A weekly question/answer column

We Have A Puppy That Is In The Process Of House Training, Is There A Way To Remove The Urine Odor?

Karen Biers* answers:

Here are some tips for eliminating the puppy urine odor from your carpet:

• If urine is still wet, blot up as much as possible. Use a white cloth or white paper towel to blot.

• Be sure to PRETEST any treatment solutions in an inconspicuous place on the carpet. Then check the area for color change and/or fiber damage. When applying the solution work from the outer edge of the area to the center. Do not rub, as rubbing can alter the carpet texture.

• Apply a white vinegar solution to the area (2 tablespoons WHITE vinegar to 1 quart of water). Let sit for 10 minutes and rinse with lukewarm tap water. Blot up moisture.

• Vinegar is supposed to neutralize the odor. If this solution does not get rid of the odor, apply an ammonia solution of 1 tablespoon household ammonia, 1/2 teaspoon liquid dishwashing detergent and 1 cup warm water.

• Let sit on area for 30 minutes. Rinse well to remove any solution residue. Be sure to completely remove the detergent, as detergent left in a carpet can cause re-soiling.

• Remove moisture by blotting. To prevent color transfer from cloth or paper towels, be sure to use a white cloth or white paper towel to blot dry.

• Use layers of white paper towels to absorb any remaining moisture. Weight the towels with a non-staining glass object. Replace the towels as needed until the excess moisture has been absorbed. When the carpet is completely dry, vacuum or brush the pile to restore texture.

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