

# Sun Damage

**S**un damage or photodegradation is common on virtually all materials which are exposed to the sun. Rugs which are located near windows and under skylights suffer from this process as the ultraviolet (UV) light breaks down the dye on the surface resulting in fading of color.

## Effects of Sun Damage

In many cases, especially with newer production rugs, part of the finishing process after wash is to naturally fade the rug in the sun to soften the colors and give the rug a distressed appearance.

Some dyes react more noticeably to this process. Generally reds are the first color to fade, however all colors will eventually be effected by the sun. In most cases this sun damage only effects the top millimeter of the pile, and the color will remain in the pile below this point.

Rugs with prolonged exposure to extreme sunline can fade much deeper into the rugs pile. In some cases, soil can cover up this sun damage and when the rug is washed the sun damage becomes more apparent.

Rotating your rug or closing the shades when the room is not in use can help reduce the effects of sun damage. There are however some remedies to fix sun damaged rugs.

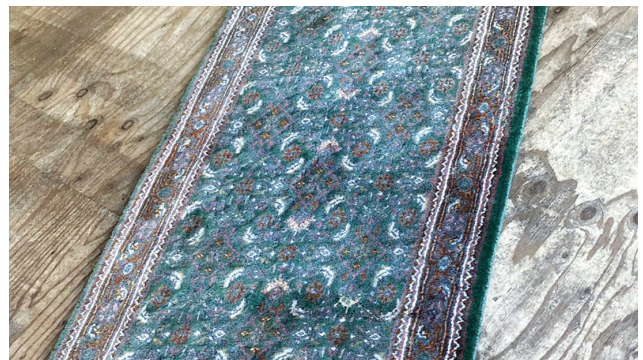
## Prevention & Treatment

- Since only the top portion of the pile has color loss sheering the rug down slightly can restore the original color of the rug.
- This process takes of a very small amount of the surface fibers and does not result in any noticeable change to the thickness of your rug. In extreme cases and in rugs with very low pile, the color can be dyed back into the rug with an airbrush. However, this process is more intensive and color match can be difficult.
- Consult with your ARCS cleaner to see what options are available to you if sun damage is present in your rug.

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Sun Fade



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