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*DON'T REPLACE IT ... REVIVE IT!*

## REVIVE CARPET DYEING

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### GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET

**BACKGROUND** Revive Carpet Dyeing was the world's first reliable 'on site' carpet re-dyeing system; it is an all Australian Company – the process was developed in Punchbowl, Sydney, by Gary Sargent, in 1977. It has won a silver medal at the Geneva Inventions Exhibition in 1982.

**WHAT MAKES REVIVE DIFFERENT** Unlike most normal textile dyeing systems, Revive does not rely on hot or boiling water to fix the dye into the fibre. Revive is chemically set; this means we can speed up or slow down the setting time to suit the particular carpet being dyed. Setting time is normally between 15 and 60 minutes, giving enough time to dye down and through the fibre. Once set, clear water is left; this is extracted out. The time that the moisture is in the carpet, acts like a pre-soak, loosening the dirt and foreign matter and emulsifying it into the water ready to be cleaned out. This leaves the carpet touch damp and colourfast – able to be used immediately.

**COSTS** Costs vary from carpet to carpet, depending on layout, depth of colour, thickness of carpet, access, furniture, etc.

**Average** carpet = \$12:00\*-\$18:00\* per square metre, with \$300.00 \* minimum.

**Average** 3 bedroom home = \$950:00\* - 1250:00\*.

Comparison to replacement – usually 10% to 30% of replacement cost, depending on quality.

\*Prices do not include GST

**PROCEDURE** Revive will not undertake to dye any carpet until it has been tested to prove suitability and the result permanent. This is usually done during the quote or can be done by sending a sample of the carpet to us to test.

If you accept the quote, and terms and conditions, a time is booked to complete the job. A whole house of carpet usually can be done in one day. You can book at the time of the quote, or anytime after. Our usual booking delay time is between 1 and two weeks.

It is important that someone is present on the dyeing day to approve colour prior to commencing laying the dye.

**TESTING** Wool and nylon are suitable, but acrylic, cotton, polypropylene and polyester are not. As wool and nylon make up approximately 85% of carpets in New Zealand, most are dyeable. **The most conclusive test is by placing a small test spots of dye, in various colours and shades, on the actual carpet to be dyed. We ask you to perform a wash-off test the following day. If not dyeable, the spot will wash away or lighten dramatically. If dyeable, the spot cannot be washed away.** Do not be alarmed if there is a little excess dye, especially on darker colours and blends. Sometimes, we know immediately that it is permanent, but we still ask you to do a thorough wash-off test. Testing is important as it not only proves dyeability, but shows you the carpet can be subsequently cleaned and displays the colours and effects possible. If a carpet has a percentage of undyeable fibre, the colour will lighten proportionately when washed out.

#### **HOW TO DO THE WASH-OFF TEST**

A/ If a loose piece of carpet, select a colour square and try to wash it out (under a running tap is easiest) using a Little dishwashing liquid and hot water, rub well and rinse out thoroughly.

B/ If carpet is fitted, select a colour square and saturate it with a cup of hot water with a little dishwashing liquid In it, rub well and press down with an old towel to absorb excess moisture.

#### **BENEFITS OF A DEEPER COLOURED CARPET**

1. Covers more marks, stains and spillage.
2. Makes worn areas less obvious.
3. Highlights furniture.
4. Overall, younger, crisp and clean appearance.

**INCORRECT COMMON BELIEF** Deeper colours on the floor DO NOT make a room look smaller – darker walls do.

**FACT:** Light rays bounce back to your eyes more quickly from light coloured surfaces; they are absorbed more into a deeper coloured floor, thus giving the perception of a larger room.

**STAINS** Most carpets are replaced because of staining; most stains can be completely hidden or made less obvious with the correct colour choice. Sometimes, you may want a colour look that is not going to hide some marks; they will change colour but may not completely hide. The look may be more important to you than hiding every single mark. E.g., a white carpet with a yellow urine stain dyed with a light blue or grey, will result in a light blue or grey carpet with a greenish stain. The same carpet dyed in apricot, terracottas, browns, or any colour containing yellow will almost certainly cover or disguise the stain.

Very occasionally, once the dye has been applied, some odd chemical reaction marks appear, usually in the form of a darker or lighter spot.

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A/ Darker spot – caused by the presence of a low pH chemical residue, eg., wine, vinegar, cordial and juice, some Body fluids. Usually these marks can be lightened at the time.

B/ Lighter spot – caused by the presence of a high pH chemical residue, such as bleach, or very heavy detergent Residue from over zealous use of spotters. Normally, rinsing and extracting some of the excess chemical, and Re-applying dye solves the problem.

**Very few of these spots are not corrected, however, it points out that our aim is to revive your carpets appearance – we cannot promise a new carpet or a perfect result. If your expectation is perfect, as new result, then we suggest you save your money towards a new carpet.**

**COLOUR CHOICES** Most carpets are light coloured and the reason for dyeing is staining and unserviceability. It is not always possible to cover every single stain – colour choice and depth of colour are very important. Dyes are not a coating, for example, like paint; the new dye colour actually penetrates right into the fibre dye sties, and mixes with the existing colour to give you the target colour. That is why colour charts are not successful, and the dye test spots are the best guide to you, giving you an indication of likely colour outcome. By mixing and blending colours and shades, you usually have a huge range to choose from.

The test spots are mixed from a test kit, and act as a close guide to final colour – as in all dyeing processes, slight variation may occur from the test spot to the final mix.

**FADING** Ultraviolet light fade or oxidisation occurs everywhere there is light, more severely where light is strongest. Sometimes we first replace the lost colour and they redye the whole area. Revive dyes have a high UV resistance, but as in mill dyed carpets, they will gradually fade over a long period in areas with high UV exposure. A ‘revived’ carpet has an advantage – in the future, if the carpet needs a freshen-up, for redecorating or selling a few years down the track, it is easy to apply a light ‘top coat’ to the tips, where most fade occurs – a simpler and much less expensive procedure.

**FURNITURE** Most furniture needs to be moved off the carpet; it can be put back when the job is finished, if necessary. Revive advises during the quote if any furniture can stay on and be moved as we go along. Our best advice, though, would be to remove all furniture – you will get a better result. **Any furniture replaced onto a damp carpet at the end of the job should have a little alfoil or plastic placed under the legs, until the carpet is completely dry. This will prevent wood and rust staining.**

**SHRINKAGE** It is extremely rare for a carpet to shrink or tighten. It is more likely with ‘woven’ carpets (Axminster or Wilton style) but even then if they are firmly fixed when laid, it is most unlikely. Glues used for seaming, and nails in concrete, gradually soften with the years and high usage, so it can happen in the odd spot on older, most likely, woven carpets. This is an inherent defect. In the unlikely event of this occurring, you may need the services of a carpet layer.

**DRYING TIME** Usually 24 to 48 hours from completion – will vary with carpet style, thickness, weather conditions, ventilation, etc. The easiest way to speed drying is to open all doors and windows. Although damp, the carpet can be used immediately we are finished. **THERE IS A SANITISING AGENT IN THE DYE TO HELP CONTROL MICROBIAL ACTIVITY**, which has an ongoing long-term effect to control bacteria in the carpet.

**PAINTING** We recommend you paint after dyeing, if possible for the following reasons:-

1. Changing the colour of the carpet is the most dramatic change you will make to the look of your room. Once dyed, it may alter your idea of wall colours.
2. Dye will not penetrate dried paint, glue or coatings. If only on the tips, it can be cut from the carpet with a pair of scissors.
3. It is almost impossible not to get a little dye on the skirting boards and base of walls, this generally wipes off. A few paints, less than 5%, will accept a stain. This can be removed by wiping lightly with a cloth dampened with methylated spirits or bleach, once the carpet is dry.

**CLEANING** Revive dyed carpet can be cleaned in all normal manners. We guarantee it for 5 years – you can prove it by trying to wash off the test colour spots.

**REVIVEGUARD** Is an optional extra; a highly active stain and soil retardant. It is simply sprayed into the carpet or fabric leaving an invisible protection. It acts by sealing the fibre pores – it will repel up to 85% of common spills, and will make vacuuming easier. By removing more grit, you extend the life expectancy of the carpet. Also available for ‘do-it-yourself’ application.

**BORDERS AND DESIGNS** Including messages, logos, can be dyed into suitable carpets or dirt control door mats, runners, bar/counter mats, etc.

**DOOR MATS & RUNNERS ETC.** Revive carry a range of dirt control door mats and runners, suitable for domestic and commercial situations. Also available with your customised message or logo dyed into them.