

**COSMETIC STAINS**  
**NAIL POLISH AND LIPSTICK** (21)

Nail polish is a difficult stain because it contains a plastic composition with a pigment dye. It imparts a stiffness to the fabric and usually remains on the surface of the fabric.

**PREPARATION**

- (1) Acetone or nail polish remover is a dry based solvent that is highly flammable. It is very effective for plastic based stains such as nail polish, glue, and paint. Caution-It can dissolve acetate or triacetate fabrics. It can also remove surface prints and must be tested on an unexposed area before using.
- (2) Vaseline or petroleum jelly is a lubricant used to help prevent damage to the fabric when rubbing is applied.
- (3) Old towel or cloth
- (4) Glass
- (5) Spoon

**PROCEDURE**

Place a glass upside down on a flat surface. The upturned base of the glass provides a firm work area for the rubbing necessary to remove this type of stain and keeps the dry solvent from contacting other surfaces. Put a towel over the glass base for absorption and place the stained fabric on top of the work area. Apply a little vaseline to stain. Add a few drops of acetone or nail polish remover. Carefully rub area with the round edge of a spoon to break up the stain. Have patience and allow time for the acetone to loosen the stain. Then wash the garment.

**LIPSTICK**

This stain appears as a smudge. It contains wax and pigments. It is important to remove the wax using Vaseline.

**PREPARATION**

- (1) Mild detergent such as Tide
- (2) Vaseline or petroleum jelly
- (3) Water
- (4) Spoon
- (5) Old Towel
- (6) Household ammonia

- (7) 3% hydrogen peroxide**
- (8) White distilled vinegar**

### **PROCEDURE**

**Place stained area over the towel for absorption. Put Vaseline on stain and gently loosen the pigments using the round end of the spoon. Use the towel to blot up loosened pigments. Apply water and detergent and again use the spoon to loosen the stain. Use the towel to dab and absorb the loosened stain. Rinse the area with water and then apply detergent and ammonia. Rub area and then rinse with water. Apply hydrogen peroxide and then ammonia. Wait a few minutes. Rinse with water. Apply vinegar and wash the garment. Caution-Make sure that all chemicals are tested on an unexposed seam before using.**