



# Spot Removal GUIDE

**A Handy Tool for Removing Splashes,  
Spots and Drips on your Carpet  
& Upholstery**



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## The Spot Removal Guide

If you have ever stained, splashed or dripped something on your carpet or furniture, this chart was made for you. While we don't have all the answers, here is a guideline to help keep your carpets and upholstery spot-free.

Keep this guide handy for quick reference. When a spot or stain occurs, first and foremost, **ACT QUICKLY!** The longer a spot or stain remains in the carpet, the harder it is to get out.

Please follow the guidelines below when attempting to remove the spot or stain. A few words of caution: **ALWAYS DO A TEST SPOT REMOVAL** on a portion of carpet that is not normally visible. Be careful not to over-wet. **NEVER USE BLEACH!**



### Mixing Procedures

**Neutral Detergent:** 1 tablespoon of dish soap with 1/2 cup of cold water

**Acid Solution:** 1 tablespoon of white vinegar with 1/2 cup of cold water

**Alkaline Detergent:** 1 tablespoon of ammonia with 1/2 cup of cold water.



**Remember, these are safe methods of spot removal, but don't guarantee removal. If the spot is not removed, contact us today!**



## Colourfast Test For Ammonia

Please follow the guidelines listed below when using an ammonia based solution:

- Mix ammonia according to mixing procedures.
- **Test an inconspicuous area** (i.e. by the zipper on the cushions).
- Apply ammonia.
- Apply surface pressure with white cloth and observe if any colour transfer has occurred.
- If no colour transfer, it's safe to use.
- If there is colour transfer, we would recommend an **Aquamist** technician inspect the stain.



Remember, this colourfast test is recommended by Aquamist, however Aquamist Carpet Care Ltd. cannot be held responsible for any damages caused.



## Caution With Solvents

Here's an important point to keep in mind when using solvents:

- It is best to first apply solvent to a cloth and then use the cloth to transfer solvent to the carpet.
  - Overuse of solvents can delaminate the carpet from its backing.
- Aquamist Carpet Care Ltd.** cannot be held responsible for any damages caused.



# Common Stains Directory

Numbers correspond with one of the six procedures listed on the next page:

<p><b>A</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alcoholic beverages ..... 4</li> <li>Asphalt ..... 1</li> <li>Avocado ..... 4</li> </ul> <p><b>B</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Banana ..... 4</li> <li>Beer ..... 4</li> <li>Berry stains* ..... 6</li> <li>Berry stains* ..... 6</li> <li>Blood ..... 5</li> <li>Butter ..... 1</li> </ul> <p><b>C</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candle wax* ..... 2</li> <li>Candy ..... 6</li> <li>Carbon paper ..... 1</li> <li>Cheese ..... 5</li> <li>Chewing gum ..... 1</li> <li>ChickenCup'O Soup ..... 6</li> <li>Chocolate ..... 6</li> <li>Cocoa ..... 6</li> <li>Coffee ..... 4</li> <li>Cola ..... 4</li> <li>Copier toner ..... 1</li> <li>Correction fluid ..... 1</li> <li>Cosmetic cream ..... 1</li> <li>Cosmetics ..... 1</li> <li>Cough syrup ..... 6</li> <li>Crayon ..... 2</li> <li>Cream (dairy) ..... 5</li> </ul> <p><b>E</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Easter egg dye ..... 6</li> <li>Egg ..... 5</li> <li>Eggnog ..... 5</li> <li>Eye make-up ..... 1</li> </ul> <p><b>F</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faeces ..... 5</li> <li>Fish slime ..... 5</li> <li>Floor wax ..... 2</li> <li>Food colouring* ..... 6</li> <li>Fruit juice ..... 4</li> <li>Furniture polish ..... 2</li> <li>Furniture stain* ..... 2</li> </ul>	<p><b>G</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gasoline ..... 1</li> <li>Glue               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>airplane* ..... 3</li> <li>household ..... 5</li> <li>latex ..... 2</li> <li>white (Elmers)* ..... 2</li> </ul> </li> <li>Grape juice* ..... 6</li> <li>Graphite ..... 1</li> <li>Gravy ..... 5</li> <li>Grease ..... 1</li> </ul> <p><b>H</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hand lotion ..... 1</li> </ul> <p><b>I</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insecticide ..... 1</li> <li>Ice cream ..... 5</li> <li>Iodine* ..... 6</li> <li>Ink               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ballpoint pen ..... 1</li> <li>black India ..... 1</li> <li>magic marker ..... 6</li> <li>stamp pad ..... 6</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>J</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jam ..... 6</li> <li>Jelly ..... 6</li> <li>Jello ..... 6</li> </ul> <p><b>K</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ketchup ..... 4</li> <li>Kerosene ..... 1</li> <li>Kool Aid* ..... 6</li> </ul> <p><b>L</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lacquer ..... 3</li> <li>Lip gloss ..... 1</li> <li>Lipstick* ..... 2</li> <li>Berry stains* ..... 6</li> <li>Blood ..... 5</li> <li>Butter ..... 1</li> </ul>	<p><b>M</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make-up ..... 1</li> <li>Mascara ..... 1</li> <li>Mayonnaise ..... 1</li> <li>Metal polish ..... 2</li> <li>Milk ..... 5</li> <li>Mildew ..... 6</li> <li>Mud ..... 6</li> <li>Mustard* ..... 6</li> <li>Mouthwash ..... 4</li> </ul> <p><b>N</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nail polish* ..... 2</li> </ul> <p><b>O</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oil               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cooking ..... 1</li> <li>used ..... 2</li> <li>oxidized yellow veg ..... 2</li> <li>machine ..... 1</li> <li>motor ..... 1</li> <li>salad ..... 1</li> <li>suntan ..... 1</li> </ul> </li> <li>Ointment ..... 2</li> <li>Orange juice ..... 4</li> </ul> <p><b>P</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pepsi Cola ..... 4</li> <li>Perfume ..... 4</li> <li>Play Dough ..... 1</li> <li>Peanut butter ..... 5</li> <li>Potpourri ..... 6</li> <li>Paint               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>acrylic ..... 2</li> <li>aluminum ..... 2</li> <li>latex (dried) ..... 2</li> <li>latex (fresh) ..... 1</li> <li>oil-based ..... 2</li> <li>enamel ..... 2</li> <li>water colour ..... 6</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>R</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rubber ..... 2</li> <li>Red clay ..... 6</li> </ul>	<p><b>S</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soft drink ..... 4</li> <li>Salad oil ..... 1</li> <li>Suntan oil ..... 1</li> <li>Shellac ..... 2</li> <li>Shoe polish (liquid)* ..... 2</li> <li>Shoe polish (paste) ..... 2</li> <li>Soot ..... 2</li> <li>Spaghetti sauce ..... 5</li> <li>Starch ..... 5</li> <li>Syrup ..... 5</li> <li>Stamp pad ink ..... 6</li> </ul> <p><b>T</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tea ..... 4</li> <li>Tomato juice ..... 4</li> <li>Tar ..... 1</li> <li>Typewriter ribbon ..... 1</li> <li>Toothpaste ..... 6</li> </ul> <p><b>U</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urine ..... 5</li> </ul> <p><b>V</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vomit ..... 5</li> <li>Vegetable dye ..... 6</li> <li>Varnish ..... 2</li> </ul> <p><b>W</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wax* ..... 2</li> <li>Wine* ..... 6</li> </ul>
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Indicates spots that may be difficult or impossible to remove due to stains left by dye or pigment contained in the spotting material.



# The 6 Procedures

1

- Apply volatile solvent (varsol).
- Apply surface pressure (tamping) with absorbent towel.
- Observe transfer to towel,
- Repeat steps 2 and 3 until no more transfer is observed.
- Apply cool neutral detergent (dish soap).
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Apply cool alkaline detergent (ammonia).
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Rinse with cool water and blot with absorbent towel

2

- Apply volatile solvent (varsol).
- Apply surface pressure (tamping) with absorbent towel.
- Gently repeat until no more transfer is observed
- If colour remains, apply alkaline detergent (ammonia).
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Rinse with cool water when no more transfer is observed.

3

- Apply volatile solvent (varsol).
- Apply paint, oil, grease remover.
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Rinse with volatile solvent using tamping procedure.
- Apply alkaline detergent solution (ammonia).
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Rinse with cool water and blot with absorbent towel.

4

- Blot excess.
- Apply neutral detergent (dish soap).
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Rinse with cool water and blot with absorbent towel.

5

- Physically lift excess with end of butter knife and remove.
- Apply neutral detergent (dish soap).
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Repeat steps 2 and 3.
- Apply alkaline detergent (ammonia).
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Rinse with cool water and blot.
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Rinse with cold water and blot.

6

- Apply neutral detergent (dish soap).
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Apply alkaline detergent (ammonia).
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Repeat steps 3 and 4 until no more transfer occurs.
- Apply acid solution (vinegar).
- Apply tamping and observe transfer to absorbent towel.
- Rinse with cool water and blot.

**Vacuum Facts:** Vacuum cleaner bags, when 2/3 full lose 85% of their efficiency (i.e. change when 1/2 full). We recommend frequent vacuuming of both carpet & upholstery.



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