LIVE THE LIFE...LOVE THE STYLE

COUNTRY HOMES & INTERIORS





Meed to know... Buying carpets

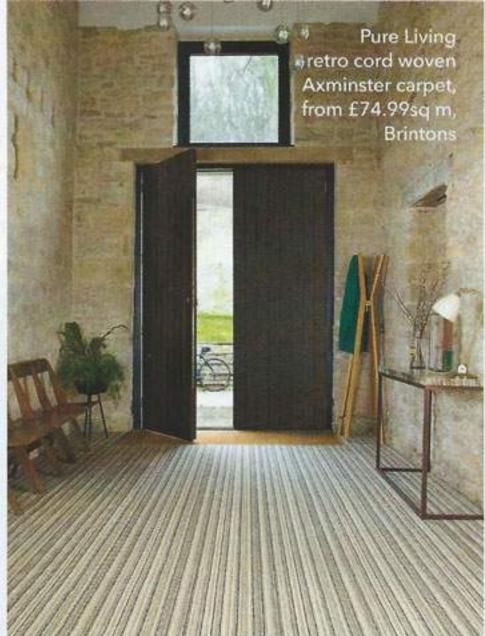
- **EXECUTE THE ROOM** and your family circumstances. A bedroom, for example, takes far less wear than a stair carpet.
- IF YOU CHOOSE A RUNNER... Leave between 5-15cm of sub-floor exposed either side of it for the best look.
- A PROFESSIONAL CARPET INSTALLER IS **ESSENTIAL** 'Fitting is a skill and all carpets should be fitted in accordance with BS5352. the British Standard for the installation of textile floor coverings,' says Rupert Anton of the The Carpet Foundation.
- **BUY A GOOD QUALITY RUBBER CRUMB** and felt underlay. It will prolong the life of your carpet and feel softer underfoot.
- **BUY FROM A CARPET FOUNDATION MEMBER** They work under a Code of Practice approved by the Chartered Trading Standards Institute.
- **WOOL CARPETS NEED CAREFUL CLEANING** To clean spillages, Lisa Conway, residential marketing manager at Brintons, says: 'Use a blotting/dabbing action, or if available, a wet suction vacuum cleaner. Do not rub as this will cause the pile to burst."



PURE AND SIMPLE

Soft and sumptuous, this Rare Breeds Loop carpet is made from undyed wool, blended into pale neutral shades. It has a tog rating of 1.57, so can be used with underfloor heating. 'For underfloor heating to operate efficiently, the thermal resistance of the carpet and underlay should not exceed 2.5 togs, which means over 90% of carpets and underlays are suitable,' says Rupert Anton of The Carpet Foundation.





WALL TO WALL

Carpeting the hallway will guarantee a warm welcome to your home. 'Patterns are perfect for high-traffic areas, such as hallways, where dust and dirt are repeatedly trodden into the carpet,' says Lisa Conway, residential marketing manager at Brintons. 'The texture of wool coupled with a warm colour is a great way to build a comfortable décor scheme.'



GO BESPOKE

If wall-to-wall carpet is not your thing, but you enjoy the comfort and cosiness of something soft underfoot, go to Grosvenor Wilton for a custom-made rug from its Design Folio collection. The prestigious carpet manufacturer has a huge archive of modern and heritage designs and can craft a bespoke carpet or rug to any size or specification.