

DOWNLOAD PDF SHAW'S PRACTICAL GUIDE TO VALUATION FOR RATING

Chapter 1 : Debbie Burgess-Shaw - The United States (books)

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Do Carpet Ratings Even Matter? Well, yes and no! The most well known and widely copied carpet rating systems is the one designed by Shaw Floors, which rates carpet performance from 1 to 5, with a 5 being the best rated carpet for performance under heavy-duty testing. This theoretically means that Shaw carpets in the rating would be ideal for areas where there is going to be a lot of traffic, like hallways and stairs, whilst a rating of less than 2. There are so many variable factors that what might be only 3 years of acceptable carpeting performance to one could be a lifetime to another. This is why the best manufacturers will also give you a lot of other information about their carpets to help you decide what is going to work for you. Gather together as much of this information as you can about each carpet sample you like in order to truly compare them. There are several elements to consider when comparing carpets and these relate to what the carpet is made of, how it is made and what style of carpet it is. Types of Carpet First to consider is the actual style of the carpet clearly it is always going to be easier to compare carpets of the same style. But it also helps to know a little bit about the differences in the styles in the first place to know which style is best suited to your home. The six most common carpet styles are: Click here to learn more on carpet and rug trends for Types of Carpet Fibers Next you need to consider the pros and cons of different carpet fibers. There are five main materials that are most commonly used to make carpets and each of them have different characteristics that will determine how suitable they are for your home environment. Wool is the premium carpet fiber: Nylon is the most commonly available fiber, and is one of the most durable and resilient carpet making fibers. It is also very easy to maintain and is the ideal option for households with kids, pets and for high traffic rooms like hallways. There are, however, different grades of nylon fiber look for 6. And be sure to check that the nylon is regularly treated with stain protectors, as it is not inherently stain resistant. Another downside of nylon to be aware of is that it will fade in direct sunlight and can create a lot of static. Olefin, which is also known as polypropylene, is not as expensive or as resilient as nylon, but it is better at resisting stains, moisture and mildew, and is cheaper than nylon. This makes it practical for high traffic areas like playrooms, great for people who have allergies and an ideal choice for an indoor-outdoor carpet. The downside is that it is not as comfortable underfoot as nylon. Triexta is a relatively new man-made fiber that is being promoted as superior to nylon, mainly because it is naturally stain resistant. Density refers to how thick the fibers are and how closely packed they are onto the carpet backing. To check the density simply bend the carpet sample the less backing material that is visible the better the quality of the carpet. However, some manufacturers are now offering a carpet density rating: Bulked Continuous Filament or Staple Strands? Now the next question to ask is whether the carpet fiber strands are Bulked Continuous Filament sometimes known as simply Continuous Filament or Staple. These terms refer to the structure of the fiber strands used: Carpet Face Weight The face weight refers to the amount of ounces of fiber per square yard, and the more the better! Carpets with higher face weights of over oz are going to be more resilient and longer lasting than those on the lower end of the scale. Never choose a carpet that has less than oz face weight! Tuft Twist Another useful piece of information is the tuft twist number, which is to do with the number of times a 1-inch section of fiber has been twisted. You want to go for a minimum of 5 twists: Under Carpet Padding The job of the pad that you lay under the carpet can be greatly undervalued especially by unscrupulous salesmen trying to get rid of old stock. The carpet pad is what helps stabilize the carpet onto the subfloor and getting the wrong kind of pad can adversely affect the longevity of your carpet. Both the carpet and the underlay will have a separate tog rating and a combined rating over 2. Now to cover all your bases and ensure that you get the very best and longest performance from your carpet, we highly recommend choosing a reputable, experienced carpet installation team shoddy workmanship is the number one reason that carpets get needlessly wrecked before their time!

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This theoretically means that Shaw carpets in the rating would be ideal for areas where there is going to be a lot of traffic, like hallways and stairs, whilst a rating of less than is going to be better in an area that isn't used so much, like a bedroom.

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