

COFFEE AND RINGS (17)

Scientists have actually made a study on why coffee produces rings on coffee tables. This is the same principle on why coffee produces rings on fabrics. The reason why coffee produces rings is that when the coffee spreads out the driest portion of the coffee is on the outside of the ring. As the outside of the ring dries quickly it tends to pick up more of the residue from the middle of the coffee. Another characteristic of coffee is that the ring becomes more apparent after the coffee is exposed to the air. Coffee is a tannin stain and will pick up oxygen from the air causing it to darken. Another example of similar oxidation is when you cut an apple in half and leave it exposed to the air. It will darken after a period of time. We might at this time offer methods to remove coffee and water rings.

COFFEE STAINS

Preparation-

-Towel or cloth
-Solution of $\frac{1}{4}$ tablespoon of a mild laundry detergent and 2 ounces of cool water
-Clear cool water
-White distilled vinegar
-Eye dropper or q-tip
-Clear ammonia
-Hydrogen peroxide (3%)

Procedure-

-Place absorbent towel under stain
-Dab and rub stain with towel dampened with water
-Dampen towel with detergent solution and rub stain
-Rinse area by dabbing with water
-Add detergent solution and a little vinegar
-Rinse by adding a towel damp with clear water
-Apply a few drops of hydrogen peroxide to stain
-Immediately apply a few drops of clear ammonia
-Let solution sit for 3 minutes
-Rinse area with clear cool water
-Apply a few drops of white distilled vinegar
-Rinse area with clear cool water

WATER RINGS

Water causes rings on most fabrics because the water tends to cause finishes and impurities in the fabric to migrate to the outer areas. Professional cleaners remove rings on fabrics by a method referred to as feathering. To remove water rings on fabrics dampen a towel with a little water and wipe each section of the ring from the

center of the ring outward so the wet area blends with the dry area. In order to successfully feather it is important to work a small section of the ring at a time.

IMPORTANT REMINDER-REMEMBER TO TEST THE COLORS ON A FABRIC BEFORE ATTEMPTING ANY METHOD OF STAIN REMOVAL.