

AMMONIA
GUIDE TO PROFESSIONAL WETCLEANING (3)

People are very often misinformed on proper washing procedures to obtain cleaner clothes. The addition of extra detergent does not increase the cleaning power. Bleaching does not remove soil or ground in dirt on a fabric. Bleaching may make a fabric whiter by addition of oxygen but does not affect the removal of dirt or soil. Professional launders use built detergents for better cleaning action. This means that alkali is added to the washing load to increase cleaning properties and even overcome hard water.

AMMONIA

Ammonia is an alkali that is also used by professional drycleaners for their wetcleaning and spotting procedures. Household ammonia is a diluted solution of ammonium hydroxide. It is one part nitrogen and three parts hydrogen. It is an alkali and is used to increase the cleaning properties of detergents. It is also used for stain removal of protein or albuminous stains. Examples of these stains are perspiration, urine, egg, milk, discharge and blood. It also increases the chemical action of hydrogen peroxide.

CAUTION

- (1) Do not breathe in as ammonia can be toxic and irritating.
- (2) It will bleed red dyes and colors on wools and silk. Test before use.
- (3) Do not use with chlorine or household bleach. It will break down household bleach causing a release of chlorine gas.
- (4) Do not use on tannin stains such as coffee, tea, liquor and soft drinks. It will set these stains making them impossible to remove.

HOW TO USE IN WASHING

- (1) Add one ounce of ammonia per gallon of water to a soiled wash load.\
- (2) After washing use vinegar in the rinse cycle to neutralize the ammonia.

PRESPOTTING SOIL AND STAINS

Mix one part detergent, two parts ammonia in a bottle. This formulation can be brushed on heavily soiled areas. It can also be used to remove body, protein and albuminous stains.

HYDROGEN PEROXIDE

When using hydrogen peroxide to remove the last traces of a stain add a little ammonia. This accelerates the hydrogen peroxide making it work faster and more effectively. Rinse area and use vinegar to neutralize.