

**White distilled vinegar is 5% acetic acid. The acetic acid gives vinegar its pungent odor. I have been teaching professional drycleaners for 35 years the benefits of using acetic acid for stain removal, neutralizing bleaches and alkali. The professional drycleaner uses acetic acid in a 28% concentration. In my capacity as a garment analyst I have been using acetic acid for correcting many garment problems. People can use vinegar for solving many everyday fabric problems.**

### **HOW VINEGAR IS PRODUCED**

**Vinegar is produced through the action of bacteria on yeast fermented brews. Vinegar can be made out of just about any plant that can be fermented to generate alcohol which is subsequently converted into acetic acid.**

#### **Preparation**

**Use any brand of white distilled vinegar.**

### **USES**

- (1) Tannin stains-These are stains of vegetable origin. Some of these stains include tea, coffee, wine, beer, liquor, soft drinks, ketchup and grass. A tannin spotting formula can be made by mixing in a bottle 2 ounces of vinegar, 2 ounces of water and 1 tablespoon of a mild detergent such as Tide. This can be applied to a stained area. Rub and then rinse or wash.**
- (2) Neutralize oxygen bleaches. When using Oxy-clean or Clorox II garments need to be neutralized. Add vinegar in the rinse water (2 ounces per gallon of water).**
- (3) Household bleach-When using Clorox or sodium hypochlorite for washing white cottons the bleach remains in the fabric even after thorough rinsing. By adding vinegar to the rinse cycle the remaining residue of bleach is accelerated and thus removed from the fabric (2 ounces of vinegar per gallon of water)**
- (4) Color change-Some alkali such as ammonia and lye can cause color change on a fabric. After rinsing affected area apply vinegar to neutralize area.**
- (5) Setting dyes-When washing colored fabrics with poor dyes add vinegar to the wash cycle. Add vinegar in a ratio of 1 ounce per gallon of water with the detergent to be used. This helps to prevent dye loss and bleeding.**
- (6) Shine-Sometimes pressing fabrics or simply from wear can cause shine on some fabrics. To attempt correction spray with vinegar and hang to dry. Repeat if necessary.**
- (7) Delustered area-Some fabrics especially acetate can deluster or discolor from hot water dripping from a steam iron. Spray with vinegar and hang to dry to correct area.**

**(8) Rust-Vinegar mixed with some salt is effective in removing rust and other oxidation. Vinegar in combination with the salt produces the chemical action and bi-products necessary for this type of stain removal.**