

INK, CRAYON AND LIPSTICK LOADS (50)

The professional drycleaner has often faced the problem of a pen, crayon or lipstick transferring during the drycleaning process. The homemaker can be faced with the same problem occurring when washing a load of garments. The pen, crayon or lipstick accidentally left in the pocket of a garment will transfer when the clothes are dry after washing. There are several steps to take which in most cases will cure the problem in a time saving manner.

Step 1-Batch run. The drycleaner uses the batch run to correct similar problems in drycleaning and the consumer can do it as well in washing.

Products Needed-

There are specific citrus based nonionic detergents that have the ability to break down the wax, grease or oil composition of the stain. You can find these products in Wal-Mart or Home Depot. One product is called Simple Green and similar other products are there as well.

Procedure-

Fill up your washing machine with a low level of warm water. Add 4 ounces of the citrus based detergent per gallon of water. The low water level is an aid to create more agitation and friction when washing the garments. Agitate the washer with the clothes in it for a ½ hour with no rinse cycle. Then re-wash normally. Before putting garments into the dryer examine for any residual staining. Those garments with any staining should be hung to dry.

Step 2-Residual staining-

Materials needed-

Color safe bleach such as Clorox II, Oxy-Clean, and other similar products.
Household vinegar.

Remember-Color safe bleach may not be safe to colors and should be tested.

Procedure-

-Fill up a plastic bucket with warm water.
-Add color safe bleach in the ratio of 2 ounces per gallon of water.
-Soak garment for three hours.
-Re-wash.
-Add vinegar on the rinse cycle.

Step 3-Any remaining stains can be bleached out using Clorox Bleach Pen.

Precautions-

Test fabric before using on an unexposed area.
Do not use on wool or silk.

Procedure-

-Wet area.
-Dab stain with bleach pen.
-Rinse area with water.
-Apply vinegar to remove bleach.
-Re-wash.

PROFESSIONAL TIP FOR SPOT BLEACHING

When you spot bleach a white fabric with a colored trim it is important to keep the bleach from contacting the colored portion. Put Vaseline around the colored area which will protect the area by preventing migration of the bleach.