

Technical Services Bulletin

Scuff Marks

Occasionally, a customer will complain about scuff marks on carpets constructed of olefin (polypropylene). These marks, which are not the result of any defects in the quality or workmanship of a carpet, generally occur as a result of dragging or sliding heavy furniture across the carpet but can also result from scuffing of shoes.

Olefin has a dry heat melt index of approximately 250 degrees Fahrenheit. The friction and resulting heat generated by dragging, sliding and scuffing across an olefin carpet is capable of exceeding the melt point of this fiber, causing melting and fusing of yarn. Although this condition is not correctable, in some cases some of the scorched yarn and rubber residue (such as from tennis shoes) can be removed using solvent spotters.