

REMOVING RINGS (95)

When you attempt stain removal or contact staining it is likely a ring will occur. The cause of rings is due to several factors including soil, impurities and finishes used in the fabric. Any liquid and water based staining is capable of producing a ring. The liquid or staining migrates from a wet area to a dry area. When the edge of the wet area meets the dry area it forms a pronounced ring due to accumulation of residue found in the fabric. Any fabric is capable of forming rings but a tightly woven fabric is more sensitive to ringing than a loosely woven fabric or knitted fabric. This occurs because there are more yarns per square inch in a tightly woven fabric. The concept and technique of removing a ring requires patience and technique but can be readily accomplished.

- (1) Feathering-This is a technique used by many professional cleaners. The first thing that has to be done is to break up the ring. You can use a white towel damp with water to accomplish this. You should tamp the ring with the wet towel to break it up and then with a dry towel wipe from the center of the ring outward so the wet area gradually blends into the dry area. Work in small sections of the ring and take your time in blending the wet area into the dry area. After feathering allow the garment to dry naturally.**
- (2) Fogging-There is some fabrics such as silk or rayon that form rings due to water dissolving the sizing in the fabric. In order to do fogging you can use a home steam iron. Hold the steam iron about 2 inches from the top of the fabric allowing the steam to slightly fog the affected area. This procedure may correct light ringing on a fabric. A ring can occur from a leaky iron or improper spraying of water and starch on a fabric. You can also spray affected area with water from a water spray bottle and then iron the fabric to remove the ring.**

Note: A helpful hint-To avoid rings from spraying during ironing is to aim the spray up in the air and let the moisture droplets settle on the fabric. Spraying directly on a fabric is more apt to produce rings.