

First Aid Chart for Carpet, Rugs and Upholstery

In manufacturing interior decor fabrics, many different fibers are used - sometimes only one kind of textile, but at other times two or more will be blended. Removing stains from one type of fiber may be 100% successful, but from others impossible - all spots and stains cannot be removed. Certain staining materials contain dyes that will remove color from fiber. The longer stains remain on fabrics, the more permanent they become and may cause a condition which would prevent removal - even by a professional cleaner. The time to take care of spills or spots is right after the accident or as soon as possible. Untreated spills and spots will, with time, become hidden by soil, but after the fabric is cleaned the forgotten stain will reappear to the owners displeasure.

To prevent permanent stains, follow these basic rules for removal:

- 1.) Immediately blot up spills, using clean white absorbent material (tissue, napkins, towels, etc.)
- 2.) Pretest spot removal formulas in inconspicuous area of fabric. Put a few drops of formula on each color in the textile and, using your white-absorbent material, hold it against each white-absorbent material, hold it against each color; count to ten, then examine the results. If the dye has bled into the absorbent material, or if there has been a change in the colored area, call a professional cleaner for advice.
- 3.) Do not overwet. Always use small quantities of removal solutions especially on upholstery fabrics. Blot frequently - do not rub or brush. Excessive friction may distort the pile.
- 4.) Work from outer edges towards center of stain.
- 5.) Have patience - some stains respond slowly.
- 6.) Remember, haphazard attempts at spot removal may result in indelible stains and/or permanent damage to fabrics. Do not use scouring cleansers or anything containing bleaches. Never use lighter fluids, lacquer thinners or gasoline!

Use each of the cleaning methods on the stained area until the stain is removed. The final step is always to blot up any remaining moisture by pressure or padding the area with an absorbent towel, then allowing it to air-dry.

METHOD 1. Apply a small amount of dry cleaning fluid. Use small, very small amounts. Do not use gasoline, lighter fluid, or carbon tetrachloride.

METHOD 2. Mix one teaspoon of a neutral detergent (a mild detergent containing no bleaches) with a cup of lukewarm water.

METHOD 3. Mix one tablespoon household ammonia with a half-cup water.

METHOD 4. Mix one third cup white household vinegar with two thirds cup of water.

STAIN	REMOVAL METHOD	STAIN	REMOVAL METHOD
Beer.....	2,4	Milk.....	2,3,4,1
Blood.....	2,3	Mucilage.....	3
Butter.....	1,2,4	Mustard.....	2,4
Candle Wax.....	1,2	Nail polish.....	1,2,4
Catsup.....	2,3	Oils.....	1,2,3,4
Chewing Gum.....	1,2	Ointment.....	1,2,3
Chocolate.....	2,3,4	Paint, oil.....	1,2,3
Cocktails.....	2,4	Paint, water.....	2,3,1
Coffee.....	2,4,1	Perfume.....	2,4
Cosmetics.....	1,2,3	Rubber Cement.....	1,2
Crayon.....	1,2	Shoe Polish.....	1,2,3
Egg.....	2,3	Soft Drinks.....	2,3,4
Food clothing.....	2,3	Soot.....	1,2,3
Fruit & Juices.....	2,3,4	Syrup.....	2,3,4
Furniture polish.....	1,2,3	Tar, Asphalt.....	1,2
Furniture stain.....	1,2	Tea.....	2,4,1
Glue, school.....	2	Unknown stains...1,2,3,4	
Grease.....	1,2,3,4	Urine.....	2,3,4
Ice Cream.....	2,3,4,1	Vomit.....	2,3,4
Ink.....	1,2,3	Water stains.....1,2,3,4	
Iodine Merthiolate....	2,3,4	Wine	2,4,3