

Carpet Recycling in California

Carpet Drop-Off Site FAQs



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What is the ideal set-up for a drop-off site to accept carpet for recycling?

Designate a drop-off area that is easily accessible to the public and also shielded from dirt and rain.

How do I make it clear where people should bring the carpet?

- Position signage: CARE provides signage for sites in English and Spanish, with other languages as requested.
- Have signage at the scale house with clear signs to direct customers to the drop-off area.
- Facility staff should be responsible for transporting from drop-off point to container.

How to prepare the carpet for transport?

Prepare Broadloom Carpet:

- Cut carpet into manageable lengths.
- Roll carpet and padding separately.
- Duct tape/tie the rolls for ease of stacking.

Prepare Carpet Tile:

- Stack tiles on a pallet
- Wrap with plastic
- Strap for transport.



How much should we charge to recycle carpet?

In our experience, sites that offer a discounted rate for separated and properly prepared carpet see greater carpet diversion. CARE suggests offering at least a 20% discount off standard drop-off rates. Rates can vary by region and waste diversion goals; some charge a C&D rate while others as little as \$5/load (regardless of size).

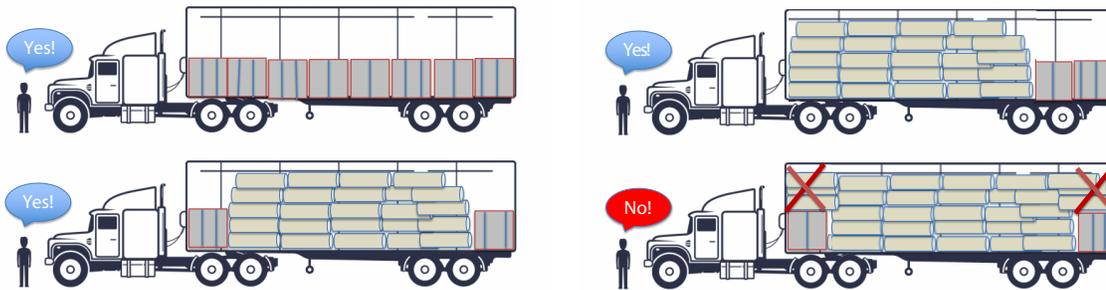
What's the best way to load a container?

Many sites find the following process leads to safe, efficient and full loading of containers:

- Starting at the back of the container, stack carpet rolls up to shoulder height.
- Then start a new row, stacked to 2 feet high.
- Use the second row like a stair and continue loading the back row to the top. Continue.

Both broadloom and tile can be loaded together into the same container. Keep the load balanced and not overweight by following these steps:

- Load the pallets of tile at one or both ends of the container.
- Load only a single layer of pallets. Do not stack a second pallet on top of another.
- Stack carpet rolls high, but not on top of the pallets of carpet tile.



How much carpet can fit into a container?

The goal is to fill the container for maximum weight, or 80% of capacity.

Target Container Weights by Size:

Container Size	Target Weight (lbs.)
28' Trailer	14,000 – 24,000
53' Trailer	27,000 - 40,000
48' Walking Floor	32,000 – 34,000
20' Cargo Container	8,000 – 10,000
40' Cargo Container	15,000 – 20,000
40 yd. Container	7,000 – 9,000

How do I order a container swap?

When your container is about 7 days from being full, it's time to request a container swap from CARE. Complete the request form at CarpetRecovery.org/California/CA-Service.

- Confirm you are requesting the correct container size.
- If you intend to change container type or size, please enter that in Notes field on the form, along with any other instructions.
- If possible, give the name and contact information of the person who will be receiving the container, ideally an operations person on-site.
- The form has an option to attach an image of your current container; that is only needed if you have been asked to do so.
- Upon submission, a CARE team member will send an email confirming the service date to the address listed in the form.