

SUBJECT 20

Re: Carpets, Carpeting, Carpet Remnants or Rugs — Item 70680 — Packaging

Contact: Erin N. Topper Telephone — (703) 838-8856 topper@nmfta.org

Proponent: Freight Classification Development Council

Present Classification Provisions

Item	Description	Class
	FLOOR OR WALL COVERINGS AND RELATED ARTICLES GROUP: subject to item 70500	
70680	Carpets; Carpeting; Carpet Remnants; or Rugs, see Note, item 70681; in boxes, wrapped bales or rolls, or Package 2092:	
Subs 1-9	Not Involved.	
70681	NOTE—Not Involved.	

Package 2092

In corrugated fiberboard boxes testing not less than 250 pounds with the combined weight of facings not less than 111 pounds per 1,000 square feet. Fiberboard must be constructed and tested in accordance with Item 222, Secs. 2 and 3. Gross weight must not exceed 275 pounds and maximum dimensions must not exceed 101 united inches. Boxes must be securely closed.

Proposed Classification Provisions

Item	Description	Class
	FLOOR OR WALL COVERINGS AND RELATED ARTICLES GROUP: subject to item 70500	
70680	Carpets; Carpeting; Carpet Remnants; or Rugs, see Note, item 70681; ⇨in boxes or wrapped bales or rolls, ⇨see Notes, items A-NEW and B-NEW:	
Subs 1-9	No Change.	
70681	NOTE—No Change.	
⇨A-NEW	NOTE—Articles tendered in rolls not on lift truck skids, pallets or platforms must be wrapped in plastic film, enclosed in a plastic film bag, or otherwise protected to withstand the normal rigors of the less-than-truckload environment.	
⇨B-NEW	NOTE—Articles tendered for shipment on lift truck skids, pallets or platforms must be securely fastened to and must not overhang the edges of the lift truck skid, pallet or platform deck. Exposed surfaces and edges must be completely wrapped with plastic film or corrugated fiberboard or protected by wood or similar material.	

Package 2092

⇨Cancel; no further application.

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Analysis

The FCDC has recently received numerous damage claim reports on carpets, carpeting, carpet remnants or rugs, as embraced by item 70680.

Carpets or rugs shipped in rolls without sufficient protection are highly susceptible to damage from abrasion and exposure to the elements. When such rolls are wrapped in plastic film or inserted into plastic bags of sufficient thickness and strength to withstand the normal rigors of the LTL environment, such damage is minimized.

Additionally, when tendered on lift truck skids or pallets, the articles may overhang the edges of the lift truck skid or pallet deck, again leaving them susceptible to damage. Requiring the articles to be securely fastened to and not overhang the edges of the lift truck skid or pallet deck, and requiring that exposed surfaces and edges be completely wrapped with plastic film or corrugated fiberboard or protected by wood or similar material would reduce the risk of damage.

Package 2092 provides an exception to the fiberboard box requirements set forth in Item 222, which would not offer the same protection as boxes complying with Item 222.



Conclusion

The FCDC is to establish and maintain packaging specifications as necessary to ensure that freight is adequately protected and can be handled and stowed in a manner that is reasonably safe and practicable so as to withstand the normal rigors of the less-than-truckload environment.

Therefore, this proposal would add two new Notes to provide additional packaging requirements for carpets, carpeting, carpet remnants or rugs, as named in item 70680. Concurrently, Package 2092 would be canceled as having no further application.