

GETTING RID OF THOSE INK STAINS (30)

Ink stains on garments may occur at home, in the office, at school or in an art studio. Ink stains sometimes occur when a leaky pen is carried in the pocket. Ink stains are classified as dryside or wetside depending on the solvent or substance on which the pigment (dye) is dissolved or disbursed. Dryside inks are pigments disbursed in an oil, wax or grease base. Sometimes a binder is added for permanence. Examples of dryside inks are marking ink, printing ink, ball point ink, India ink, carbon paper, stamp padding and some inks used in felt tip magic marker pens. Wetside inks or dyes dissolved in water and too which a setting agent such as gallic acid is added. Examples of wetside inks are some felt tip and magic marker pens. The ingredients of both dryside and wetside inks which have been described are not complete since there are many variations. Inks are formulated for their permanence in use and stains from so called washable inks are difficult to remove. Success in stain removal depends upon how long the ink stains have been in the fabric, the fastness of fabric color and the tenacity of the staining pigment or dye to the fabric.

LUBRICANTS USED

Formula 409-all purpose-This is a very good product for ink stain removal. It contains solvent, nonionic and cationic surfactants which break down the components of ink. Before rewashing garment after stain removal procedures using Formula 409, rinse area thoroughly. The cationic surfactants found in Formula 409 will not be compatible with regular laundry detergents and may result in rings.

Simple Green-Found in the automotive section of most supermarkets. Simple Green and similar products contain anionic and nonionic surfactants. Some products also contain oil extracts from citrus fruits. This product is very good as an ink remover.

Glycerin-This product is found in most drug stores. It should be purchased CP or USP which means it is chemically pure. Glycerin is chosen as a lubricant when color safety on a fabric is a factor.

RULES OF INK STAIN REMOVAL

- ... Test color before using any products
- ... Work each step thoroughly
- ... Proceed to next step only when previous step ceases to work
- ... Rinse area thoroughly before washing

PREPARATION

- ... Old towel or cloth
- ... Lubricant (Formula 409 or Simple Green or Glycerin)
- ... Clear Ammonia

„, Hydrogen peroxide
... Eyedropper and spoon
... Clear cool water

PROCEDURE

Place absorbent towel under stain. Dab and rub stain with towel dampened with water. Apply lubricant and rub area with the edge of a spoon. Rinse dabbing with water. Apply lubricant and a few drops of vinegar. Rub area with the edge of a spoon. Rinse by dabbing stain with towel that is damp with water. Apply a few drops of hydrogen peroxide to stain. Immediately apply a few drops of clear ammonia. Let stain sit a few minutes. Rinse with clear water. Apply a few drops of white vinegar. Rinse area with clear water. Rewash garment.