



# Abbey Insider

---

**To:** All Abbey Members  
**From:** David Hardy and Bobby Thompson  
**Date:** March 15, 2013  
**Subject:** Vacuum Recommendations – Infinity Ultra Soft & Softique

---

## Vacuum Recommendations

[American Showcase Infinity Ultra Soft](#)  
[Alexander Smith Softique](#)

Selecting the right vacuum is extremely important with any carpet purchase. However, to help consumers have a better idea on how to properly maintain their American Showcase Ultra Soft carpet and/or their Alexander Smith Softique carpet, we have created an Information Package exclusively providing Vacuum Recommendations for each fiber.

[Click Here for \*\*American Showcase Infinity Ultra Soft\*\* Recommendations](#)

[Click Here for \*\*Alexander Smith Softique\*\* Vacuum Recommendations](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Abbey Member Services at (800) 873-2223.

# American Showcase Infinity Ultra Soft Vacuum Recommendations

## ***SELECTING THE RIGHT VACUUM***

### **What is unique about Infinity Ultra Soft that required special vacuuming considerations?**

American Showcase Infinity Ultra Soft fibers are the latest in advanced extrusion technology that make these extraordinarily soft carpets possible. Because the fibers are so soft and plush, the total surface density is much higher. This density translates to a more complete seal for a vacuum cleaner head, increasing suction at the point of contact with the carpet surface. The farther the vacuum head sinks into the carpet, the greater the suction and difficulty in maneuvering the machine.

The Ultra Soft fibers of American Showcase Infinity also require a gentler cleaning action so as to avoid unnecessary wear. Be aware that some vacuums have overly aggressive action which may damage the surface of your carpet.

### **What makes a vacuum a good fit for American Showcase Infinity Ultra Soft carpet?**

Through extensive research and testing, Abbey Carpet & Floor has determined the factors identifying vacuum cleaners that work most effectively on these luxurious, plush carpets. These vacuums share a number of the following characteristics:

**Adjustable height brush roll:** A manual height adjustment allows the user to accurately set the height of the brushing action to the proper level for both better cleaning and mobility.

**Light Weight:** A lighter weight vacuum will exert less weight in hand, will not sink as deeply into the carpet's surface, and will thus be easier to maneuver.

**Adequate Wheel Size:** A large enough wheel size will help the vacuuming head stay at the proper height and not sink into the face fibers.

**Adjustable Motor Speed:** An adjustable motor will often times lower the speed of the brush roll, allowing both easier operation as well as gentler cleaning on the carpet fibers.

**Optional Brush Roll Control:** On loop products, it is recommended to disengage the brush roll action on vacuums with this feature to avoid excessive damage to the fibers. For ultra-high pile carpets, it may also be necessary to disengage the brush roll as the long fibers may entangle in the brush roll, causing damage to both the carpet and the vacuum.

### **Will I need to purchase a new vacuum for use on my carpet?**

Many vacuum cleaners perform well on American Showcase Infinity Ultra Soft products, so it's possible that you already own such a model. To verify that your vacuum will work well, test it in an inconspicuous area, such as a closet, or on a scrap piece left over from the installation. If the vacuum has any of the features mentioned above, use them as recommended as see if the machine moves easily across the carpet's surface. Examine the test area carefully to determine if any abrasion of the fibers has occurred. If the vacuum can be maneuvered easily and no abrasive damage is seen, sprinkle some dry dirt or other small pieces of debris and see if they are efficiently removed by your vacuum.

Of course, a quality vacuum cleaner that works effectively on American Showcase Infinity Ultra Soft styles will only benefit you by extending the life of your carpet by keeping it looking newer, longer. Abbey Carpet & Floor has compiled a list of recommended vacuum cleaners to fit any budget, and use of such cleaners is highly recommended.

## Which vacuum models are recommended by Abbey Carpet & Floor?

Abbey Carpet & Floor and Shaw have conducted extended testing, as well as coordinated with vacuum manufactures to develop a list of appropriate vacuum cleaners for use with American Showcase Infinity Ultra Soft products. These vacuums have been shown to be easy to use and have proven to be gentle enough in operation for the most luxurious of plush carpets. For more information, contact the Shaw Information Center at (800) 441-7429. For specific product information, contact the manufacturer directly with the numbers provided below.

Bissell	(800) 237-7691	<a href="http://www.bissell.com">www.bissell.com</a>
Dirt Devil	(800) 321-1134	<a href="http://www.dirtdevil.com">www.dirtdevil.com</a>
Electrolux	(800) 896-9756	<a href="http://smallappliances.electroluxusa.com">smallappliances.electroluxusa.com</a>
Eureka	(800) 896-9756	<a href="http://www.eureka.com">www.eureka.com</a>
Hoover	(800) 944-9200	<a href="http://www.hoover.com">www.hoover.com</a>
Oreck	(800) 989-3535	<a href="http://www.oreck.com">www.oreck.com</a>
Kenmore	(888) 536-6673	<a href="http://www.kenmore.com">www.kenmore.com</a>
Panasonic	(800) 211-7262	<a href="http://www.panasonic.com">www.panasonic.com</a>

Price Range	Manufacturer	Model	Type	Height Adjustment	Lightweight	Brush roll Control	Large Wheels
\$50 and Below	Bissell	Powerforce 71Y7-W	Upright Bagged	5 Level	*		*
	Dirt Devil	Windtunnel UD70115	Upright Bagless	5 Level			*
	Eureka	Airspeed AS5203A	Upright Bagless	4 Level	*	*	*
	Hoover	Nano UH70120	Upright Bagless	Self Adjusting	*	*	
\$50 – \$150	Hoover	Windtunnel UH70120	Upright Bagless	5 Level			*
	Hoover	Windtunnel Plus UH70205	Upright Bagless	5 Level		*	*
	Hoover	Windtunnel UH5780-950	Upright Bagless	5 Level			*
	Hoover	Whole House UH71214	Upright Bagless	5 Level	*	*	*
	Bissell	Total Floors Pet 61C5W	Upright Bagless	7 Level		*	*
\$150 – \$250	Hoover	Windtunnel Max UH70600	Upright Bagless	7 Level		*	*
	Kenmore	Progressive Canister 21514	Canister Bagged	4 Level	*	*	
	Kenmore	Progressive Canister 21614	Canister Bagged	4 Level	*	*	
	Panasonic	MC-CG917 Canister	Canister Bagged	4 Level		*	
	Panasonic	MC-UG725	Upright Bagged	Self Adjusting	*		*
	Bissell	Healthy Home Vacuum 16N5	Upright Bagless	7 Level		*	*
	Bissell	Heavy Duty Vacuum 50C9, 93Z6	Upright Bagless	7 Level		*	*
	Bissell	Lift-Off Multi Cyclonic Vacuum 89Q9, 18Z6	Upright Bagless	7 Level		*	*
	Bissell	Total Floors Complete 52C2	Upright Bagless	7 Level		*	*
\$250 and Above	Oreck	Magnesium LW100	Upright Bagged	Floating Head	*		*
	Kenmore	Progressive Canister 21714	Canister Bagged	4 Level	*	*	
	Electrolux	Precision EL8807A	Upright Bagless	3 Level	*	*	*
	Panasonic	MC-UG727	Upright Bagged	Self Adjusting	*		*
	Oreck	Quest Pro	Canister Bagged	6 Level		*	
	Panasonic	MC-UG729	Upright Bagged	Self Adjusting	*		*
	Hoover	Canister S3855	Canister Bagless	4 Level	*	*	
	Panasonic	MC-GG523	Upright Bagged	4 Level	*		*
	Oreck	Magnesium RS LW100	Upright Bagged	Floating Head	*		*

# Vacuum Recommendations for Alexander Smith Softique

## ***SELECTING THE RIGHT VACUUM***

Because regular vacuuming can literally extend your carpet's life, the type of vacuum cleaner you use is important. A vacuum's performance will vary based on the carpet's fiber type and construction. A good vacuum typically has features that allow you to adjust the height, beater bar rotation and fan speed. Vacuums with large wheels, self-propelled vacuums and/or specialty tools can also help ensure easy and effective carpet maintenance.

### **Features**

Adjustable height is the most important feature because this enables the machine to be used on a wide variety of carpet constructions. If your vacuum is set too high above the carpet surface, the vacuum can't attract the gritty soil below. If the setting is too low, the vacuum's beater bar or brushed can "fuzz" the carpet's surface, causing it to look worn and frayed.

- When vacuuming thick loop, casual frieze or long pile carpet such as "shag", you may need to completely disengage the beater bar and vacuum with suction only.
- Additionally, when vacuuming high pile, wool, wool-blend, and premium soft carpets, look for the following features that will allow you to easily maintain your carpet:

**Adjustable Height**

Use the highest setting where appropriate

**Adjustable Motor Speed**

Use a medium or low setting where appropriate

**Large Wheels**

Vacuum should glide easily across the carpet

- For all other carpet constructions not mentioned above, use a vacuum with a rotating brush or beater bar. Change the bags often and check the beater bars for burs and gouges to prevent damage to the surface of the carpet.

If you're unsure about the proper height setting, use an inconspicuous place like a closet to test your vacuum. Its beater bar or brush should just lightly touch your carpet surface. Make sure it doesn't dig into or gouge the carpet pile.

You can also set your vacuum to the proper height and vacuum multiple times against the nap, always keeping the vacuum in the same area each time. After about 1000 back-and-forth passes, get down at eye level with the carpet and look first at the vacuumed area, then at the adjoining area that wasn't vacuumed. After comparing, if you see any fraying or damage to the vacuumed area, you should change the setting or use a different vacuum on your carpet.

Nearly every vacuum manufacturer offers multiple models that can be used on a wide range of carpet constructions. The following examples have been recommended by the respective manufacturers and have been verified by Mohawk.

**Standard Upright Vacuum Models**

Hoover UH70120 (\$100-\$150)  
Hoover UH70205 (\$150-\$200)  
Hoover U5780-950 (\$150-\$200)  
Dirt Devil US70115 (\$50-\$100)  
Eureka AS5203A (\$50-\$100)

**Lightweight/No Depth Adjustment**

Oreck Magnesium (\$250-\$300)  
Oreck Magnesium RS (\$450-\$500)  
Hoover Nano US20020W (\$50-\$100)

**Canister Vacuum Models**

Hoover Canister S3865 (\$300-\$350)  
Oreck Quest Pro (\$350-\$400)

Many other compatible models exist. Please contact the vacuum manufactures directly for other product suggestions.

Bissell (800) 237-7691  
Dirt Devil (800) 321-1134  
Electrolux (800) 896-9756  
Eureka (800) 896-9756  
Hoover (800) 944-9200  
Oreck (800) 989-3535

[www.bissell.com](http://www.bissell.com)  
[www.dirtdevil.com](http://www.dirtdevil.com)  
[smallappliances.electroluxusa.com](http://smallappliances.electroluxusa.com)  
[www.eureka.com](http://www.eureka.com)  
[www.hoover.com](http://www.hoover.com)  
[www.oreck.com](http://www.oreck.com)