

Australian Standard[®]

Textile floor coverings—Terminology



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 - Australian Retailers Association
 - Australian Specialist Contractors Association
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 - CSIRO Textile and Fibre Technology
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 - National Upholstery & Carpet Cleaners Association
 - New Zealand Carpet Manufacturers Association
 - New Zealand Flooring Industry Training Organisation
 - Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association Incorporated
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RECONFIRMATION
OF
AS 2454—2007
Textile floor coverings—Terminology

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NOTES

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee TX-009 Carpets to supersede AS 2454—1993, *Textile floor coverings—Terminology*. This edition incorporates new terminology and technology, general manufacture, installation and cleaning practices.

Terms relating to textile floor coverings, textile floor covering components and installation practice are defined, and categories of textile floor coverings are defined according to their structural composition. This Standard applies to textile floor coverings of all types. Appendix A outlines the most common carpet constructions.

While ‘textile floor covering’ is an approved term, by definition all textile floor coverings are carpets, and the common usage term is ‘carpet’. The constant use of the term ‘textile floor covering’ in the Standard, especially where preceded by descriptors, would make many of the terms and definitions cumbersome and unrecognizable. Therefore, the term ‘textile floor covering’ is used only where descriptors are not required before the term.

During the development of this Standard cognizance was taken of ISO/DIS 2424, *Textile floor coverings—Vocabulary*.

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS/NZS	
2111	Methods of test for textile floor coverings—Tests and measurements
2111.4	Method 4: Determination of surface pile mass above the substrate
2111.5	Method 5: Determination of thickness of pile above substrate
2111.6	Method 6: Determination of tuft length of pile
2111.11	Method 11: Determination of total pile mass per unit area by complete dissection
2450	Textiles—Natural and man-made fibres—Generic names

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

Textile floor coverings—Terminology

Term	Definition
abrasion	<i>See</i> wear by abrasion.
antistatic	Having a reduced electrostatic propensity.
appearance retention	The degree to which a textile floor covering retains its original appearance with regard to such things as colour, pattern, texture, and tuft definition.
attached underlay	<i>See</i> integral foam underlay.
Axminster carpet	Cut pile carpet produced by inserting, during weaving, successive rows of tufts having colours arranged according to a predetermined order (<i>see</i> Figure 1, 10 and 23). Consequently this type of carpet does not contain dead yarn. (<i>See also</i> chenille Axminster carpet, gripper Jacquard Axminster carpet, spool Axminster carpet, spool-gripper Axminster carpet.)
back-coating	The application of an adhesive agent on the back of a textile floor covering which penetrates to some degree into the textile floor covering but without reaching the use-surface.
backing	<i>See</i> substrate.
backing fabric	A separately manufactured fabric which is incorporated into the substrate usually to provide stability either during manufacture or in use. (<i>See also</i> primary backing and secondary backing.)
— secondary backing	Additional stabilizing layer attached to or adhered to the primary backing. The secondary backing may be a textile or rubber layer, or elastomeric foam attached to or adhered to, flowed on or coated onto the underside of the primary backing.
— woven backing	Carpet backing formed by weaving, either before manufacture of the carpet or in the course of its production.
— knitted backing	Carpet backing produced by knitting, either before manufacture or in the course of production.
— non-woven backing	Carpet backing produced by a technique other than weaving or knitting.
— non-textile backing	Carpet backing composed of material other than textile material and consisting generally of plastics material or of rubber.
— felt backing	Needled textile layer, attached to the back of a textile floor covering.

Term	Definition
— unitary backing	Heavy, backcoating of a polymer material, e.g. high rubber content latex, or hot melt resin compound, applied in a single operation (without fabric secondary backing), to impart strength, tuft bind and dimensional stability to a carpet. Unitary backed carpets are normally installed using an adhesive based system.
— urethane backing (polyurethane)	Polymeric resin applied to the back of a textile floor covering, which creates a foam-like structure in the heat and curing chamber of the coating line. This backing encapsulates the yarn for extra tuft bind with a cushion attached.
— PVC backing (polyvinyl chloride)	Synthetic polymer, applied to the back of a textile floor covering, giving a stiff, heavy and stable backing to the carpet with little cushioning but excellent tuft bind and stability.
back stitch	The pile root of a tufted carpet.
batt	Fibres arranged in sheet form used in the manufacture of non-woven carpets.
BCF yarn	See bulked continuous filament yarn.
bearding	A surface fuzz of particularly long fibres on loop-pile carpets caused by fibre snagging or inadequate tuft retention. (<i>Compare with cobwebbing, filamentation and fuzzing.</i>)
beat-up	Linear frequency of rows of tufts along the length of a woven carpet. (<i>Compare with stitch-rate.</i>)
Berber	The effect given by a mixture of earthy tones similar to those of naturally pigmented wools, in a flecked or mottled pattern. (<i>See also flecks.</i>) (<i>Compare with tweed.</i>)
binding	The edge finishing of a textile floor covering where a separate fabric tape is turned over the edge and stitched onto the front and back of the carpet to prevent edge fray. (<i>Compare with overlocking.</i>)
bleeding	See colour bleeding.
blend	Intimate mixture of two or more different fibres in the pile.
body carpet	Narrow width carpet, typically 69 cm, 91 cm or 100 cm wide.
bonded carpet with pile	Pile carpet in which the pile consists, for example, of a pleated sheet or assembly of textile yarns or fibres which is embedded in an adhesive or polymer bonded with pile.
bonding agent	Material applied to fibre or yarn assemblies for the purpose of maintaining the assembly in the required conformation.
bow (or bowing)	Curvature of a textile floor covering parallel with or at right angles to the direction of manufacture. (<i>Compare with skew.</i>)
braided carpet without pile	Textile floor covering without pile made of machine braided cords sewn together, e.g. sea-grass matting, and braided mats.
broadloom	Broad width carpet, typically 183 cm, 366 cm or 400 cm wide.

Term	Definition
broche	Assemblage of yarn inserted in the same dent of the reed of the weaving machine, the group consisting usually of two ends of the chain warp, the yarns of the stuffer warp and those of the pile.
Brussels	A type of Wilton carpet having a loop pile construction. The pile is formed in the same way as cut pile Wilton carpets except that the wire over which the pile yarn is wrapped has no knife to cut the loops.
bubbling	The rising of the surface of a textile floor covering to form raised areas or bulges.
buckling	<i>See</i> rucking.
bulked continuous filament yarn	(Also known as BCF yarn). Continuous filament yarn in which the filaments have been crimped to increased the volume of the yarn.
buried end carpet	Pile carpet with a design constituted by tufts or loops of different colours. Some yarns, where not required in the pattern, form short loops above the substrate which are not visible on the surface of the pile.
buried pile yarn	<i>See</i> dead yarn.
carpet	A common usage term for textile floor coverings. Used in these definitions wherever the subject is preceded by a descriptor. — domestic/residential Carpet used in homes or for non-business personal use. — commercial/contract Carpet used in hotels, business offices, shopping centres and commercial areas.
carpet gripper	Strips which are fixed to the floor around the perimeter of a room, and which have rows of angled pins on which stretched carpet is hooked and held in place creating a smooth finish at the walls without the use of carpet tacks. (<i>Compare with</i> turn and tack.) (<i>See also</i> conventional installation.)
carpet tiles	<i>See</i> tiles.
carpet without pile	A floor covering composed of non-pile textile use-surface, with or without a substrate.
carved pile	Pile of a textile floor covering which is subjected to a shearing operation, usually by hand, with the object of creating different levels of pile, in general on the periphery of certain elements of design formed by the pile. (<i>Compare with</i> sculptured pile.)
cellular plastics (polymeric) underlay	An underlay formed essentially of a polymeric foam, e.g. polyurethane, with or without a carrier or backing material bonded thereto.
cellular rubber underlay	An underlay formed essentially of a vulcanized rubber foam, with or without a carrier or backing material bonded thereto.
CF yarn	<i>See</i> continuous filament yarn.

Term	Definition
chain warp	Warp threads, usually woven in pairs, altering over and under the lower shot (weft yarn) and one or more top shot which are then bound and which enclose the stuffer yarns and the tufts or loops forming the pile.
chalking	See whitening.
chenille Axminster carpet	Textile floor covering in which the pile is composed of so-called ‘chenille’ yarns (chenille fur), manufactured in a separate weaving process and then inserted during the weaving of the textile floor covering (see Figure 1).

NOTE: This type of textile floor covering is relatively uncommon.

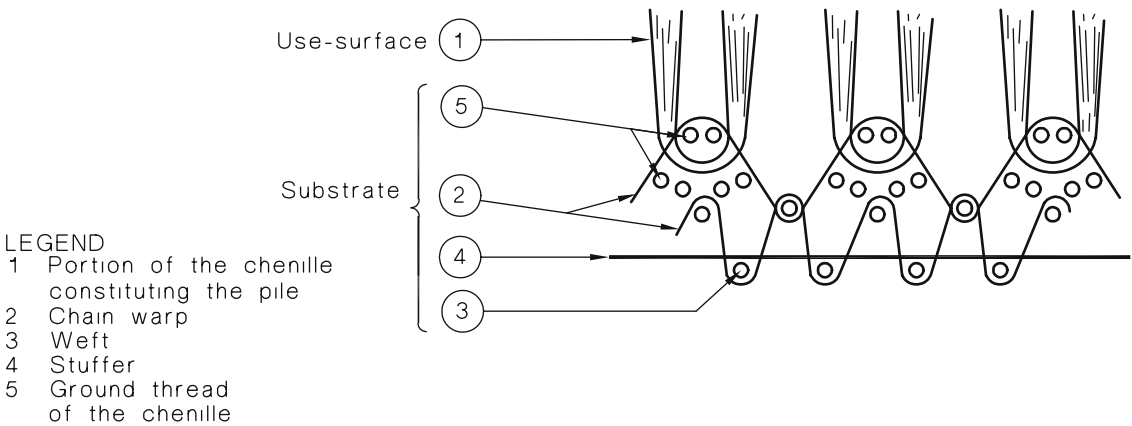


FIGURE 1 TYPICAL CHENILLE AXMINSTER CARPET (WARPWAYS SECTION)

Term	Definition
cleanability	The ability of a textile floor covering to release soil or stains without damage to the fibres, colour or substrate on application of the appropriate cleaning processes.
cobwebbing	An extreme form of hairiness in which the fibres are entangled to form an interlaced web attached to the use-surface. (<i>Compare with</i> filamentation, breadding and fuzzing.)
coir mat	A mat (<i>see rug</i>) produced from fibres obtained from the husks of a coconut (<i>cocos nucifera</i>).
colour bleeding	(Also known as bleeding.) The transfer of dyestuff of a textile floor covering from one area to another under the influence of liquids.
colourfastness	(Also known as fastness.) The ability of a textile floor covering to maintain its colour after the action of various agents, e.g. light, washing, water, acid, alkali, perspiration, wet rubbing, dry rubbing, shampoo solution.
combination underlay	An underlay composed of two or more layers of any fibrous underlay combined with two or more layers of any non-fibrous underlay.

Term	Definition
commercial	Carpets used in business, non-residential.
continuous filament yarn	(Also known as CF yarn.) Yarn composed of one or more filaments that run essentially the whole length of the yarn. (<i>Compare with</i> staple fibre.) (<i>See also</i> bulked continuous filament yarn.)
conventional installation	(Also known as stretched installation and tackless installation.) A method of installation in which the textile floor covering is stretched over a separate underlay and held in place by strips of carpet gripper which are fixed to the sub-floor around the perimeter.
count	(Also known as linear density, yarn count, yarn number.) Linear density of a fibre or yarn. (<i>See also</i> tex, decitex and denier.)
creasing	The formation of folds, wrinkles or ridges prior to installation of a textile floor covering.
crimp	The waviness of an individual fibre or the general level of waviness in a mass of fibres.
crocking	The transfer of dyestuff from the textile floor covering to another fabric by a process of rubbing.
cropping	<i>See</i> shearing.
cross-join	The join between two pieces of textile floor covering across the direction of manufacture (<i>Compare with</i> seam.)
cross-over stitches	Stitch system in a tufted carpet wherein the individual stitches are displaced sideways according to a programmed pattern in which the displacement is not the same for all stitches in any one row. Adjacent ends of yarn can be moved in opposite directions and to different distances, and may be crossed over one another. By using a variety of different yarn colours or textures, a pattern can thus be created in the pile by virtue of the pattern of stitch displacement. (<i>See also</i> sliding needle bar, single-sliding needle bar and double-sliding needle bar.)
crushing	(Also known as flattening and pile crush.) The loss of thickness of a textile floor covering under the action of a static or dynamic load.
curled pile	Pile of a textile floor covering in which the curl has been induced in the pile yarn by over-twist or by other means.
cushion backed	<i>See</i> integral foam underlay.
cut and loop pile	Pile of a textile floor covering formed, during manufacture, with loops and cut tufts of different heights or of the same height (<i>see</i> Figure 2).

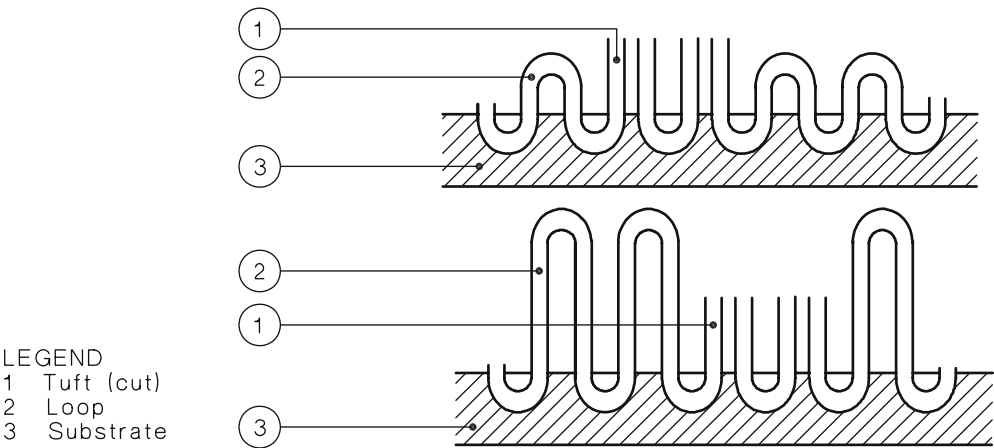


FIGURE 2 CUT AND LOOP PILE
(WARPWAYS SECTION)

Term	Definition
cut pile	Pile of textile floor covering consisting of tufts or individual fibres with cut ends.
dead fibre	That part of fibre, in a needled-pile textile floor covering, which forms or is incorporated in the substrate and which does not form part of the effective pile.
dead frame yarn	Yarn from a complete frame in a multi-frame Wilton carpet, which is present in every end in the carpet but which lies flat in the substrate and never appears in the actual pile. It is included to give filling and cushioning to the substrate and can substitute for stuffer warn yarn (<i>see</i> Figure 3).
dead yarn	(Also known as buried pile yarn.) Those parts of the pile yarn in a multi-frame patterned Wilton carpet lying flat in the substrate and not rising to the surface to form part of the effective pile (<i>see</i> Figures 3, 4 and 5).
decitex	One-tenth of a tex. (<i>Compare with</i> <i>denier</i> .)

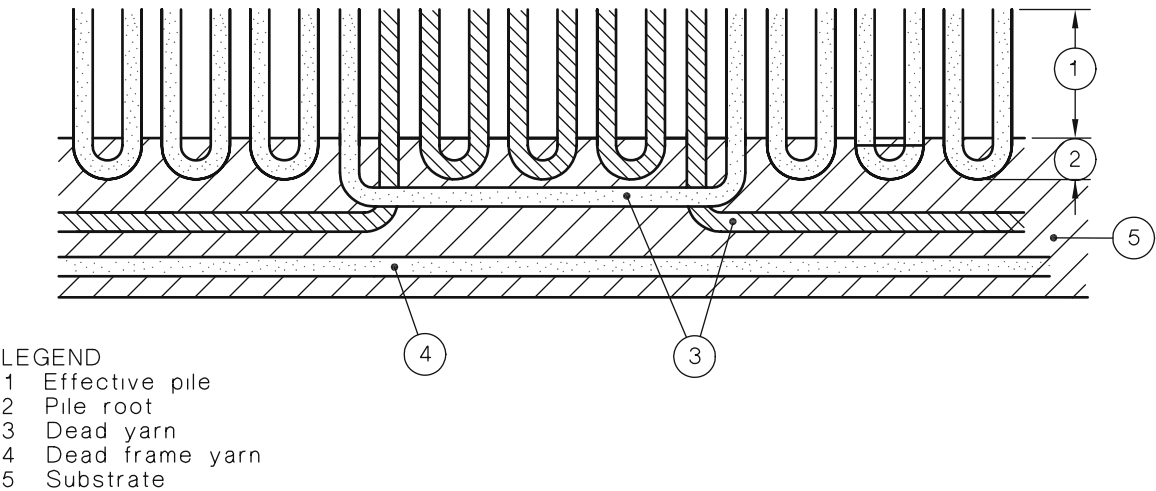


FIGURE 3 EXAMPLE OF A PILE YARN CONFIGURATION IN A PATTERNED WILTON
CARPET (WARPWAYS SECTION)

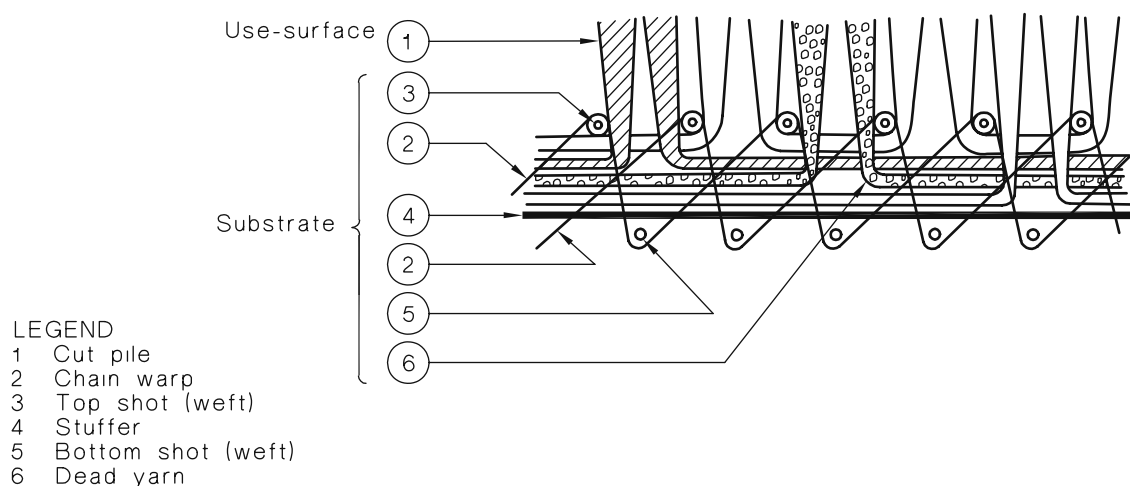


FIGURE 4 TYPICAL PATTERNED WILTON, JACQUARD WEAVE CARPET, FOUR-FRAME, TWO-SHOT WEAVE (WARPWAYS SECTION)

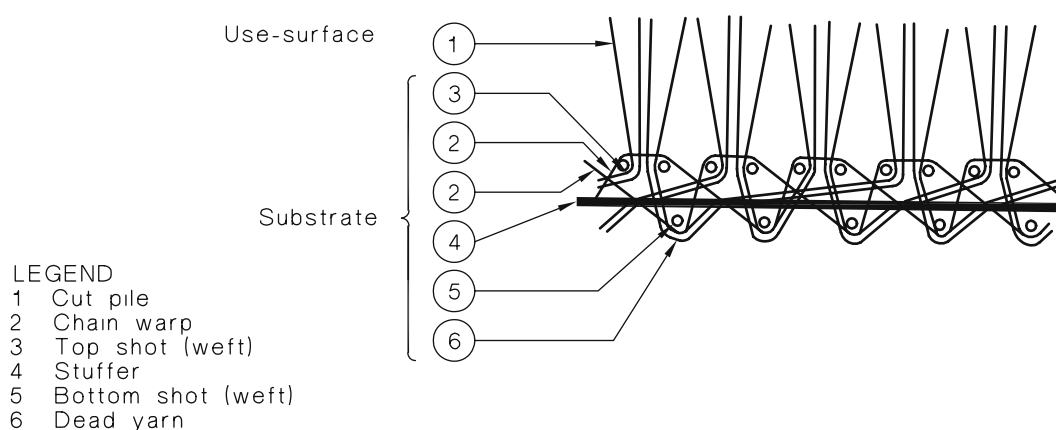


FIGURE 5 TYPICAL PATTERNED WILTON, JACQUARD WEAVE CARPET, TWO-FRAME, THREE-SHOT THROUGH TO THE BACK WEAVE (WARPWAYS SECTION)

Term	Definition
delamination	The separation of the use-surface or foundation (primary substrate), or both, of a textile floor covering from the secondary substrate material.
denier	A unit of a yarn count system, which is the weight in grams of 9 kilometres of the yarn. (<i>Compare with tex and decitex.</i>)
dimensional stability	The ability of a textile floor covering to retain its dimensions when subjected to mechanical action, changes in ambient humidity or temperature and soaking in water with subsequent drying out.
direct-stick	A method of installation in which the textile floor covering is adhered directly to the sub-floor.
domestic	Carpet used in homes or for non-business personal use.

Term	Definition
double-bond	(Also known as dual-bond and double-stick). A method of installing textile floor covering in which a soft underlay is adhered to the sub-floor and then the carpet is adhered to the underlay. The carpet is not usually stretched and held by gripper strips but is held in place by the adhesive.
double-sliding needle bar	A sliding needle bar comprising two parts mounted side-by-side, which can slide independently of each other in a widthwise direction. Each part bar carries half of the tufting machine's needles and extends the full width of the tufting machine. (<i>Compare with single-sliding needle bar.</i>)
double-stick	<i>See double-bond.</i>
drop-match	The characteristic of a pattern whereby the pattern match is usually offset by a half or a quarter of a repeat on the opposite selvedge or edge of the textile floor covering (<i>see</i> Figure 6). (<i>Compare with set-match.</i>)

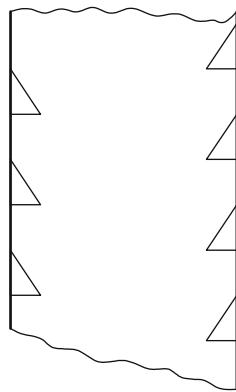


FIGURE 6 DROP-MATCH

Term	Definition
dual bond	<i>See double-bond</i>
durability	The ability of a textile floor covering to last and to maintain its general properties in use. NOTE: The term is sometimes used to refer more specifically to its resistance to wear by abrasion.
dynamic loading	The process of repeatedly applying a load to the same area of a textile floor covering to assess its resistance to crushing.
edge-finishing	The securing of the edges of a textile floor covering to prevent fraying in use.