

## Moth Proofing Guide:

Moth infestations are becoming an increasing problem in properties across the UK. The damage is in fact not done by the moth but rather the larvae which hatch out from eggs laid by moths. The eggs are generally laid at the side of carpets by the skirting or under pieces of furniture. The hatched larvae feed on the protein keratin found in wool before forming a cocoon from which the adult moth emerges and the life cycle repeats.

It should be highlighted that the moths have either entered the property before or after the installation of the carpet, not within the carpet, as moths would not be able to survive the heat curing treatment (over 150 degrees), that the carpets go through. A moth infestation occurs due to local events, not because the consumer has bought one of our wool carpets.

In addition to this all our wool carpets are treated with Permethrin a safe tried and tested treatment that has been used by the textile industry for many years. There are limits to how much Permethrin can be used as it is important that the carpet is not toxic to pets or humans. It is not until the larvae ingest some of the carpets fibres do they die, so some limited damage to the carpet may occur. The moth treatment is added during the dyeing process so it will impregnate the whole of the yarn but over many years just as the colour of a textile may fade slightly so too will the treatment. The treatment will remain present and effective for the lifetime of the carpet.

The extent of the damage depends on the how large the infestation is and how long it is left untreated. Upon discovering a moth infestation, we would recommend the consumer gets in touch with a pest control company as soon as possible. In the interim the consumer should thoroughly vacuum the carpets on a daily basis to assist in removing the larvae.

Please note that all our plant fibre floor coverings and all our synthetic rich yarns are naturally moth resistant. Therefore, none of these floor coverings require treatment.