

Laundry 101



**Clothing Care
for Looking Good**

NAME _____

HOUR _____

Treating Stains

You don't want them around!

Learner Outcome: Students will realize that stains need to be removed immediately so they don't become permanent.

Introduction: Have you ever had a stain that wouldn't come out? It's probably because it wasn't removed right away and it sets in permanently. Heavy stains, those that will not come out with normal washing, need to be removed before washing the garment, or they will be around for the life of the garment. You can pre-treat heavy stains in a number of ways. Some need only soaking. However, many will need a stain remover that is applied directly to the stain and rubbed in a circular motion.

You can make your own stain removers by mixing water and detergent into a paste, or using a liquid detergent. For tough stains you may need to buy a ready-made stain remover. They come in fluid or solid forms. When you use ready-made stain removers, carefully read the instructions on the container before using it.

1. Why is it important to read instructions on ready-made stain removers?

2. If you spill something on a garment, why should you try to remove the stain right away?

3. Why is hot water not recommended for removing most stains?

4. What does it mean to "treat" a stain?

5. Some stains are almost impossible to remove. What might be the advantage of taking them to the dry cleaners instead of washing them yourself?

6. How might you remove light stains from an article of clothing before washing?

7. How do you pre-treat heavy stains?

