

The Best Rug Pads for Hardwood Floors

FYI-Local resource: Shaver Ramsey <http://www.shaver-ramsey.com/aboutus.asp>

The Best Rug Pads for Hardwood Floors act as a support system for your area rug, anchoring your rug to your floor correctly while providing floor support and protection. The market is flooded with low quality rug pads that can actually end up doing more harm than good, therefore you should always make sure you pair the right rug pad with your particular floor type to preserve the beauty of your rugs and floors.

Before choosing a rug pad, determine what type of factory hardwood flooring you have and follow your flooring manufacturer's instructions to decide which rug pad to use.

For prefinished factory hardwood floors, contact the flooring manufacturer to find out what type of pad is safest with that particular floor finish.

We've conducted numerous tests, and from our experience believe the best rug pad for hardwood floors are a natural rubber, natural rubber & felt rug pad or a 100% felt rug pad. Here's why:

Natural Rubber Pads

If you're looking for a simple, non-slip rug pad we recommend using a natural rubber based pad on your hardwood floors. These non-slip pads are the safest. Natural rubber has excellent gripping power, is a renewable resource, and won't stick to your floors over time like a more typical, less expensive PVC (polyvinyl chloride) pad. Natural rubber rug pads have been on the market for over 30+ years and have a proven track record for performance and floor safety.

The majority of rug pads you find on the market and in 'big box' stores are made with PVC. They look identical to natural rubber pads except they're made with a lower grade rubber. There's a wide discrepancy in quality with these pads, so it's impossible to determine how each individual pad will perform. Every year we get numerous calls from customers complaining how their old rug pad stuck to the floor or stained their floor finish.

The same holds true for natural rubber and latex based products. Often times manufacturers will use more clay fillers in their rubber blend to reduce costs. These clay fillers cause the rubber to dry out quicker, leaving a pile of rubber flakes on your floor.

It's important you get a pad with some type of warranty to make sure you're covered if the pad begins to fall apart. All rubber pads will eventually fall apart, but the higher grade of rubber used is what allows them to perform, under stress, year after year.



Natural Rubber and Felt Rug Pad

A felt & rubber rug pad provide the ultimate foundation for your rug. These pads are designed to anchor your rug firmly in place while extending its life and beauty. A needle punched felt surface layer is designed to grab and hold the bottom of your area rugs, reducing bunching and creeping while promoting rug evenness. The felt surface layer also provides a dense buffer between your rug and floors for comfort. A grooved natural rubber backing grabs your floors and prevents rug movement in any direction. The natural rubber backing in our felt and rubber pads is reinforced with additional heat pressed natural rubber face coating. This added layer of protection helps to prevent premature flaking and deterioration that can occur with some felt & rubber pads.

Felt Rug Pad

100% felt rug pad offer excellent cushioning and support for larger area rugs less prone to slipping. They're our most popular rug pads for larger rugs on hardwood floors. They're thicker and denser than traditional non-slip rubber rug pads and offer a dense buffer between your rugs and floors. This felt buffer prevents the backing of your rugs from scratching your floors. They shouldn't be used with smaller rugs and are dramatically thicker than most traditional non-slip rug pads. Keep in mind they might lift your rug off the floor but in turn provide added cushioning.

