

## **NATURAL FIBRE CARPET PRODUCT INFORMATION**

**Coir** carpets are made from fibres from the outer husk of the coconut. Our Coir Carpets are produced in India where many years of practice have given the workers in this old industry, great skills in grading, processing and weaving these fibres. The quality of coir carpet is determined by the type of fibre used, the weight at which the yarn is spun and whether it's woven on handlooms or powerlooms.

**Jute** carpets are made from fibres stripped from the stalks of the Jute plant. These fibres are not quite as hardy as the Coir and Sisal fibres, but are softer underfoot, as well as giving a softer appearance.

**Paper** carpets are mainly produced from the fibres from the Conifer trees. The pulp making process involves cooking the wood chips, with resin being added to give a high wet strength. When twisting the paper into yarn a further wax emulsion is applied improving the yarn's water resistance

**Seagrass** carpet is grown in paddy like fields and is flooded with seawater during the crop cycle. The fibres are spun into tough strands, which, when woven into carpet and with a latex backing added for stability, will resist dirt and stains very well.

**Real Sisal** carpets are made from fibres extracted from the leaves of the agave plant (cactus). Sisal is produced in China, Africa and South America. To date the European manufactures have proven to lead the field, with their innovative weaving technology, therefore their products are more expensive. However, China is producing a good quality sisal carpet, just as hardy as their European cousins but at a lower price.

**Wool & Wool blend** carpets. These are not like normal tufted carpets. Our Wool & Wool blends are made from premium quality yarn and like all of our other products they are woven. We offer a range of 100% Wool or a mixture of pure Wool yarn woven together, with either Flax (linen plant), Jute or Sisal. This particular weaving process helps eliminate pile crushing and shading that occurs in normal tufted carpets.

### ***All of our products are made from renewable resources and are biodegradable.***

There are some trade-offs to living with a Woven Coir, Jute, Paper, Seagrass, Sisal or Wool. Don't expect the softness of normal, run of the mill carpets, these floor coverings provide a good foot massage. The average domestic life of our Coir, Sisal and Wool would be 12 years, Jute or Seagrass 10 years and Paper 5 years. Commercially you may expect Coir, Sisal or Wool to last 4 to 7 years, Jute or Seagrass 3 to 5 years, dependent on traffic. As they are natural products, they do not have the stain resisting qualities of some of the new synthetics. However to help with daily cleaning and those unexpected accidents, all of our Woven carpets can be stain protected. This protection is applied to the carpet prior to installation, therefore eliminating odour and the need to remove and replace furniture.

Our Woven Coir, Jute, Paper, Seagrass, Sisal and Wools can be installed wall to wall, as with normal carpet, using a quality underlay (jute and hair blend felt, commercial rubber or Bridgestone cushion pad). These carpets can also be custom made (to almost any size) floor rugs with bound edges, using, cotton, jute, leather, linen, tapestry or your own fabric.

Like fine leather, subtle differences in colour, texture and character are inherent to natural fibres, which will not affect the wearing qualities. All of our products are colour fast, but like any natural material, they will change colour over time making each floor as unique as the product itself. However our products are not UV stable, so as with any type of flooring, fading can occur when exposed to direct sunlight.