

# Glossary

**Acrylics:** Look and feel a lot like wool, however, the fiber has a tendency to fuzz.

**Backing:** Fabrics and yarns that make up the back of the carpet as opposed to the carpet pile or face.

**Bonded Urethane Padding:** This carpet padding is also called rebond and is the most popular type of carpet padding sold today. It is made from reclaimed scrap of high-density urethane foam used in furniture and automotive manufacturing, which is bonded together to form carpet cushion. Rebond comes in various thickness and densities.

**Carpet:** a manufactured article that is used in commercial or residential buildings affixed or placed on the floor or building walking surface as a decorative or functional building interior feature and that is primarily constructed of a top visible surface of synthetic face fibers or yarns or tufts attached to a backing system derived from synthetic or natural materials. Carpet includes, but is not limited to, a commercial or a residential broadloom carpet or modular carpet tiles.

**Carpet Padding:** Carpet padding is a material that sits beneath a rug that serves as an anchor to help the rug survive longer, feel more comfortable to step on, cut down on noise, insulate the room, prevent sliding, and protect the floor.

**Commercial Carpet:** Some broadloom carpet is constructed primarily for commercial spaces. These materials are usually more durable and less expensive than residential carpet.

**Fiber Cushion Padding:** This carpet padding is made primarily from scrap fiber.

**Nylon:** There are two basic types of nylon (type 6 and type 6.6). The properties of nylon 6 and nylon 6.6 are not that different. Nylon 6.6 is the preferred nylon for temperature performance products. Currently, nylon fibers have the highest economic value in the recycling process and are highly desired for this reason.

**Polypropylene (olefin):** Olefin is a relatively inexpensive fiber, which is easily extruded by most carpet manufacturers. Its strengths include superior stain resistance. This is one of the most color fast fibers on the market. Thus, this fiber is best suited for indoor-outdoor carpet in both loop and grass styles.

**PET (Polyethylene Terephthalate):** PET fiber produces some of the most beautiful colorations available. It also is extremely fade resistant and provides excellent resistance to stains. While it's not as durable or resilient as nylon, it's quite durable and resists wear. PET offers a wide selection of textures and colors. However, unlike nylon, PET is not readily commercially recyclable.

**PTT (Polyethylene Trimethylene Terephthalate):** This fiber is stronger than PET, and has better colorfastness and cleanability features than PET. PTT is more expensive to produce than PET.

**Post-consumer carpet:** means carpet that is no longer used for its manufactured purpose.

**Residential Carpet:** Carpet that is constructed primarily for residential spaces.

**Urethane Foam Padding:** Urethane foam is available in different densities and thicknesses. Densities of these carpet cushions can be as low as 1/2 pound per square inch (psi). Some of these densified prime urethane carpet padding can be very good performers.

**Wool:** Makes excellent Berber, plush, and frieze carpet. Wool naturally resists general soiling, crushing, and most stains. Wool is also naturally resistant to fire.



## Sources:

- [CalRecycle](#)
- [California Bill AB 2398](#)
- [The Carpet Workroom](#)
- [The Carpet and Rug Institute](#)