

Household Hints - Stains

By the Elizabeth-Westport Garden Club

Alcoholic beverages

1. Pre-soak or sponge fresh stains immediately with cold water, then cold water and glycerin. Rinse with vinegar for a few seconds until stain is removed. These stains may turn brown with age. If wine stains remains, rub with concentrated detergent; wait 15 minutes, rinse. Repeat if necessary. Wash with detergent in hottest water safe for fabrics.

Blood

1. Pre-soak in cold water at least 30 minutes. If stain remains, soak in lukewarm ammonia water (3 tablespoons per gallon water). Rinse.

Chewing Gum

1. Rub area with ice, then scrap off with a dull blade. Sponge with dry cleaning solvent; allow to air dry. Wash in detergent and hottest water safe for fabrics.

Chocolate & Cocoa

1. Pre-soak stain in cold water. Wash in hot water with detergent. Remove any grease stains with dry cleaner solvent. If color remains, sponge with hydrogen peroxide, and wash again.

Coffee

1. Sponge or soak with cold water as soon as possible. Wash, using detergent and bleach safe for fabric. Remove cream great stains with non-flammable dry cleaning solution. Wash again.

Deodorants

1. Sponge area with white vinegar. If stain remains, soak with denatural alcohol. Wash with detergent in hottest water safe for fabrics.

Grass

1. Pre-soak in cold water for at least 30 minutes. Pre-treat with detergent, hot water, and bleach safe for fabric. On acetate and colored fabrics, use 1 part of alcohol to 2 parts water.

Ink (ball-point pens)

1. Pour denatured alcohol through strain. Rub in petroleum jelly. Sponge with non-flammable dry cleaning solvent. Soak in detergent solution. Wash with detergent and bleach safe for fabric.