

Carpet Seam Peaking

Seams are a part of most carpet installations. Seam peaking refers to a raised area along the length of the seam. It is more apparent in some styles of carpet than others.

There are a few technical reasons that will produce a bad seam: improper trimming of the seam edges, overlapping of seam edges, or excessive gapping at the seam. All of these conditions can be reworked.

Seam peaking, however, is an inherent characteristic of a carpet installation stretched over pad. A seaming tape is used to join the carpet. The adhesive on the seam tape is heated with a seaming iron. When molten, it transfers to the carpet backing and makes a bond similar to a glue gun. When cooled, the adhesive on the seam tape becomes rigid and does not stretch with the carpet during installation causing a lifting effect. This effect is more noticeable when standing on the side of the seam opposite the natural light source.

Factors that accentuate seam peaking:

- Style of carpet (i.e. low profile, dense carpets, loop pile carpets)
- Light source (the direction of natural back lighting)
- Color of carpet (seam peaking is more visible in lighter colors)
- Floor plan layout (seams unavoidably placed in high visibility locations)
- Customer's sensitivity to seams

Thank you for taking the time to read this information about seam peaking.

Client Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____ Job #: _____

MFC Representative: _____ Title: _____