

Carpet Manufacturers Back-Stamping Protocol for Recycling

Version 2.0 – June 2026

In recognition of state EPR laws that require backstamping of product content information to aid in the recycling of carpet, the carpet manufacturing industry has developed the following backstamping protocol. This protocol will be utilized by carpet manufacturers on all carpet products (broadloom, tile, and qualifying rugs) sold into states that require this information. Additional state-specific details will be included in that state's producer plan and annual reporting.

Backstamping Information

- **Manufacturer Name** – The manufacturer's name shall be included in each segment of backstamped information, the details of which are at the manufacturer's discretion.
- **Production Date** – The production date shall be included in each segment of backstamped information, the details of which are at the manufacturer's discretion.
- **Polymer Codes** – Face fiber and backing polymers in the product shall be included in each segment of backstamped information per the parameters below, represented by the codes detailed in *Appendix I – Polymer Codes and Examples*.

Backstamping Parameters

- Within each segment of backstamped information:
 - The face fiber and backing codes shall appear together, separated by a dash.
 - Face fiber codes shall appear first followed by backing codes (see *Appendix I*).
 - The face fiber and backing codes shall be sufficiently separated from other backstamped information to be easily identifiable by recyclers.
- **For broadloom carpet products and qualifying rugs:**
 - All face fiber polymers in the product shall be listed, with the highest content face fiber polymer listed first in the face fiber polymer code section (see *Appendix I*).
 - All backing polymers (primary or secondary layer), excluding adhesive coatings, in the product shall be listed, with the highest content backing polymer listed first in the backing polymer code section (see *Appendix I*).
 - On broadloom carpet, the polymer codes shall be repeated every 4 feet across the width and every 6 feet down the length of the carpet.
 - On qualifying rugs, a permanently affixed label containing the Backstamping Information may replace a printed backstamp.
- **For carpet tile products:**
 - All face fiber polymers in the product shall be listed, with the highest content face fiber polymer listed first in the face fiber polymer code section (see *Appendix I*).
 - Only the identifying backing system polymer shall be listed (e.g. bitumen, PVC, PVB, olefin, urethane)
 - The polymer codes shall appear on at least 25% of each production run.
- Backstamping Information must be clearly legible at the time of production and maintain legibility throughout the life of the product.
- Backstamping ink shall conform to CA Prop 65 requirements.

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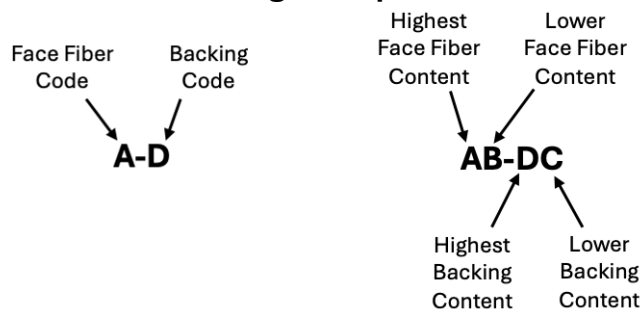
APPENDIX 1 – Polymer Codes and Examples

Polymer Codes:

A	Nylon 6		N	Note: N-Z
B	Nylon 66		O	Future Use
C	PET		P	
D	Polypropylene		Q	
E	PTT		R	
F	Wool		S	
G	Polyethylene		T	
H	Bitumen		U	
V	PVC		W	
J	PVB		X	
K	Olefin		Y	
L	Urethane		Z	
M	Other Natural Fibers			

Manufacturers using polymers not included in the codes above should alert CARE or CRI so this Appendix can be updated.

Broadloom and Rug Examples:



Carpet Tile Examples:

