

Bellingham Floor Pros

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Carpet installation in Bellingham

Real costs, the specs that matter, and what to check before you sign

WHAT IT RUNS HERE

Carpet installation in Bellingham runs \$3.85 to \$8.80 per square foot installed, or \$3,850 to \$9,900 for a typical whole-house project. The spread comes from fiber, face weight, cushion density, stair count, and whatever the old carpet was hiding. Bellingham Floor Pros is insured, estimates are free, and most homeowners hear back within 15 minutes. Call (360) 873-5667.

Free estimate, written scope

<https://bellinghamfloorpros.com/guides/carpet-installation>

(360) 873-5667

START HERE

What matters most

- Installed carpet in Bellingham runs \$3.85 to \$8.80 per square foot, or \$3,850 to \$9,900 for a whole house.
- CRI 105, the residential carpet installation standard, makes a power stretcher mandatory and calls for at least 1 percent stretch in both directions.
- Separate cushion for a stretch-in install is capped at 7/16 inch thick, and 6 pounds per cubic foot is the practical density floor for living space.
- Washington code wants 6 mil black polyethylene ground cover in a crawlspace, and framing that stays above 20 percent moisture content grows mold that carpet will not hide.
- The City of Bellingham does not require a permit for carpeting, but structural subfloor or joist repair does need one.

THE NUMBERS

Carpet and the related floor work it uncovers, Bellingham ranges

SCOPE	WHAT IT COVERS	BELLINGHAM RANGE
Carpet and cushion installed	Carpet, separate cushion, tack strip, seam sealing, power stretching, labor	\$3.85 to \$8.80 per sq ft
Whole-house carpet project	Bedrooms, hallway, stairs, and a living area in a typical Bellingham home	\$3,850 to \$9,900
Subfloor repair found after demo	Sheathing replacement, squeak correction, and framing repair under the carpet	\$5.50 to \$13.20 per sq ft
Slab moisture mitigation	Testing plus a barrier or mitigation coat over a damp lower-level slab	\$880 to \$2,750
Spot floor repair instead of replacement	Localized damage in an existing floor, repaired rather than replaced	\$330 to \$1,650 per project
LVP or laminate in the same rooms	Hard surface where carpet will not survive the traffic	\$4.40 to \$11 per sq ft for LVP, \$3.85 to \$7.15 for laminate

Fiber, face weight, cushion density, stair count, and the condition of the subfloor move the number far more than square footage does.

The numbers

Installed carpet in Bellingham runs \$3.85 to \$8.80 per square foot. A whole-house project runs \$3,850 to \$9,900. Subfloor repair, if it turns up, is separate at \$5.50 to \$13.20 per square foot, and slab moisture mitigation runs \$880 to

\$2,750.

- Fiber and face weight set the material cost
- Cushion density is a real line, not an upsell
- Stairs are priced on their own
- Room width drives seam count and waste

The two specs that decide how long it lasts

Density, not face weight, predicts wear. Multiply face weight in ounces by 36 and divide by pile height in inches. Above 2,900 holds up in a normal house.

- Solution-dyed nylon for traffic lanes and sun
- PET polyester is a good bedroom buy
- 6 pound cushion minimum, 8 pound for halls and stairs
- Cushion thickness capped at 7/16 inch by CRI 105

Installation standards to hold a bidder to

CRI 105 is the residential carpet installation standard and it is specific about the things that fail.

- Power stretcher mandatory, minimum 1 percent stretch each direction
- Every cut edge seam sealed
- Tack strip gully never more than 3/8 inch
- 24 hour acclimation at 65 to 95 degrees, humidity under 65 percent

Bellingham conditions that change the job

About 35 inches of rain across roughly 140 wet days, most of it between mid October and late April. The exposure is under the floor, not on it.

- 6 mil black poly ground cover required in crawlspaces
- Framing above 20 percent moisture content grows mold
- Slabs need an ASTM F2170 relative humidity reading first
- Walk-off mats at every exterior door do more than any treatment

Reading the bid

Bids that cannot be compared are usually written that way on purpose. Ask for the same six lines from everyone.

- Mill, style, fiber, face weight
- Cushion density and thickness
- Ordered yardage and seam plan
- Stairs priced separately
- Demo and haul-away included or excluded
- Stated rate for subfloor surprises

The failures worth preventing

Wrinkles from an under-stretched install are the most common complaint, and the most avoidable. Open seams come from skipped seam sealer. Delamination comes from cushion that is too thick and too soft.

- Restretching costs money that stretching correctly did not
- Keep labeled offcuts for future patches
- Dark lines at baseboards are filtration soiling, not dirt
- A musty carpet over a wet crawlspace is a crawlspace problem

After the install

Most fiber warranties require professional hot water extraction every 12 to 18 months and require the receipts. Keep them with the spec sheet.

- Set vacuum height so the brush just touches the pile
- Expect 8 to 12 years in halls, 12 to 15 in bedrooms
- Cushion can be replaced without replacing carpet
- Free estimates, call (360) 873-5667

Before you sign a carpet bid in Bellingham

- ☐ Confirm the bid names the mill, style, fiber, and face weight in ounces per square yard.
- ☐ Confirm cushion is specified by density in pounds per cubic foot and by thickness, and that thickness is 7/16 inch or less.
- ☐ Ask where the seams will fall and whether any of them land in a traffic path or in the sight line from a doorway.
- ☐ Get it in writing that the carpet will be power stretched and that every cut edge will be seam sealed.
- ☐ Have stairs priced separately, per tread or per flight, with waterfall or cap-and-band stated.
- ☐ Check registration, bond, and insurance on Washington L&I's Verify a Contractor tool before you sign.
- ☐ Ask what happens, and at what rate, if soft sheathing turns up after the old carpet comes out.
- ☐ Open the crawlspace hatch and look for torn or missing 6 mil ground cover before the carpet is ordered.
- ☐ On any slab, ask for a moisture reading before the cushion is selected.
- ☐ Confirm whether demo, tack strip work, and haul-away are inside the number or excluded from it.
- ☐ Ask for leftover material to be labeled and left with you for future patches.
- ☐ Read the fiber warranty for its cleaning requirement, usually professional extraction every 12 to 18 months.

Want a real number for your place?

We walk the job, measure it, and put the scope in writing. Free, and there is no pressure attached.

(360) 873-5667

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Bellingham Floor Pros · Bellingham, WA

Full guide: <https://bellinghamfloorpros.com/guides/carpet-installation>

Prices shown are the ranges published on our website at the time of writing and are a starting point, not a quote. Every property is different. Figures update when the site does.