

Spotting (Pre-spot and post-spot) – Quick Reference Sheet






What is Spotting?

Spotting is the removal of stains from fabric either:






- **Pre-spotting** – Removing stains *before* dry cleaning to prevent them from setting due to heat and agitation.
- **Post-spotting** – Removing stains *after* dry cleaning if they remain.

Certain stains (lipstick, paint, glue, cuff and neckline soiling) must be treated before dry cleaning to avoid permanent setting.

IDENTIFYING STAINS & KEY SPOTTING PRINCIPLES

 LOCATION	 FEEL	 APPEARANCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Front of garment• Under arms• Behind legs• Hemline• Collar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hard?• Soft?• No texture?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shiny or dull?• Absorbed into fabric or sitting on surface• Discoloured or faded
 ODOUR	 COLOUR	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perfume• Chemical• Food smell	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Red/blue (ink)• Red/brown (blood)• Green (grass)	

KEY SPOTTING PRINCIPLES

-  Correct stain identification is crucial
-  Use wetside agents for water-based stains
-  Use dryside agents for oil-based stains
-  Apply minimal pressure when treating
-  Treat some stains before dry cleaning

Spotting equipment

<p>1. Spotting Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Made of stainless steel or glass top● Equipped with steam, air, and vacuum attachments● Main workstation for stain removal	
<p>2. Brushes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Used for mechanical action (tamping)● Available with soft or firm bristles● Helps loosen stains without damaging fabric	
<p>3. Spatula</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Flat, bone tool pointed at one end● Used to gently loosen stains● Must be used at a very flat angle with light pressure● Improper use can permanently damage fabric	
<p>4. Spotting Agents</p> <p>Spotting agents fall into two main categories:</p>	
<p>A. Wetside Agents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mixed with water● Used for water-based stains● Most common: detergent concentrate (10:1 water ratio)● Applied using a pressurized spray tank● Used for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Food stains○ Protein stains (blood)○ Dye-based stains○ Ink○ Tanning products	<p>B. Dryside Agents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Hydrocarbon-based (similar to dry cleaning solvent)● Must NOT be mixed with water● Used for oil-based stains● Common types:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Oily paint remover○ Adhesive remover○ Lacquer remover○ Amyl acetate○ Level-ol● Loosen oil and pigment and hold them in suspension until dry cleaning