

Merida Products in Hospitality & Contract Installations

Durability and Traffic/Use of Area Rugs & Carpeting

Floor covering manufacturers, including Merida, rely on a test that mechanically simulates traffic called the Hexapod Abrasion Test to assess Appearance Retention Rating (ARR)*. The test assesses changes in thickness, pattern recognition, and pattern definition due to entanglement and compression of fibers and change in color.

After 12,000 hexapod exposures or "hits", the material is analyzed according to rigorous criteria and compared to a control sample. The result is expressed in a scale ranging from 1 to 5:

- 5 – No change
- 4 – Slight change
- 3 – Moderate change
- 2 – Considerable change
- 1 – Severe Change

| ARR | Traffic Level |
|-------|---------------|
| ≥ 2.5 | Moderate |
| ≥ 3.0 | Heavy |
| ≥ 3.5 | Severe |

**Please note that the Hexapod Abrasion Test of our product line can be furnished upon request. You can also download the results from our online Customer Center at <http://www.MeridaMeridian.com/CustomerCenter/>*

Merida's Performance Classifications

Taking into consideration the appearance retention rating, we examined each style to classify for commercial use. Our classification definitions are as follows:

- Light Contract: ARR rating of 2.5 or higher
- Medium Contract: ARR rating of 3.0 or higher

The table below illustrates possible placement locations and traffic levels:

Additional Factors:

Soiling, Care & Maintenance:

- The performance rating does not take into consideration the influence of other factors on appearance of the rug such as soiling and staining. It is important that the end-user is familiar with caring and maintaining natural fiber flooring.

Physical Construction:

- Characteristics such as yarn, density and type of construction also influence performance. For example, a flat weave or low profile construction will perform better than a boucle woven or one that has a larger yarn float.
- The ARR does not include the results of yarn compression, also known as pile crushing. Loop pile or boucle constructions are more susceptible to pile crushing and is most frequently found in heavier traffic areas or areas where furniture is frequently moved.

Edge Finishes:

- The ARR test does not include the testing of the variety of edge finish options that are available for bound area rugs. Please contact Merida for guidance on determining which edge finishes will work best for your project.