Extremely fade resistant
- Stain resistant
- Durable and resists wear
- Wide variety of textures and colors
- Non-allergenic, sheds moisture and resists moths and mildew at a lower cost than wool or nylon
- Made from recycled materials

- Not as durable as nylon
- Susceptible to pilling, shedding, and oil based stains
- Difficult to dye (must be solution dyed)

- Regular vacuuming
- Steam cleaning
- Blot stains immediately

\$2-\$5