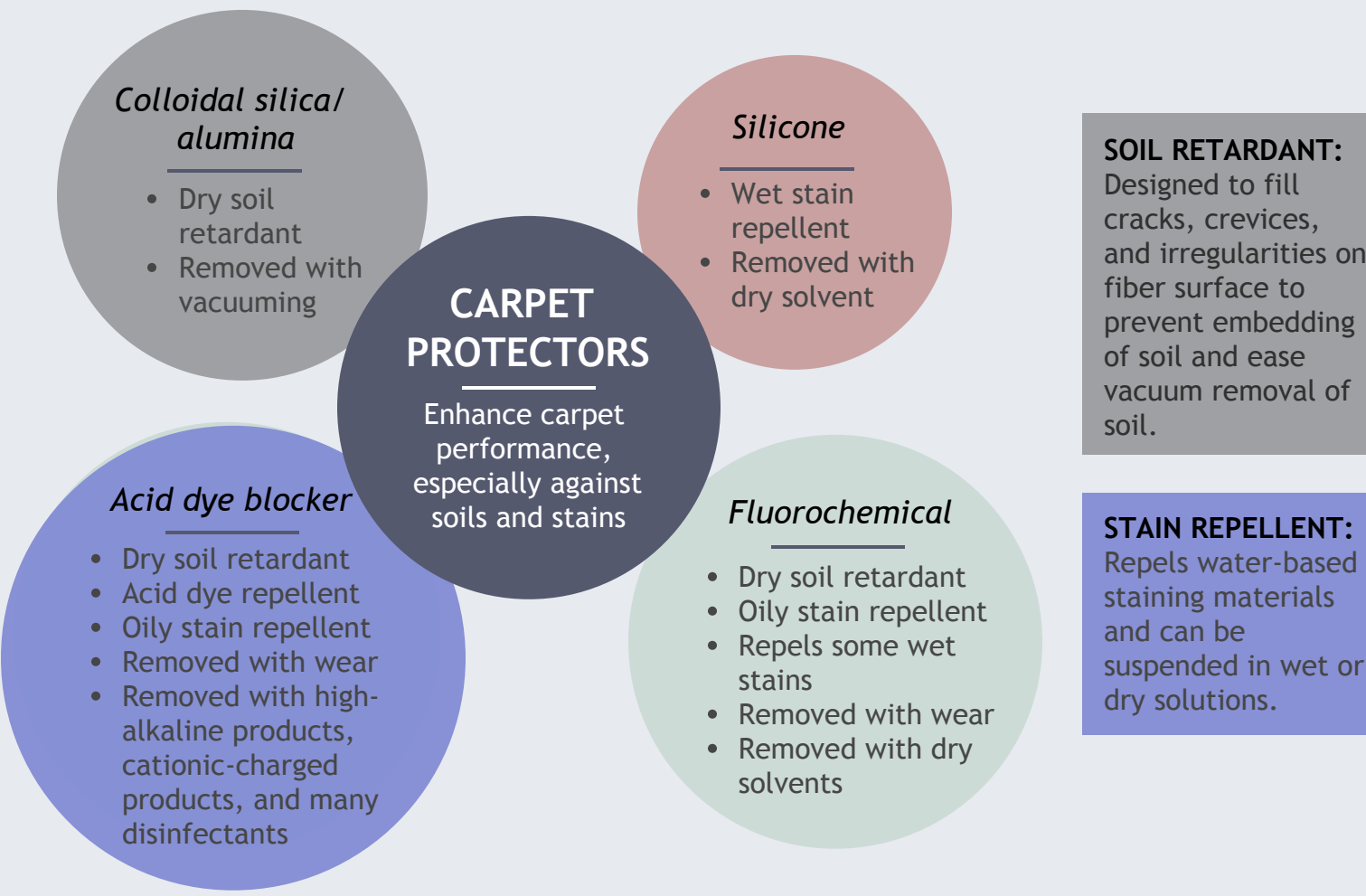


CARPET CARE KEY TERMS

volume two



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CHEMICALS

BUZZWORDS

PRECONDITIONER: A (usually) built detergent applied prior to cleaning and allowed dwell time for better soil removal

BUILDER: An additive used to enhance cleaning efficiency of detergent, supply alkalinity, prevent soils from redepositing during cleaning, and emulsifying oil/grease

BUFFER: An additive used to neutralize acids and bases in a solution to maintain the original pH when an acid or alkali is added

WETTING AGENT: An additive used to reduce water's surface tension to displace air in fabric for better penetration

UNBUILT DETERGENT: A simple detergent with few additives

DEFOAMER: An additive used to suppress foam formation during cleaning

AGENT: An ingredient (cleaning agent) that causes activity (cleaning) to happen

DETERGENT: A cleaning agent comprised of all components like surfactants, emulsifiers, builders, etc.

SURFACTANT: Short for "surface active agent;" a detergent that reduces the surface tension of liquid (i.e., water) to allow an even spread of cleaning solution for better cleaning

RINSE DETERGENT: A cleaning agent that causes activity (cleaning) to happen, with properties similar to a preconditioner

SOLVENT: Any liquid medium that dissolves other substances into its own state

DRY SOLVENT: A non-water liquid solution for dissolving oily soils

EMULSIFICATION: Process of creating an emulsion, one liquid (i.e. dry) into another (i.e. wet)

SOLUTION: A mixture of two or more substances, which can separate when dry

SOLUBLE: A substance that can be dissolved into another substance

INSOLUBLE: A substance that will not dissolve in any liquid medium