

Criteria for allergy-friendly Vacuum Cleaners

1. Basic Situation

Allergens do not stop at the front door. Pollen, mould spores and bacteria can find their way into indoor areas despite precautions such as opening windows only in special times of the day or washing one's hair before going to bed.

Special vacuum cleaners can broadly eliminate allergens from floors, surfaces and the indoor air, significantly reducing allergy symptoms in people with hay fever or allergic asthma. The European Centre for Allergy Research Foundation (ECARF) certifies allergy-friendly vacuum cleaners that, with normal everyday use, are able to achieve a measurable reduction in the allergen load in indoor areas and securely trap the removed allergens.

The ECARF Seal is awarded if the criteria are fulfilled. The criteria underlie the assumption that less exposure to allergens is generally beneficial and depict the currently highest technical standards.

2. Criteria

- Dust Reemission of the vacuum cleaner according to DIN EN 60312 with mineral dust Type 1

Limit:

Dust reemission < 0,02% for particle sizes

0,3 µm, 0,5 µm, 0,7 µm, 1 µm, 1,5 µm, 2 µm, 2,5 µm, 3 µm, 3,5 µm, 4 µm, 5 µm, 6 µm, 7 µm, 8 µm, 9 µm, 10 µm

- Hints within the manual on how to handle the device and on the necessity of regular filter changes.

Indication on possible inner contamination of the device on disregard.

- Vacuum cleaners without dust bag or water filtration are not suited for the ECARF Seal of Quality due to their construction. Consumers are presented to large amounts and high concentrations of dust while emptying the dust bin.