The Soap and Detergent Association

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STAIN REMOVAL CHART

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ADHESIVES	BABY FORMULA	BEVERAGES	BLOOD
BODILY FLUIDS	BROWN / YELLOW DISCOLORATION	CANDLE WAX	CHOCOLATE
COLLAR / CUFF Soil	COSMETICS	CRAYON	DAIRY PRODUCTS
DEODORANTS	DYE TRANSFER	EGG	FABRIC SOFTENER
FRUIT, JUICES	GRASS	GREASE, OIL	INK
MILDEW	MUD	MUSTARD	NAIL POLISH
PAINT	PERFUME	PERSPIRATION	PINE RESIN
SCORCH	SHOE POLISH	TAR	TOBACCO

Check for stain removal before adding to dryer. If stain remains, wash again. Dryer heat can permanently set some stains.

Stain	Treatment
Adhesive tape, chewing gum, rubber cement	 Apply ice or cold water to harden surface; scrape with a dull knife. Saturate with prewash stain remover or cleaning fluid. Rinse, then launder.

Baby formula	 Pretreat or soak stains using a product containing enzymes. Soak for at least 30 minutes or several hours for aged stains Launder.
Beverages (coffee, tea, soft drinks, wine, alcoholic beverages)	1. Sponge or soak stain in cool water. 2. Pretreat with prewash stain remover, liquid laundry detergent, liquid detergent booster or paste of powder laundry product and water. 3. Launder using sodium hypochlorite bleach, if safe for fabric, or oxygen bleach. NOTE: Older stains may respond to pretreating or soaking in a product containing enzymes, then laundering.
Blood	Fresh Stains Soak in cold water (do not use hot water as it will set blood stains). Launder. Dried Stains Pretreat or soak in warm water with a product containing enzymes. Launder. NOTE: If stain remains, rewash using a bleach safe for fabric.
Bodily fluids	 Pretreat or soak in a product containing enzymes. Launder using sodium hypochlorite bleach, if safe for fabric, or oxygen bleach.
Brown or yellow discoloration from iron, rust, manganese	Use a rust remover recommended for fabrics; launder. NOTE: Do not use a sodium hypochlorite bleach to remove rust stains because it may intensify discoloration

Candle wax	1. Scrape off surface wax with a dull knife. 2. Place stain between clean paper towels and press with a warm iron. Replace paper towels frequently to absorb more wax and to avoid transferring stains. 3. Place stain facedown on clean paper towels. Sponge remaining stain with prewash stain remover or cleaning fluid; blot with paper towels. Let dry. 4. Launder. NOTE: If any color remains, rewash using sodium hypochlorite bleach, if safe for fabric, or oxygen bleach.
Chocolate	1. Pretreat or prewash in warm water with a product containing enzymes. Or, treat with a prewash stain remover. 2. Launder. NOTE: If stain remains, rewash using a bleach safe for fabric.
Collar, cuff soil	 Pretreat with prewash stain remover, liquid laundry detergent or paste of powder detergent and water. Launder.
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Cosmetics	1. Pretreat with prewash stain remover, liquid laundry detergent, paste of powder detergent or laundry additive and water. Or, rub with bar soap. 2. Launder.
	2. Launder.

Crayon	For a Few Spots: 1. Treat the same as candle wax or dampen the stain and rub with bar soap, 2. Launder using hottest water safe for fabric. For a Whole Load of Clothes: 1. Wash with hot water using a laundry soap and 1 cup (212 g) baking soda. NOTE: If color remains, launder using sodium hypochlorite bleach, if safe for fabric. Otherwise, pretreat or soak in a product containing enzymes or an oxygen bleach using hottest water safe for fabric, then launder.
Dairy products	 Pretreat or soak stains using a product containing enzymes. Soak for at least 30 minutes or several hours for aged stains. Launder.
Deodorants, antiperspirants	Light Stains: 1. Pretreat with liquid laundry detergent. Launder. Heavy Stains: 1. Pretreat with prewash stain remover. Allow to stand for 5 to 10 minutes. 2. Launder using an oxygen bleach.
Dye transfer	 Attempt restoration of white fabrics that have picked up color from other fabrics by using a packaged color remover, following label directions. Launder. NOTE: If dye remains, launder again using sodium hypochlorite bleach, if safe for fabric. For non-colorfast fabrics, soak in oxygen bleach, then launder. NOTE: This type of stain may be prevented if proper sorting and laundering procedures are followed.
Egg	 Pretreat or soak stains using a product containing enzymes. Soak for at least 30 minutes or several hours for aged stains. Launder.

Fabric softener	 Dampen the stain and rub with bar soap. Rinse out, then launder.
Fruit, juices	1. Wash with bleach safe for fabric.
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Grass	1. Pretreat or soak in a product containing enzymes. NOTE: If stain persists, launder using sodium hypochlorite bleach, if safe for fabric, or oxygen bleach.
Grease, oil	Light Stains: 1. Pretreat with prewash stain remover, liquid laundry detergent or liquid detergent booster. 2. Launder using hottest water safe for fabric. Heavy Stains: 1. Place stain facedown on clean paper towels. Apply cleaning fluid to back of stain. 2. Replace paper towels under stain frequently. 3. Let dry, rinse. Launder using hottest water safe for fabric.
Ink	NOTE: Some inks in each of the following categories – ballpoint, felt tip, liquid- may be impossible to remove, Laundering may set some types of ink. Try pretreating using one of the following methods: *Prewash Stain Remover:* 1. Pretreat using a prewash stain remover. Launder. *Denatured Alcohol or Cleaning Fluid:* 1. Sponge the area around the stain with the alcohol or cleaning fluid before applying it directly on the stain. 2. Place stain facedown on clean paper towels. Apply alcohol or cleaning fluid to back of stain. Replace paper towels frequently. 3. Rinse thoroughly. Launder. *Alternate Method for Denatured Alcohol or Cleaning Fluid:* 1. Place stain over mouth of a jar or glass; hold fabric taut. 2. Drip the alcohol or cleaning fluid through the

	stain so ink will drop into the container as it is being removed. 3. Rinse thoroughly. Launder.
Mildew	NOTE: Badly mildewed fabrics may be damaged beyond repair. 1. Launder stained items using a bleach safe for fabric and hottest water recommended for fabric.
Mud	 When dry, brush off as much mud as possible. <i>Light Stains</i>: Pretreat with a paste of powder detergent and water, liquid laundry detergent or a liquid detergent booster. Launder.
Mustard	 Pretreat with prewash stain remover. Launder using sodium hypochlorite bleach, if safe for fabric, or oxygen bleach.
Nail polish	NOTE: Nail polish may be impossible to remove. 1. Try nail polish remover but do not use on acetate or triacetate fabrics. 2. Place stain facedown on clean paper towels. Apply nail polish remover to back of stain. Replace paper towels frequently. 3. Repeat until stain disappears, if it does. 4. Rinse and launder.
Paint	 Water-based Paint: 1. Rinse fabric in warm water while stains are still wet. 2. Launder. NOTE: Once paint is dry, it cannot be removed. Oil-based Paint and Varnish: 1. Use the same solvent the label on the can advises for a thinner. 2. If not available, use turpentine. 3. Rinse. 4. Pretreat with prewash stain remover, bar soap or laundry detergent. 5. Rinse and launder.

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Perfume	 Pretreat with prewash stain remover or liquid laundry detergent. Launder.
Perspiration	1.Use a prewash stain remover or rub with bar soap. NOTE: If perspiration has changed the color of the fabric, apply ammonia to fresh stains or white vinegar to old stains; rinse. 2. Launder using hottest water safe for fabric. NOTE: Stubborn stains may respond to washing in a product containing enzymes or oxygen bleach in hottest water safe for fabric.
Pine resin	 Sponge cleaning fluid into the stain; let dry. Mix liquid laundry detergent and ammonia; soak stain in the solution. Launder using liquid laundry detergent.
Scorch	NOTE: Badly scorched fabrics may be damaged beyond repair. 1. Launder using sodium hypochlorite bleach, if safe for fabric. Or, soak in oxygen bleach and hot water, then launder.
Shoe polish	Liquid Shoe Polish: 1. Pretreat with a paste of powder detergent and water. 2. Launder. Paste Shoe Polish: 1. Scrape residue from fabric with a dull knife. 2. Pretreat with a prewash stain remover or cleaning fluid; rinse. 3. Rub detergent into dampened area. 4. Launder using a bleach safe for fabric.
Tar	 Scrape residue from fabric. Place stain facedown on paper towels. Spongwith cleaning fluid. Replace paper towels frequently to absorb more tar and to avoid transferring stains. Launder in hottest water safe for fabric.

Tobacco	 Dampen stain and rub with bar soap; rinse. Pretreat or soak in a product containing enzymes. Launder. NOTE: If stain remains, launder again using a bleach safe for fabric.
Typewriter correction fluid	 Let stain dry thoroughly, then gently brush excess off with a clothes brush. Send to professional drycleaner and mention the type of stain.