

HOUSEHOLD BLEACH (33)

When you mention using household bleach many consumers say they have had disastrous results when using this bleach. This includes color loss, weakening of the fabric and odor left in the fabric. When used properly, however this can be one of the most useful bleaches that is available. Professional launderers who handle hospital, medical uniforms and linens use this bleach since it sterilizes and removes harmful bacteria better than other bleaches. Household bleach contains sodium hypochlorite and usually comes in a 5.25% concentration. A popular brand is Clorox but other brands containing sodium hypochlorite should be as good.

PRECAUTIONS

-Never use full strength on a fabric. Full strength can weaken a fabric causing deterioration of the fabric.**
-Vinegar is important to use after chlorine bleach is rinsed from the fabric. White distilled vinegar accelerates the bleach causing it to dissipate from the fabric.**
-Can not be used on wool, silk or similar animal fibers.**
-Never use with ammonia or detergents containing alkali. Alkali breaks down the bleach causing it to release chlorine gas which can be toxic. Tide is a good laundry detergent which is alkali free.**
-Hot water accelerates all bleaches. Every 18 degrees rise in temperature can double the chemical action which can make it unsafe to some fabrics.**
-Always test colors before using.**

USES

-Most effective bleach for mildew stain removal.**
-Use for dye stain removal and last traces of most wetside stains including coffee, tea, medicine, liquor and soft drinks.**
-Effective for last traces of ink.**

PREPARATION (LOCAL AREAS)

-Put 10 drops of bleach in a 6 ounce cup of warm water.**
-Add a few drops of a mild detergent such as Tide.**
-Have white distilled vinegar on hand.**
-Apply with Q-tip.**

PROCEDURE

-Wet stained area.**
-Apply bleach.**
-Wait 30 seconds.**
-Rinse area with water.**
-Apply vinegar.**

.....Rinse again.

.....It would be advisable to work over a towel to avoid spreading the bleach.

WASHING MACHINE PROCEDURE

.....Add $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of bleach to washing machine after water level is reached.

.....Add a mild detergent such as Tide.

.....Agitate machine to mix solution.

.....Enter garments and wash routinely.

.....On the rinse cycle add vinegar to remove last traces of bleach. Add vinegar in the ratio of 1 ounce per gallon of water.