

CFR OFFERS TIPS FOR CHOOSING YOUR NEXT EXTRACTOR

CHICAGO · Some of the tips include selecting an established brand and how much power you want and need.

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CHICAGO · CFR recently created a list of tips for professional carpet cleaners and cleaning contractors to help with the often difficult process of choosing the right extractor to purchase, according to a press release.

Selecting a new carpet extractor can be a harrowing experience for both veteran carpet cleaning technicians and newbies or cleaning contractors just venturing into the carpet cleaning arena,+CFR said in the release.

CFR went to its regional manager, **Doug Berjer**, to gather a list of tips for cleaners in the buying state of mind. He offers the following 10 points of interest for deciding on a machine:

1. **Type:** Is a portable or truckmount best for your circumstances? Consider what kind of work do you do most often. Berjer points out For multi-story locations and greater flexibility a portable is the recommended option.+But if you perform work on a lot of single level residential locations or don't often perform commercial work, a portable may not be your best option.
2. **Brand:** Choose an extractor from an established company. Quality brands last,+Berjer says. Inferior brands fade away.+
3. **“Contained” machine:** Does the work you do require a wand? Contained machines use an automatic scrubber. Perfect for larger facilities, these machines also minimize the physical stress involved in carpet cleaning,+Berjer explains.
4. **Vacuum motor:** How much power do you need? Berjer says, Both [two- and three-stage vacuum motors] can produce excellent results; however a three-stage motor is often more powerful, requiring less effort from the user.+
5. **Green:** There are actually two factors that make an extractor green+· an effective moisture recovery system (for faster drying) and water efficiency. A water-efficient extractor uses less water or recycles cleaning solution/water,+explains Berjer, which uses as much as seven times less water.+
6. **Adjustable PSI:** Solution pressure is an important factor for all carpet cleaning pros. PSI determines how strong the solution pressure is on the carpet,+says Berjer. Adjustable PSI allows the user to lower PSI for delicate fabrics and adjust higher for soiled carpet.+
7. **Heat:** Though some would argue cold-water extraction with the right chemicals performs just as well as hot-water extraction, most professional cleaners stick with heat. Heat helps the cleaning solution work more effectively,+asserts Berjer.
8. **The wand:** A wand can make or break a cleaner's performance. Berjer recommends, Look for the most effective wand that can flush soils out of carpet fibers and then effectively recover the moisture for rapid drying.+
9. **Body type:** Among other benefits, an upright [portable] machine is usually easier to maneuver,+Berjer points out. Using a truckmount, while sometimes cumbersome, does offer easier maneuverability in tight spaces.

10. **Certification:** Consider the CRIs approval process. Extractors that bear the Seal of Approval mark have passed vigorous testing for enhanced customer confidence, Berjer stresses. These machines have proven their effectiveness.