

PRE-SPOTTING YOUR WASH LOADS (65)

Pre-spotting is defined as spotting fabrics before washing. There are several reasons why pre-spotting difficult stains and soil is advisable. There are many stains that will oxidize, become set and impossible to remove due to the heat necessarily used in the washing and drying process. Most common stains such as coffee, tea, liquor, blood and oil are only examples of some of the stains that can oxidize. Ground in soil such as found on collar necklines should also be pre-spotted. By pre-spotting and loosening the soil before washing you can wash a load of fabrics for a shorter period of time. In order to do proper pre-spotting you should know the stain you are pre-spotting and use the proper pre-spotting formula. Using the wrong pre-spotting formula can lead to poor stain removal.

PRE-SPOTTING FORMULAS

Tannin stains-These are vegetable in nature. Tannin stains include tea, coffee, liquor, wine, juice, beer, grass.

Preparation-Mild detergent such as Tide, white distilled vinegar and water.

Procedure-Fill bottle with 3 parts water, 3 parts distilled vinegar, 1 part detergent.

Apply to garment and use a soft brush or round edge of the spoon to work solution in. Wash garment in a normal manner.

Protein stains-These are classified as stains originating from a living body. These stains include perspiration, blood, milk, egg, vomit, urine and discharge.

Preparation-Household ammonia, water, mild detergent such as Tide.

Procedure-Fill bottle with 3 parts water, 3 parts ammonia, 1 part mild detergent.

Brush on garment or use rounded edge of the spoon to work solution into the stain.

Caution-Mixtures made with ammonia can bleed dyes on many fabrics especially those with red, purple and other vivid colors. This solution may also affect dyes on wool and silk. This should not be used on tannin stains since it tends to oxidize and set the stain. Testing before use on sensitive colors is advisable.

Oil stains-This includes any oil or grease stain such as motor oil, vegetable and cooking oil. The routine washing procedure does not remove these types of stains. Vegetable oil stains such as linseed, peanut, butter, olive oil, canola oil will become set and impossible to remove if it goes through the washing process and the heat used.

Preparation-Use products such as Simple Green which has grease cutting characteristics.

Procedure-Apply Simple Green to stain area and brush in or work in with the round edge of a spoon. Wash in a routine manner.

Ground in Soil-Use procedure as outlined in protein stains.

Cosmetic stains-Use procedure as outlined in removing oil stains.