

Carpeting



Photo: Tandus

Snapshot

Highest price square yard:	\$32
Average price square yard:	\$22
Lowest price square yard:	\$15

Pricing Trends

2010-2011: +5% to +6%

2011-2012: +5% to +6%

2012-2013: +5%

Typical delivery time: 3 to 6 weeks

Typical delivery charges: Varies

Average life span of product: Largely depends on foot traffic and equipment usage, but generally 10 to 15 years

Standard warranty: 10 years

Average maintenance cost per year: Cleaning and replacement costs vary depending on the facility and usage.

(Figures cited are averages of all respondents' answers. Actual pricing will vary due to volume, bundling and other factors of a purchase.)

Source: Lexmark, Milliken Carpet, Mohawk Group, Tandus

FROM THE FRONT LINES:

"Make sure you have a good system in place to catch spills. We made sure that our CNAs had an extractor for major spills, but you have to make sure that someone is monitoring residents so that you can catch anything that will stain or smell quickly. Remember, you don't have to install carpeting everywhere, as it may not be practical in the dining area. Additionally, make sure that if you are using individual squares of carpeting that they will stick in your facility, and that your residents in wheelchairs can wheel over the carpet."

Misty Hobert, Director of Nursing, Chautauqua Gust Homes, Inc., Charles City, IA

Buyer Notes

- The top place to start is assessing a facility's housekeeping staff, one long-term care design expert says. An excellent staff will make it easier to keep up with maintenance, thereby giving a carpet longer life.
- Many providers are considering carpet hybrids, which allow a balance between the soft surface acoustic benefits of carpet and the ability to clean hardwood. Carpets should be assessed to make sure they are wheelchair- and walker-friendly.
- An advantage to choosing carpet squares is that a stained square can be removed and replaced.

**For a list of vendors go to the:
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