

# Design & Home

MAGAZINE

## December

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# Rug & Style

Choose the right carpet and add that touch of extra elegance to your home. Delhi-based rug exporter Aditya Gupta tells you how



Aditya Gupta is the director of The Rug Republic\*

One of the fundamental tenets of home décor is to have staples that stay around forever, through the vagaries of fashion. One such must-have is an elegant rug or carpet. It is one of the easiest and most effective ways to round off the look of a room.

There are different types of rugs available in the market. Variation include hand-tufted, hand-knotted and machine-made rugs. They are differentiated as traditional, transitional and contemporary on the basis of design. Transitional rugs are a blend of contemporary designs with elegant styles. Besides the general state of the carpet it is important to examine the condition of the “knots” before investing in a carpet. Knots or knot density is a traditional measure for quality of handmade carpets. It refers to the number of knots per unit of surface area — typically either per square inch or per square centimetre. Number of knots per unit area is directly proportional to the quality of carpet. A good carpet should not have less than 100 knots per square inch. This will determine how well the carpet will age. Some patterns with more detailing will have more than 300 knots. A carpet with unique motifs and colouring tends to increase in value. This applies to both exclusive silk-on-silk carpets as well as kilims.

A large part of choosing the right rug is to get the proportion of the

rug correct with respect to the room. Colour and texture to suit the style of the space need to be balanced. If you have modern furniture, opt for contemporary rugs. Antique furniture goes well with traditional or transitional rugs.

The new trend is to move away from the basic beige or neutral carpet used as a backdrop for interior spaces and to use carpets to add colour and texture instead. Carpets are also now used as art piece. In another trend, wall-to-wall carpeting is giving way to smaller size carpets with more intricate patterns. There are certain parameters that you may follow. For a living room you may opt for the contemporary method where you place all of your furniture on top of an oversized rug. You may also go for the traditional layout wherein you place your sofas around the rug and only your coffee table on top. When it comes to dining rooms, rugs really need to be large enough to accommodate a dining chair in the pulled out position. The chair legs should not fall off the rug.

A rug should be scaled to fit in with the rest of your décor. A small rug in front of a large sofa will seem miserly. As a rule, it's best to be generous and treat a rug as an anchor point for a room. You can also use rugs to define different zones of a room. Therefore, in a large open-plan living space, you could use different rug to differentiate the living from dining areas. The furniture in each space could be placed on its own large rug.

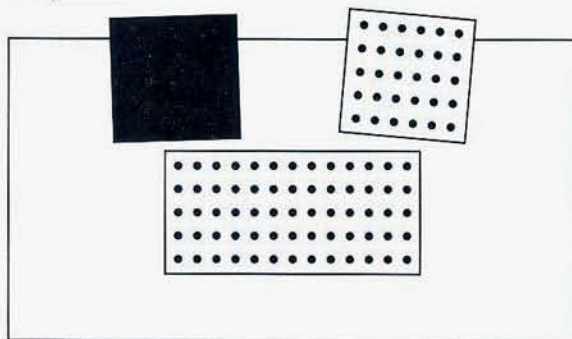


## Ways to arrange a carpet

Choose a layout and size for your rug based on the space you'd like to fill. Here are some popular layouts that work for most spaces

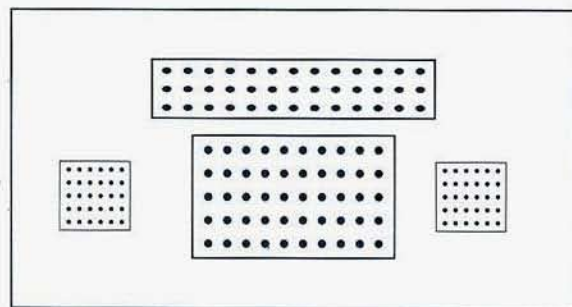
### Classic Layout

If your sofa and chairs are up against the wall, your rug should be large enough to fit under the front legs of all pieces.



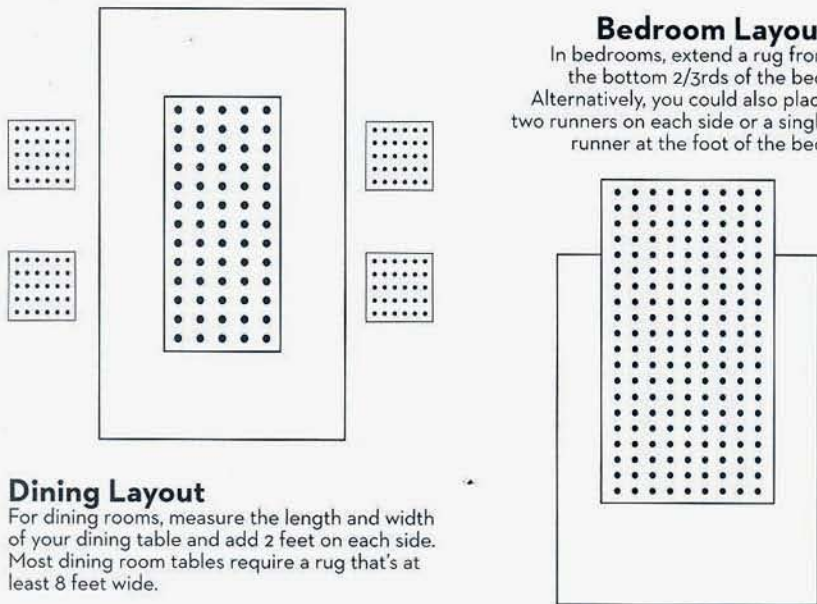
### Floating Layout

If your sofa and chairs float in the middle of the room, your rug should be large enough to fit under all four legs of each piece of furniture.



### Bedroom Layout

In bedrooms, extend a rug from the bottom 2/3rds of the bed. Alternatively, you could also place two runners on each side or a single runner at the foot of the bed.



### Dining Layout

For dining rooms, measure the length and width of your dining table and add 2 feet on each side. Most dining room tables require a rug that's at least 8 feet wide.

