

FACT SHEET

Peaking Seams

Peaking seams are not a manufacturing fault of the carpet. They are as a result of stretching and securing of the carpet onto 'Tackless Strips' (sometimes called smooth-edge), around the edges of the room.

A house lot of carpet will invariably have seams, they are unavoidable and a necessary part of 'conventionally' installed carpet on a resilient underlay. Many consumers expect the seams to be invisible, though in fact this cannot be guaranteed.

The action of stretching the carpet at right angles to the seam puts tension in the carpet that the backing can absorb. However, when the forces of tension reach the rigidity of the seaming tape, the tape is pulled upwards resulting in a lump or peaked seam.

Back-rolling the seam edges and pre-stretching the carpet along the seam area will help minimize peaking. Also stretching the carpet tighter in the direction parallel to the seam, and a little less in the direction perpendicular to, or across, the seam will relieve pressure on the seam and reduce peaking.

Locate the seam away from a window, glass door or other strong light source, where light may cast a shadow across the seam. Even the smallest peak will be accentuated and become more noticeable. It is our experience that peaking seams will diminish with time, i.e. with use and vacuuming.





