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Carpeting

Snapshot

Lowest priced square yard: \$22 | Mid-range priced square yard: \$27 | Highest priced square yard: \$39

Pricing Trends 2014-2015: +1% 2015-2016: +1% 2016-2017: +0%

Typical delivery time: 4 to 6 weeks

Typical delivery charges:

Around \$0.50 to \$0.99 per yard

Average life span of product:

Generally "ugly outs" after a decade

Standard warranty:

10 years; lifetime from some companies

Average maintenance costs per year: The biggest maintenance costs are related to labor, chemicals and cleaning needs.

Buyers Notes

- Consider whether saving money on the front end by choosing a cheaper option is worth it when factoring in the cost of vacuuming, hot-water extraction and chemicals. Stain-resistant carpet may pay off.
- Facilities are now about 50/50 in modular carpeting, one designer noted. Many older nursing homes with broadloom carpets are replacing the carpet in favor of vinyl options.
- "Fashion is a moving target," one vendor said, and regional differences abound. A green beloved by one facility in the South may be a no-go in the Midwest, for example.
- Carpet remains a good way to help with acoustics, especially in facilities with buzzers or noise issues.

"There's no easy answer. You can do carpet squares for different floor types. We've had luck with carpet squares, but you have to ask a lot of questions and trust your partners."

— Julie Thorson, President and CEO, Friendship Haven, Fort Dodge, IA

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

Sources: Invacare, Mohawk, Patcraft, Ritz Flooring, Signature Accord, studioSIX5, Tandus/Tarkett

For a list of vendors go to the: FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS section, page 99