

## Mercurochrome

Mercurochrome stains are very hard to remove unless you treat them promptly. Proceed as follows:

**Denatured alcohol, glycerine, and laundering.**—First sponge the stain well with a liquid made of equal parts of alcohol and water. (On acetate rayon and colored materials use 1 part alcohol and 2 parts water). Next work glycerine into the cloth to help loosen the stain, and continue using as long as any color bleeds from the stain. Then wash well in soapsuds, and rinse with water to which a few drops of ammonia water have been added.

**Acetic acid.**—If a stain remains after the above treatment, apply 10-percent acetic acid with a medicine dropper; then rinse well in water.

**Bleaches.**—If the above treatments do not completely remove the stain, use a bleach.

**Javelle water.**—For stains on uncolored linen, cotton, or rayon, dip in Javelle water for 1 minute (no longer), remove the chlorine from the cloth with a sodium thiosulfate solution, rinse well in water. (See p. 6 for more detailed instructions.) Do not use Javelle water on silk or wool.

**Sodium perborate.**—Sponge with a sodium perborate solution (4 tablespoons of the perborate in a pint of lukewarm water) or dampen the stain with water and dust the powdered sodium perborate on it. Rinse thoroughly. Always test for the effect on the color of the cloth before using bleaches.

**Sodium hydrosulfite.**—This color remover is available at drug stores. It may be used safely on most white materials. Follow directions on the package.

## Metallic Stains

The tarnish of copper, brass, tin, and other metals often stains textiles. To remove, apply vinegar, lemon juice, or a 10-percent solution of acetic acid. Rinse well as soon as the stain has dissolved. Do not use chlorine bleaches or sodium perborate to remove these stains.

Mercury or quicksilver removes lead or solder stains from rugs or clothing. First scrape off as much of the lead as possible with a dull knife. Then pour mercury on the stain and work with a stick until the mercury absorbs the stains.

## Mildew

Mildew spots must be treated when fresh, before the mold growth has a chance to weaken the cloth.

**Soap and water.**—On washable material, soap and water will remove very fresh stains. Drying on the grass in the sun helps to bleach the spots.

**Bleaches.**—Try a bleaching agent if soap and water do not remove the stain. Be sure to test for colorfastness on a hidden part of the garment.

**Lemon juice.**—Moisten the stain with lemon juice and salt and place in the sun. This often removes slight stains.

**Javelle water.**—Old stains on cotton, linen, or rayon may be bleached out with Javelle water. Dip the stain in the Javelle water for 1 minute (no longer), remove the chlorine from the cloth with a sodium thiosulfate solution, rinse well in water. (See p. 6 for more detailed instructions.) Do not use Javelle water on silk or wool.

**Sodium perborate.**—Soak the stain in a sodium perborate solution (4 tablespoons perborate to 1 pint lukewarm water). Or dampen the stain with water and sprinkle the perborate powder directly on the stain. Rinse after either treatment.

## Milk and Cream

See Ice Cream, p. 18.

## Mimeograph-Correction Fluid

Follow instructions given under Fingernail Polish, page 15.

## Mucus

Soak in lukewarm salt water (about 2 cups salt to 1 gallon water) or in weak ammonia water (2 tablespoons ammonia water to each gallon water). Rinse well with cold water and launder as usual.

## Mud

Let the mud stain dry, then brush well. Sponge with clear water, or use soap and water if it will not harm the cloth. Spinging with alcohol will help to remove the last traces of the stain. On colored materials and acetate rayon dilute the alcohol—1 cup denatured alcohol to 2 cups water.

## Mustard

**Glycerine and soap and water.**—If the material is washable, work glycerine into the stain, rub lightly between the hands, and then wash the article in soap and water.

**Denatured alcohol.**—If water spots the cloth, sponge the stain with alcohol. Since alcohol makes some colors run, test a sample of the cloth to be sure it does not harm the color. On acetate rayon sponge with dilute alcohol—1 cup denatured alcohol to 2 cups water.

**Bleaches.**—Try one of the following, but use sparingly on colored materials and do not use on weighted silks.

**Hydrosulfite.**—Sponge with a hydrosulfite solution (2 teaspoons in 1 pint of warm water) and rinse quickly.

**Oxalic acid.**—Apply oxalic acid solution with a medicine dropper (see p. 7) and rinse well with clear water. Sponge with weak ammonia water, borax or sodium perborate solution, to neutralize the acid.