



# Classroom Rugs Buying Guide



Rugs can add personality to a room. They provide warmth, color and softness. In a classroom, rugs can also serve as educational tools, healthy reminders, seating and even play areas. The age of students and the type of learning environment will help determine the best style of rug for your classroom.

## Rug Terminology

<b>Nylon</b>	A durable synthetic fiber that's versatile, resists wear and tear and has good dyeing characteristics.
<b>Pile height</b>	The length of the fibers that rise from the rug's backing. Low pile height is ideal for high traffic areas and is easier to clean.
<b>Density</b>	Refers to how close together the fibers are tufted in the carpet backing. High density rugs are ideal for high traffic areas as they resist matting, crushing and are long lasting.
<b>Heat Setting</b>	Refers to the process of treating each twisted yarn fiber with heat to retain its look for better performance.

<b>Stitch Rate</b>	The number of times a needle inserts a tuft into the backing. The higher the number the denser the rug.
<b>Tufted</b>	Tufted rugs are designed by pushing fibers through holes in the primary backing material, either by hand or with tools. The more holes, or tufts, the denser the rug.
<b>Rug Backing</b>	The rug's underside, or backing, which holds the fibers together and prevents the rug from slipping on bare floors. A latex or rubber backing is a durable choice and is ideal for high traffic areas.
<b>Yarn Size</b>	Also known as yarn count, yarn size is the number of yarns twisted together. For example: 2-ply has two yarns, 3-ply has three yarns.

# School Outfitters Tips



Look for rugs with bound and serged edges to prevent fraying.



Heat set yarn fibers help the rug retain its look.



Low pile height is ideal for high traffic areas.



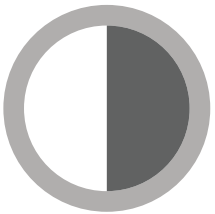
Rug backing adds safety and durability. Look for latex, polypropylene or rubber.



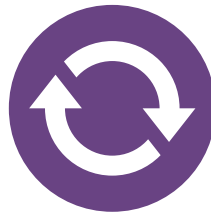
High density rugs have a higher stitch rate that resists matting and crushing.



Nylon is a popular rug material due to its tight weave, good dyeing characteristics and durability.

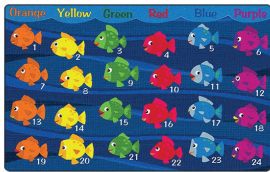


Lighter colors tend to open up small spaces and create a warm feel while darker colors help hide flooring inconsistencies and add a calm feel.



Rotate rug 180 degrees once a year to help prevent fading and wearing.

## Classroom Rug Types



### Theme Rugs

The learning environment, grade level and existing décor all play a role in determining a rug's theme and color. In preschool, rugs can complement classroom learning with alphabet, number and animal themes. Common early elementary rug themes can range from geography to math. Classroom rugs can also be used for seating, playing, important reminders like handwashing or simply be a colorful addition to any room.

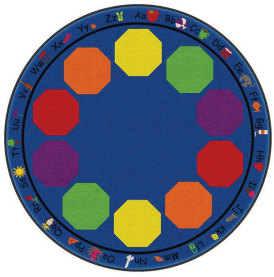
[Shop Themed Classroom Rugs](#)



### Square Rugs

Square shaped rugs are a nice addition to rooms that are also square and give the impression of wall-to-wall carpeting, depending on the size. Square furnishings like tables also complement square rugs. In spaces with round rugs, square rugs can be used instead.

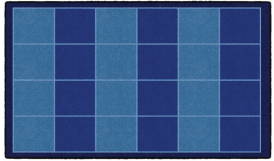
[Shop Square Classroom Rugs](#)



### Round Rugs

Round rugs tend to make smaller spaces seem larger. They also soften the hard lines of walls, doorways and windows. For classroom discussion areas, using a round rug creates a cozier atmosphere.

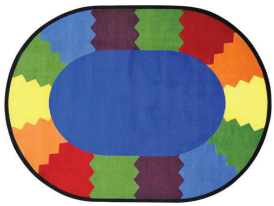
[Shop Round Classroom Rugs](#)



### Rectangular Rugs

For large, open floor spaces rectangular rugs are a good choice. They can match the space's furniture shapes or contrast them. Rectangular rugs are considered more traditional.

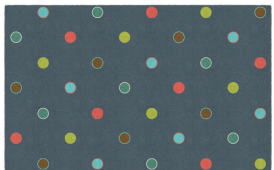
[Shop Rectangular Classroom Rugs](#)



### Oval Rugs

Oval rugs are a great alternative to rectangular. They are ideal in spaces with atypical shapes such as oversized hallways and entryways. Oval rugs tend to trick the eyes into thinking a room is bigger than it is.

[Shop Oval Classroom Rugs](#)



### Washable Rugs

Washable rugs do not require professional cleaning – their special material and unique construction allow them to be machine washed. Fade-resistant nylon fabric with built-in antimicrobial properties ensure that with spot cleaning and regular washing, mold and mildew growth are inhibited.

[Shop Washable Rugs](#)



### Carpet Squares & Rounds

Designed for individual student use, carpet squares and rounds blend comfortable seating with classroom management. They can be found in an array of colors, styles and themes, plus, many have built-in handles for easy moving. Children can use their imaginations with nature, animal and sea life themes.

[Shop Carpet Squares & Rounds](#)



### Vinyl Playmats

When early learners require a safe and clean space for floor play, vinyl playmats provide the ideal classroom solution. Vinyl is a highly durable and easy-to-clean material used to cover a soft foam core. These mats can be found in a variety of color patterns and themes to keep children engaged while crawling or playing.

[Shop Vinyl Playmats](#)

## Additional Features to Consider

<b>Antimicrobial treatment</b>	A treatment that traps contaminants and inhibits bacterial growth, preventing the spread of unwanted germs.
<b>Anti-static treatment</b>	A special application added during the manufacturing process to eliminate shocks.
<b>Stain protection</b>	A unique treatment that allows the rug's fibers to repel liquids. This process also minimizes reappearing spots.
<b>Rugs that meet Class-1 Fire Safety Requirement</b>	A Class 1 fire rating means the material is highly resistant to fire and the spread of flames.
<b>CRI Green Label Plus Certified Rugs</b>	Independent testing by the Carpet & Rug Institute (CRI) that verifies low chemical emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds, or VOCs, into the air.