

GREEN FRONT | RUGS

HOW TO PROPERLY FOLD A HAND-KNOTTED RUG

Hand-knotted rugs must be folded properly to ensure the structural integrity of the rug is maintained.

These instructions for folding a hand-knotted rug can be used to fold a rug as small as possible to return it to us or for easier transportation of your valuable rug.

Runners and rugs smaller than 6x9 may be rolled.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- One person can fold an area rug but two will find it easier.
- Grab a buddy to help you fold larger rugs.

STEP 1

Find the Grain of the Rug

Rugs should be folded against the grain* to protect the the structure of the rug. To find the grain, run your hand over a portion of the rug. It should feel soft, like cat or dog fur. When it feels soft, that is with the grain. When you run your hand in the opposite direction over the rug's surface, it feels rougher. That is against the grain. Note which way the grain falls.

Now, proceed with the following steps to fold the rug.



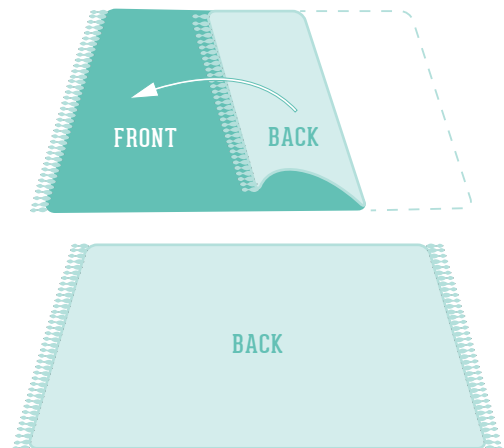
WITH GRAIN
{smooth/soft}



AGAINST GRAIN
{rough}

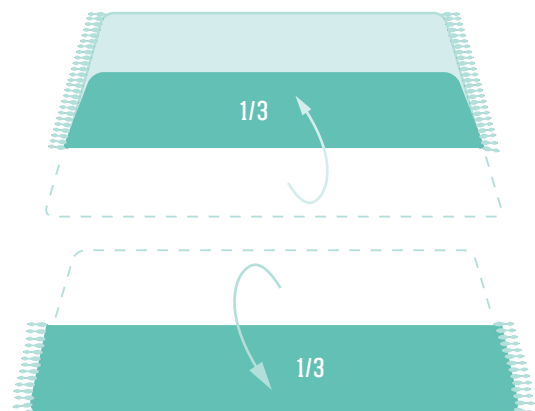
STEP 2

Turn the rug upside down so that the back is facing up.



STEP 3

Fold the rug lengthwise into thirds. Fold one side over, then the other side, so that both folds are over the central part of the rug.



STEP 4

Fold the rug over against the grain, leaving about 3 feet on the end unfolded.



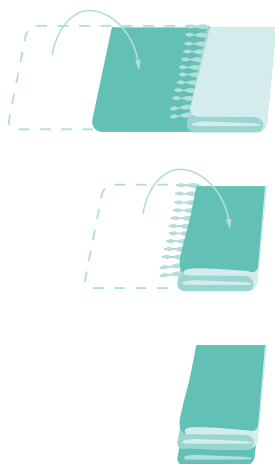
STEP 5

Repeat, folding the rug again on itself but leaving the 3-foot end unfolded.



STEP 6

When you can't fold the rug anymore, take the 3-foot piece and fold it up and over the folded rug.



STEP 7

Make a loop in one end of the string.



STEP 8

Run the string under the rug. Run the end of the string through the loop in the opposite end. Pull tight and tie off. Repeat with the other piece of string.



You should now have a properly folded rug that can fit into a carton for return or into the trunk of your car to transport it.

*What Is the “Grain” of the Rug?

The grain is the direction of the weave. Weavers place long cords, called the warp threads, on a frame, then weave weft cords through the warp, pounding them down to the bottom to form a tight fit. The grain of the rug is determined by the weaver and helps you find the top and bottom of the rug. Run your hand over the surface of the rug. If it feels soft and smooth, that is “with the grain.” The opposite direction is “against the grain.” Most rugs are woven with the grain pointing to the bottom of the rug; against the grain is the top of the rug.