

# Ask *the* Experts



**Pride of Persia Rug Co.**  
Persian Rugs

## **How do I care for a rug that is meant to be in a high traffic area?**

When you think of a rug for a high-traffic area, the first consideration is durability. This depends on the quality of the rug's wool and the nature of its weave, not its thickness. Indeed, most thick and bulky rugs are made of lower quality wool. While these may give the appearance of durability, they tend to shed or mat and are not vacuum-safe. On the other hand, you do not want to put thin rugs in high-traffic areas either. Be sure to choose a pile rug rather than a kilim, needlepoint, or soumak. Some antique rugs can bear traffic, but be sure they are in the proper condition for the intended space. Silk rugs are not appropriate for use under heavy traffic. They tend to lose their luster and are difficult and expensive to maintain. Use a good quality wool rug with a cotton foundation. Here are a few examples that we suggest: Bijar (known as the Iron Rug of Persia), Saroukh and Heriz.

*For more than a decade, Mehdi Abedi and Lisa Slappey have taught "The World of Persian Rugs" through Rice University's Glasscock School of Continuing Studies. They are the owners of Pride of Persia Rug Co., which specializes in older Persian rugs along with high-quality newer rugs from around the world.*

### **Pride of Persia Rug Co.**

1001 W. Loop North  
Houston, TX 77055  
(713) 684-4653  
[www.prideofpersia.com](http://www.prideofpersia.com)