

Stain Removal Guide

Action Cleaning Systems Inc.

<u>Water-Based Stains</u>	
Alcohol	Grape Juice
Baby Formula	Graphite
Beer	Ice Cream
Blood	Jelly
Candy	Latex Paint
Catsup	Liquor
Chocolate Milk	Milk
Clay	Soil Spots
Cola	Soft Drinks
Cologne	Syrup
Cranberry Juice	Tomato Juice
Felt Tip Marker	Water Colors
Food Stains (general)	Watermelon
Fruit Juice	Whiskey
Fruit Punch	Wine
Furniture Polish (water-based)	Vomit

<u>Greasy, Oil-Based Stains</u>	
Butter	Margarine
Chocolate	Mascara
Cooking Oil	Mayonnaise
Cosmetics	Nail Polish
Crayon	Oil
Furniture Dye	Oil Paint
Furniture Polish (oil-based)	Ointment
Glue*	Peanut Butter
Gravy	Rouge
Grease (black)	Salad Dressing
Gum*	Spaghetti
Hand Cream	Wax*
Ink	Varnish
Lipstick	
*Freeze and remove solid materials before using cleaning fluid.	

<u>Special Water-Based Stains</u>	
Coffee	Tea
Urine	

It is not unusual for stains to sometimes reappear after spot cleaning. Wicking occurs when a liquid has been spilled on the carpet (usually a large quantity) and cleaning attempts remove only the stain and liquid from the carpet fibers. Liquid still remains in the carpet backing or padding. Through capillary action, the stain can "wick" back up into the carpet fibers. Residual resoling occurs if staining substances or cleaning products are left in the carpet and attract soil.

These stains are not permanent and typically can be removed by simply repeating these appropriate step-by-step directions listed on the above chart. Here are some additional suggestions:

1. Avoid over wetting the carpet backing during spot cleaning and rising. Blotting to remove excess moisture reduces the occurrence of wicking stains.
2. Use a "wet-vac" to extract liquid from the area if possible. Paper toweling placed over the cleaned area and weight with a colorfast object will help absorb resurfacing stains. Use of fans to decrease the drying time will also help.

Carpet Stain Removal Guide - Water-based Stains

Step 1

- **Use a spoon or dull knife to remove solid materials.**
- **For large stains, work from the outside of stain to the center to prevent spreading.**
- **Blot up liquid spills with a white towel or paper towel.**
- **Mix a solution of 1/4 teaspoon of clear hand dishwashing detergent with 1 cup of water. Stir gently.**
- **Apply detergent solution directly to a white cloth. Dampen the carpet fibers in the stained area with the cloth. Avoid saturating the carpet.**
- **Wipe gently. Turn cloth frequently. Never rub, scrub or use a brush. This may damage carpet fibers.**
- **If necessary, use your fingertips to work the solution to the base of the stain.**
- **Wet the stained carpet fibers with clear, lukewarm water to rinse.**
- **Cover the spot with an absorbent white towel or paper towel and apply pressure to blot.**
- **Repeat the rinsing and blotting procedures until you are sure all traces of the detergent have been removed.**
- **If the stain is gone, place an absorbent white towel or paper towel over the area cleaned, and weigh towels down with a heavy, colorfast object, such as a weighted plastic wastebasket.**
- **Change towels or paper towels until carpet dries.**
- **If stain remains, proceed to Step 2.**

Step 2

Do NOT use on coffee, tea or urine stains.

- **Mix 2 tablespoons of non-bleaching, non-sudsing household ammonia with 1 cup of lukewarm water.**
- **Apply ammonia solution, rinse and blot as outlined in Step 1.**
- **Do not dry with paper towels. Proceed to Step 3 to neutralize the ammonia solution.**

Step 3

- **Mix 1 cup of white vinegar with 2 cups of water.**
- **Apply vinegar solution, rinse and blot as outlined in Step 1.**

Carpet Stain Removal Guide

Special Water-based Stains

Step 1

- *For large stains, work from the outside of stain to the center to prevent spreading.*
- *Blot up liquid spills with a white towel or paper towel.*
- *Mix a solution of 1/4 teaspoon of clear hand dishwashing detergent with 1 cup of water. Stir gently.*
- *Apply detergent solution directly to a white cloth. Dampen the carpet fibers in the stained area with the cloth. Avoid saturating the carpet.*
- *Wipe gently. Turn cloth frequently. Never rub, scrub or use a brush. This may damage carpet fibers.*
- *If necessary, use your fingertips to work the solution to the base of the stain.*
- *Wet the stained carpet fibers with clear, lukewarm water to rinse.*
- *Cover the spot with an absorbent white towel or paper towel and apply pressure to blot.*
- *Repeat the rinsing and blotting procedures until you are sure all traces of the detergent have been removed.*
- *If the stain is gone, place an absorbent white towel or paper towel over the area cleaned, and weigh towels down with a heavy, color-fast object, such as a weighted plastic wastebasket.*
- *Change towels or paper towels until carpet dries.*
- *If stain remains, proceed to Step 2.*

Step 2

- *Mix 1 cup of white vinegar with 2 cups of water.*
- *Apply vinegar solution, rinse and blot as outlined in Step 1.*

Carpet Stain Removal Guide - Greasy, Oil-based Stains

Step 1

- *Use a spoon or dull knife to remove solid materials.*
- *For these stains, use a citrus solvent applied directly to a white cloth. Dampen the carpet fibers in the stained area with the cloth. Avoid saturating the carpet.*

Step 2

- *For large stains, work from the outside of stain to the center to prevent spreading.*
- *Blot up liquid spills with a white towel or paper towel.*
- *Mix a solution of 1/4 teaspoon of clear hand dishwashing detergent with 1 cup of water. Stir gently.*
- *Apply detergent solution directly to a white cloth. Dampen the carpet fibers in the stained area with the cloth. Avoid saturating the carpet.*
- *Wipe gently. Turn cloth frequently. Never rub, scrub or use a brush. This may damage carpet fibers.*
- *If necessary, use your fingertips to work the solution to the base of the stain.*
- *Wet the stained carpet fibers with clear, lukewarm water to rinse.*
- *Cover the spot with an absorbent white towel or paper towel and apply pressure to blot.*
- *Repeat the rinsing and blotting procedures until you are sure all traces of the detergent have been removed.*
- *If the stain is gone, place an absorbent white towel or paper towel over the area cleaned, and weigh towels down with a heavy, color-fast object, such as a weighted plastic wastebasket.*
- *Change towels or paper towels until carpet dries.*
- *If stain remains, proceed to Step 3.*

Step 3

Do NOT use on coffee, tea or urine stains.

- *Mix 2 tablespoons of non-bleaching, non-sudsing household ammonia with 1 cup of lukewarm water.*
- *Apply ammonia solution, rinse and blot as outlined in Step 1.*
- *Do not dry with paper towels. Proceed to Step 4 to neutralize the ammonia solution.*

Step 4

- *Mix 1 cup of white vinegar with 2 cups of water.*
- *Apply vinegar solution, rinse and blot as outlined in Step 1.*

CALL 630-654-2084 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS