

GUIDE TO REMOVING STAINS — LIKE A PRO —

Compliments of
Corporate Specialty Services Inc.



Get stains out quickly with items in your office cabinet

Let's face it, even though you try to protect the office carpet, mishaps occur and a spot or stain creates an unwanted blemish on an otherwise pristine floor covering. Don't panic!

When stains occur, call us right away to ensure the best outcome. However, for emergency spill situations, your office cabinet may contain the solution for dealing with common carpet stains, from coffee drips to red wine spilled at the office party.

The following are tried and true stain removers and methods to get rid of common office carpet blemishes, plus an additional tip for pet stains on your home or office carpet.

Most carpet today is treated with a stain protector, so many common spills can be removed if treated quickly and properly. However, even when these methods are used, there is a possibility that some of the spot or stain will remain. That is why you have Corporate Specialty Services! Let us know how you treated each stain and we will get to work. But remember...when in doubt, call us first.

416-391-1020 x23

Light, water-soluble stains

Light stains

Mix 2 tablespoons salt into a cup and add 1/2 cup white vinegar, then stir to dissolve the salt. Pour this solution on the carpet stain, let it dry, and then vacuum the area.

Coffee and tea stains

This is one of the most common stains at the office. Mix equal parts vinegar and water, then blot the affected area with the mixture. If this does not remove all of the stain, try the vinegar and baking soda solution outlined under pet stain removal below. It works on drink spills as well!

Vinegar and water can be used on a number of other water-soluble stains such as carbonated beverages (e.g. sodas), ice cream, milk, washable ink and berries.

Pet stains

Whether you have pets at the office or just at home, we know accidents occur. Here is our best advice on removing pet stains from your carpet using a simple solution of vinegar and baking soda. Like any good recipe there is an order to this solution: vinegar first and baking soda second.

Soak the stained area with vinegar and add just enough baking soda to cover it. You will see bubbles forming as the vinegar and baking soda react...this will not damage the carpet and is not dangerous. Think of these bubbles as scrubbing hard so you don't have to! Let the area dry for

up to two days before removing the powder that remains. The end result is a clean and odour free carpet!

You can also try club soda for urine if you catch this immediately. Use paper towels or a clean rag to blot up the fresh urine and then soak this area with club soda. Blot with a clean paper towel. Soak again with club soda and blot once more. Gently scrub the area with soapy water and let dry. If the area shows some residue of the stain, use the vinegar and baking soda recipe above.



White vinegar

Let's just say that white vinegar is a must have for stain removal! There are many quick recipes for vinegar-based cleaning solutions. These are a few that we love best.



Tougher stains

Dirt, grease and oil

For more difficult stains such as ground-in dirt, grease and oil, cornstarch is the hero. Add 1 tablespoon vinegar to 1 tablespoon cornstarch and mix to form a paste. Rub this paste into the stain with a clean, dry cloth. Let this paste set and dry (about two days) and then remove the remaining powder.

Don't have vinegar? Cornstarch can be used alone to soak up the grease and oil as a first measure.

No cornstarch at hand? Check your cabinet for WD-40. Really! Simply spray the stain and wait a few minutes for this degreaser to do its work. Then use soapy warm water to gently cleanse the area. Continue until the stain and any overspray of WD-40 are gone.



Cornstarch, WD-40 & grease-fighting detergent

For tougher stains, cornstarch is a handy solution along with these other grease-fighting agents.

Ink stains

It may sound crazy but using a milk and cornstarch paste can remove ink stains easily. Use a tablespoon of cornstarch and add just enough milk to make a paste. Apply the paste liberally on the stain and once the area is dry, brush off the dried paste and vacuum.

Blood stains

Act as quickly as possible when blood stains the carpet. Removing these stains may require determination and even our professional service but doing these simple steps will really help.

Cold water is best as it prevents blood soaking into the carpet fibres. Hot water will clot the blood. If you have Dawn® (or another grease-fighting detergent) or OxiClean® on hand these can be used to get most of the stain out. You will need a spray bottle to wet the stain area with either solution.

- Dawn®: add 2 tbsp. Dawn and fill the bottle with cold water
- OxiClean®: a little warm water is used to make a solution and then add cold water fill the bottle

For either method, spray on the solution and then use a dry white rag or paper towel to blot dry. Rinse the area with cold water. This process may need to be repeated a few times.

Office party mishaps

Red wine spills

That dark red spot on the office carpet during the party is not a good look. Here's how to give it a run for its money. Don't try to rub or blot the wet stain immediately, instead pour a bit of white wine on it to dilute the red colour. Next, get a sponge and a bucket of cold water, then gently clean the spot. Sprinkle the spill area with salt and let the salt do the work. After about 10–15 minutes (don't wait until it is dry), vacuum the formerly stained area.



Salt, white wine & beer

Call on these office party champions for quick clean ups.

Greasy food drops

When greasy food from that luncheon stains the carpet, combine 1 part salt to 4 parts rubbing alcohol. Use this solution to rub the grease stain along the direction of the rug's natural nap. Use just enough pressure to remove the stain but no more.

Ketchup spots

Treat the stain as promptly as possible when ketchup is spilled, as these blemishes are very difficult to get out of your carpet. First, gently scrape up any excess ketchup with a rounded spoon. Sprinkle salt over the red spots and let the salt work for about 5 minutes. Vacuum and then sponge up any remaining stain. Continue this process until the stain cannot be seen.

Coffee or tea

You may not have vinegar at an office party. So the next best thing you may have at hand is beer. Yes, beer. Pour enough beer to cover the stained area, then gently rub the beer into the carpet (do not scrub). It should work the first time, but if not, repeat a couple of times to remove all of the stain.

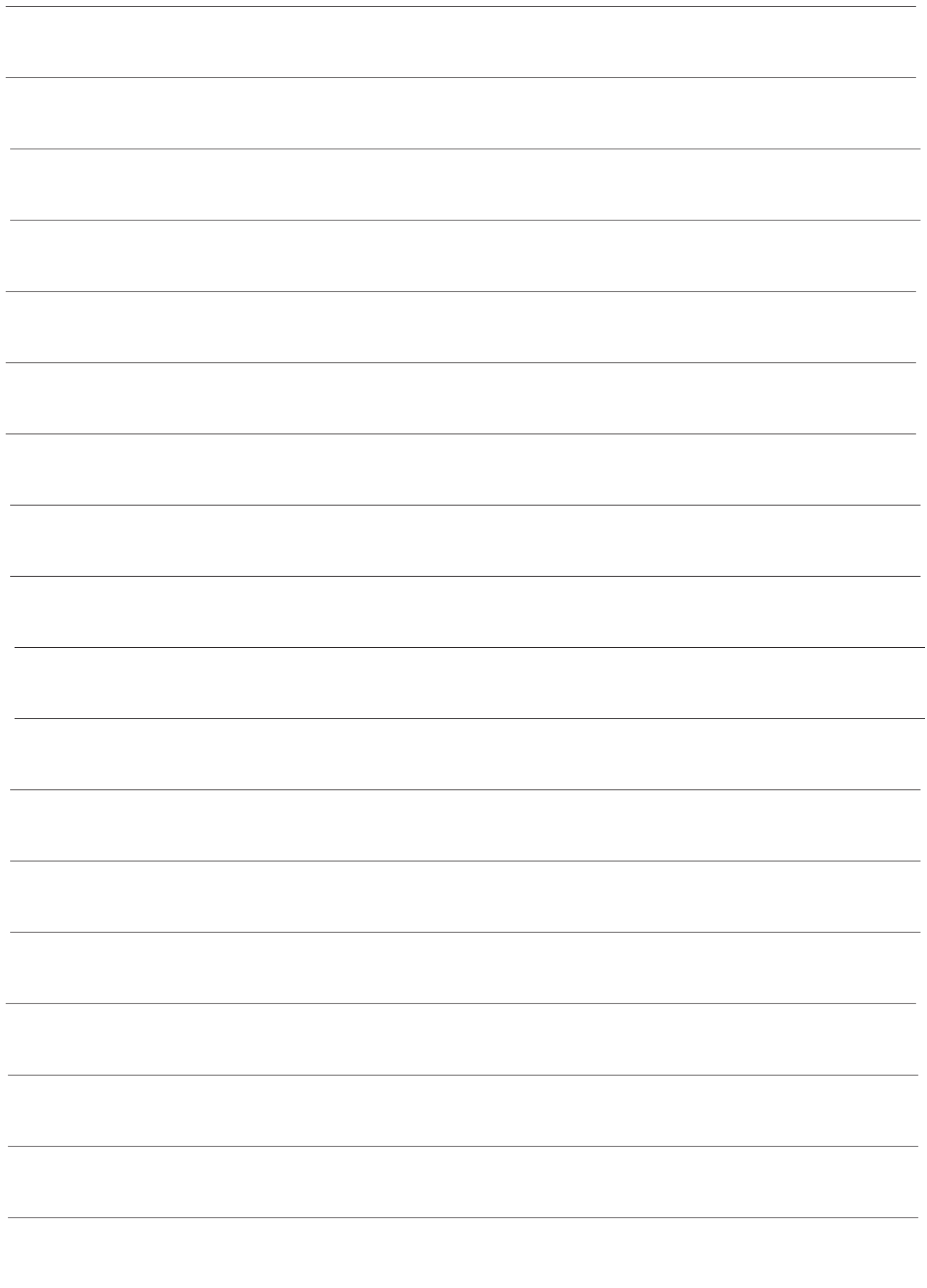


Disclaimer

The above quick stain removal techniques are meant to assist you in cleaning carpet stains prior to the arrival of **Corporate Specialty Services** cleaning staff. However, we cannot be held responsible for results of the above procedures. When in doubt, call us first!

Notes

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About Corporate Specialty Services

Your facilities are one of your most significant assets, as well as a reflection of your business. The care and maintenance of your carpets and floors, your furniture, your workstations as well as your kitchens and bathrooms are critical to ensuring the longevity of your investment. At Corporate Specialty Services, extending the life of these assets through expert cleaning and care is our primary focus.

Corporate Specialty Services has been keeping GTA facilities spotless since 1995. Founder and President Steve Martin has been in the service and cleaning industry for more than 25 years and knows that clients not only want good products, they want high-quality, reliable service.

Steve retains only highly-trained, certified and loyal technicians, some of whom have been with the company since inception. His focus is on long-term customer satisfaction and trust. Clients know they can just “pick up the phone and call Steve” for an emergency clean up or any other issue or problem.

Call us for a free estimate

1-888-278-2222 or 416-391-1020

or visit

www.corpspec.ca