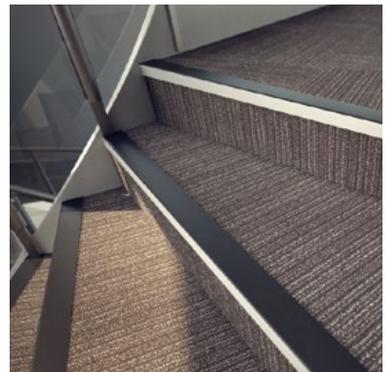


danfloor
An Ulster Group Company

CARPET VERSUS CARPET TILE

Within a care environment

When selecting flooring for a care setting you may be faced with a lot of options including carpet tiles and broadloom carpet.



Looking at the structure and functional aspects of a broadloom carpet, when compared with carpet tiles, we feel that that carpet is the best option for the majority of areas within a care environment and here are just a few reasons why:



Infection Control

Any modular system, such as carpet tiles, will have gaps when it's laid. This naturally creates an area which is difficult to clean. No matter how rigorous your cleaning and maintenance programme is it is inevitable that dirt will remain between the gaps and will begin to harbour bacteria.

In addition to this any spillages that occur could seep underneath the tile, not only creating potential infection control or odour issues, but making it impossible to clean without uplifting and potentially replacing the tile.



Tile uplift

Many modern flooring adhesives are water based. If exposed to water for a long period of time the adhesive will eventually breakdown. If a regular spillage was undetected, this could cause the adhesive to fail and the tile to lift resulting in a trip hazard.



Timber Floors

Some modern buildings are constructed using timber floors. If a spillage occurs on a tiled floor and manages to seep below the surface this could affect the timber floors in a number of ways:

1. As wood is a pervious structure it could become contaminated leading to smell and infection control issues.
2. If regular spillages go undetected the floor could degrade and need replacing.



Comfort

All our healthcare carpets are backed with the Aqua Bac impervious backing which not only prevents liquid spills reaching the sub floor but also acts as a cushioned underlay that provides a soft surface. Carpet tiles are usually backed in a material called Bitumen which is a hard and unforgiving surface. If a resident was unfortunate to have a fall on our broadloom carpet injuries incurred may be less severe than if they fell on an un-cushioned carpet tile.



Acoustics

Our carpets, with the Aqua Bac backing, naturally have better acoustic reverberation properties than most carpet tiles, which is a definite advantage when it comes to flooring within the healthcare sector. According to the University of Stirling environments where there is less sound reverberation is far better for residents living with dementia as it causes less confusion and disturbance.



Aesthetics

Finally the look and feel of a room is also very important especially if you are trying to create that home from home feel or a high end look. Although carpet tiles come in many different colours and patterns broadloom carpet is far superior when it comes to appearance and definitely creates a more homely feel.