

Stain Removal Tips and Tricks

These laundry pre-treatments are tried and true, passed down through three generations of our family. Proven to remove even the toughest stains! - *Dottie, Sandra^{and} Wendy MacGinnis*

Supplies to Keep on Hand

- ✓ **Fels-Naptha Soap** (Walmart, Target, Amazon)
Greasy oil stains; perspiration; ring-around-collar; chocolate; baby formula; make-up.
- ✓ **Hydrogen Peroxide** – Use this is a gentle bleaching agent.
- ✓ **Ronsonol** (Walgreens, Ace Hardware, Amazon)
Removes labels, grease, tar and oil. Pour onto a towel and apply to the spot. Rub briskly in a circular motion until it evaporates. Reapply if needed.
- ✓ **OUT White Brite** Fabric Bleach (Walmart, Ace Hardware, Amazon)
This is great for whites. Follow directions on bottle and soak for 15 minutes or longer.
- ✓ **Mrs. Stewart's Blueing** – Non-Toxic Bleach Alternative (Walmart, Amazon)
Bleaches white clothes safely. Follow directions on the bottle. *Careful not to drip or it will stain.
- ✓ **Oxi-Clean Stain Remover Powder**
Works well on many stains. Use half a scoop per quart of water.
- ✓ **Clorox Oxi-Magic + Spray-n-Wash**
Spray BOTH together on stains like ring-around-collar or dirt.
- ✓ **Lemi Shine Dishwasher Detergent Booster** (Walmart, Target, Amazon)
Removes tough spots and film on dishes and flatware, even in hard water.
- ✓ **Glycerine** (Walmart, Rite-Aid, Amazon)
Among other uses, glycerin is a natural solvent for cleaning and stain removal.

How to Remove Common Stains

Blood: Soak in cold water. If stain remains, pour **hydrogen peroxide** directly on the stain; let it bubble and continue soaking the item a little longer. Rinse and launder as usual.

Candle Wax: Scrape off excess wax. Lay the item between paper towels and press with a warm iron. Pour a little **Ronsonol** onto a towel and sponge the spot until clean.

Ketchup: Rub with **Fels-Naptha Soap** and soak in cool water for 30 minutes. Launder as usual.

Chewing Gum: Place garment in a bag and put it in the freezer. Scrape off hardened gum and sponge the spot with **Ronsonol**. Launder as usual.

Chocolate: Soak in cold water; then wash in hot sudsy water. Bleach with **hydrogen peroxide** if necessary or rub with **Fels-Naptha Soap**. Launder as usual.

Fruit Stains: Rinse under cold running water and wash in hot water.

Coffee/Tea: Carefully pour boiling water through the stain and wash as usual. If stain remains, use **hydrogen peroxide** and launder again.

Old Tea Stains: I try this on the most stubborn stains. Wear rubber gloves for this! Combine **3/4 gallon** of warm water, **1/2 cup** hydrogen peroxide, **1/8 cup** laundry soap, **1/16 cup** dishwasher detergent. Soak for **six hours** or more. Rinse with cold water. Launder as usual.

Egg or Meat Stains: Soak in COLD (not warm) water. If stain remains, use **hydrogen peroxide**.

Grease: Dab the stain with **Ronsonol** and rub briskly in a circular motion until it evaporates. If necessary, pour more **Ronsonol** or **Fels-Naptha Soap** on the spot and rub the fabric together.

Milk/Cream/Ice Cream: Rinse under cold running water and wash in HOT water.

Mustard: Rub **glycerine** into the spot and wash in hot water. Or rub with **Fels-Naptha Soap** and soak in hot water. Launder as usual.

Soft Drinks: Sponge with equal parts of **rubbing alcohol** and **glycerine** (or lukewarm water). Launder as usual.

Crayon: Launder in very HOT water (whites) or WARM water (colors).

Fingernail Polish: Sponge gently with a small amount of nail polish remover and launder right away.

Ink: Spray **hairspray** on the spot and rub briskly. Repeat until spot is gone. Launder as usual.

Mildew: Wash in hot water. If stain remains, moisten with **lemon juice**; sprinkle **salt** on the spot and set it in the sun for **30 minutes** or more. Launder as usual.

Rust: Apply **lemon juice** and **salt**; set it in the sun for **a few hours**. Launder as usual.

Lipstick: Rub with **shortening**; blot with a clean rag until color transfers to the rag. Wash in HOT water.

Oil Paint: Scrape off fresh paint. Gently sponge with **paint thinner**. Wash in HOT water.

Scorch Spot: If you accidentally scorch an item while ironing, apply **hydrogen peroxide** to the spot and wash in HOT water.