Loop Carpet vs Cut Pile

Loop Pile and Cut Pile are the two predominant carpet styles in the marketplace today. Sometimes you may hear alternate terms such as Twist, Frieze, Berber or Plush - these are just subcategories of either a cut or loop pile carpet.

To appreciate what a cut pile or loop pile carpet really means, it helps to understand a little on the manufacturing process. When a carpet is manufactured, the pile is woven in and out of the backing of the carpet. This manufacturing process creates a bunch of loops of fibre attached to the synthetic backing.

Loop Carpet

As one of the earliest style of carpet, loop pile carpet is made from uncut loops of yarn. It is a hard wearing, enduring and practical carpet as the colouration and style helps with soil hiding. It also doesn’t show footprints (commonly known as tracking or watermarking) like the other styles. Loop pile carpets are a hardwearing option suited to a multitude of applications, without the compromise for comfort and softness.

There can be many variations of loop pile carpets including Textured Loop, Level Loop, Berber, Heathered and Sisal.

Cut Pile Carpet

All carpets are manufactured as a loop carpet. A cut pile carpet is a form of carpet that involves a strategically cutting the loop during the manufacturing process, thus the name ‘cut pile’ carpet. Popular cut piles include Plush, Saxony, and Frieze.

Cut piles carpets gives the pile an appearance of softness and can be a comfortable option in carpet. However, cut piles can blossom, giving them a frayed look as they age.