One of the most difficult stains to remove is mustard. In many cases a yellow residue of the staining results owing to the mustard being blended with turmeric to give it added color. Many professional cleaners even have a problem removing this type of stain due to the fact that the consumer often sets the stain by using improper stain removal procedures. A set stain means that the resulting residue may be difficult to remove or may not be removable. The mustard stains can be set by the following processes.

- (1) Rubbing the stain into the fabric.
- (2) Using soap, ammonia and alkali. Even color safe bleaches contain alkali which can set the stain making it difficult or even impossible to remove. When you use an alkali on a mustard stain you can immediately see the staining turning a deep purple color.
- (3) Heat-If you launder a garment containing mustard the heat of the laundry water will set and oxidize the stain. The heat of drying will also often make the stain impossible to remove.
- (4) Ironing-Never iron over a mustard stain since the heat of the ironing will set the stain.

WHAT TO DO

When mustard comes in contact with your fabric let it dry first. The bulk of the mustard stain will remain on the surface of the fabric which means that you can brush off the staining from the surface of the fabric.

STAIN REMOVAL PROCESS

Preparation-

- (1) Glass
- (2) Spoon
- (3) Towel or Cloth
- (4) Water
- (5) Mild Detergent (Tide)
- (6) Vaseline
- (7) White Distilled Vinegar
- (8) Household Ammonia
- (9) Clorox Stick
- (10) Hydrogen Peroxide

Procedure-

- (1) 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. Put a towel over the glass base for absorption and place the stained fabric on top of the work area.
- (2) If the stain is built up, carefully scrape off excess with the round edge of the spoon.
- (3) Place Vaseline on stained area and rub with spoon.
- (4) Blot up area with a damp towel.
- (5) Apply Tide mixed with a little water.
- (6) Rub area with the round edge of the spoon.
- (7) Dab with a towel damp with water.
- (8) Apply detergent, water and a little vinegar.
- (9) Rub with a towel damp with water.
- (10) Apply hydrogen peroxide.
- (11) Apply a little ammonia.
- (12) Wait 3 minutes.
- (13) Dab with a damp towel.
- (14) Apply vinegar.
- (15) Dab with a damp towel.
- (16) Apply Clorox Stick.
- (17) Dab with a damp towel.
- (18) Apply vinegar.
- (19) Re-wash garment.

Caution-Hydrogen peroxide and ammonia must be tested since it can affect color on fabric. Test on an unexposed seam. Clorox Stick is also dangerous to use and must also be tested on an unexposed area. It should not be used on wool or silk.