

COLOR SAFE BLEACHES (18)

Color safe bleach such as Clorox 2 and others usually contain a mild oxidizing agent such as sodium perborate or sodium percarbonate. These are oxidizing agents and have a bleaching action similar to hydrogen peroxide. It must be kept in mind that there is no such thing as a color safe bleach. The manufacturer is simply stating that these bleaches are safer to use than chlorine based household bleaches. Color safe bleaches are alkaline in nature and will bleed and discolor the dyes on wool, silk and any bright and vivid color. Before using any bleach the color of the fabric must be tested on an unexposed area. Sodium perborate and sodium percarbonate, which are found in color safe bleaches are used by professional drycleaners for restoration of discolored fabrics such as draperies and aged wedding gowns. They can also be used for removing last traces of many stains including coffee, tea, soft drinks, medicine, blood and hard drinks. They can be used by the consumer as a spotting agent or can be used for prolonged soaking.

HOW TO USE AS A BATH BLEACH

It is best to use these bleaches by soaking in a plastic pail rather than the washing machine. Metal tends to accelerate the bleach causing it to lose its effectiveness. This type of bleach can be used as an overnight bleach and it would be safer to use on white fabrics.

-Put warm water in a plastic bucket (100oF).**
-Add a mild detergent such as Tide.**
-Add bleach in the ratio of 2 ounces per gallon of water.**
-Cover garment with a cloth or towel. This will prevent the garment from popping up and being exposed to the air.**
-Soak overnight.**
-Rinse.**
-Put into a solution of water and vinegar (1 ounce per gallon of water). Vinegar will neutralize the alkalinity of the bleach.**
-Rinse or re-wash.**

HOW TO USE AS A SPOT BLEACH

Color safe bleach can be an effective way of removing the last traces of many wet-side stains. It will however not remove dry-side stains such as grease, paint, wax, nail polish, etc.

PREPARATION

-Paper cup with warm water.**
-Add enough bleach to create a thick mixture.**
-Q-tip.**

-White distilled vinegar.
-Remember to test colors before use.

PROCEDURE

-Wet stained area.
-Apply bleach with Q-tip.
-Rinse with water.
-Apply vinegar.
-Rinse again.

COLOR CHANGE

If a color change occurs on a fabric accidentally while using this bleach it is best to rinse the area quickly and apply vinegar. Vinegar is an acid and will neutralize the effects of the alkaline bleach.