

### Colourfastness of Supertuft products

The yarn used in all our carpets is guaranteed by our yarn supplier and guaranteed by Supertuft to be “colourfast to Australian Standards”. This means that if the carpet is exposed to direct sunlight or heat that **it may fade** but will not fade faster than the acceptable rate described in the Australian Standard.

Therefore, all clients should ensure that they protect their carpet from excessive heat and sunlight by using blinds or other protective measures.

If your client wants to test the light fastness of the carpet they can submit samples for testing to the AWTA – Australian Wool Testing Authority for an independent test.

The relevant test is T35A2 – Colourfastness to light – Xenon arc method. We shall advise the current cost of the test if you wish to proceed.

Please be aware that as a result of recent trends in the building industry many houses have been **built without eaves** or with small eaves. This trend has contributed to the exposure of carpet to direct sunlight.

The client planning a new home or renovation or building designers should reasonably be expected to consider the protection of soft furnishings **from excessive sunlight** or heat that may cause fading to occur in soft furnishings. Excessive sunlight or heat can cause fading in soft furnishings that comply with Australian Standards. Design elements that are normally considered include the use of eaves on the roof of a house, blinds, louvers, shutters, or curtains.

**Both exposure to light and exposure to heat are factors that may cause fading.**

There are other reasons for carpet appearing lighter over time that are not related to the fading of the pile:

New carpet will always look significantly deeper in shade than carpet that has been installed for some time. A change occurs that is not related to fading.

This perceived change occurs because:

1. When carpet is trafficked it tends to compress slightly and therefore becomes much denser. It therefore reflects a lot more light after trafficking and appears considerably lighter.
2. A wool carpet takes on up to 17% moisture regain from the atmosphere. A carpet that has been wrapped and stored will remain dry and act somewhat as a “Sponge” once installed. This extra weight of moisture and expansion of the fibre also causes the carpet to become denser and reflect more light.

3. The phenomenon of Permanent Pile Reversal (Shading, Watermarking). For detailed information on this phenomenon read the brochure titled "Permanent Pile Reversal Shading" that appears on our website.

A combination of the factors listed above may cause a carpet to appear significantly lighter in colour in some or all areas once installed. A change in the amount of light reflected is the cause.

Carpet will fade if exposed to excessive direct sunlight or heat. A heat trap can sometimes occur between blinds (or curtains) and windows, and this can also fade the carpet although the carpet is colourfast to Australian Standards.

If you wish to use carpet in an area that is to be exposed to prolonged direct sunlight, then we recommend that the furniture be moved to slightly different positions in the first few weeks to avoid a situation where some areas are exposed to sunlight whilst others are totally protected.