

FASHION, SHOPPING & CARE™

The 3-Minute Newsletter for Men, Women & Teens

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Stain School & Care: Spring is Here

Stains 101 ● Swimsuit Care ● White Clothing

As we approach another summer, I thought it valuable to list the major care issue for the season!

Look at Stains Differently:

- ▶ Water-based spills from coffee, soda and wine usually have an outline around them like a road map.
- ▶ Oil-based stains from french fries, vinaigrette dressing and grease do not have an outline. (Never put water or club soda on oily stains and always dryclean these types of stains!)
- ▶ Water-based stains with color such as wine, chocolate, and coffee often require a two or three-step process to completely remove them. Speak to your drycleaner about this.

Caring for Swimsuits

- ▶ After swimming, rinse your suit well in clear water, without detergent. This removes most of the chlorine residue and salt. Many times, that's all your suit needs.
- ▶ If your swimsuit has lost its elasticity in the legs or straps, your drycleaner can probably replace it and save you a new purchase!

Keeping Whites White!

- ▶ Wash or dryclean blouses and slacks at the first sign of soil or stains. (Remember, bleach does not remove stains, it only masks them temporarily). Pollen requires drycleaning.
- ▶ Body oil, perspiration, and squirts from lemon can make white clothing dingy and deposit soil that will turn yellow over time. Point out all stains to your drycleaner and don't be shy!
- ▶ Dulling and graying can also occur if white and off-white clothing is worn more than once, without cleaning. Be sure to clean all clothing at the end of the season, even if you only wore it once!

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Building a Wardrobe: Formalwear Ideas!

It's the Season for Parties & Weddings!

Formal Weddings – Men

Events that go into the evening hours require a more formal attitude. Remember, darker colors tend to look more formal. Again, to survive the heat, keep things lightweight.

Choose tropical weight wools and natural fibers if possible. If you know you perspire more than the average man, then wear a cotton undershirt under your dress shirt to absorb the sweat. Even natural fiber socks like cotton (vs. nylon), will help you feel cooler. Charcoal grey or dove grey is a great alternative to black. Paired with lavender or pale blue, it looks very modern.



Formal Weddings – Women

Ladies, once again you have the advantage because you've got loads of options. For formal occasions, bring on the bling! There are so many dresses, suits and sportswear pieces with embellishment that would be great for a dressy affair.

Again, go for light fabrics like silk chiffon, silk faille, satins, charmeuse, or rayon georgettes. Linen, unless it's cut into a suit, feels a bit underdressed in this context.

Many times, the temperatures are unbearable outside, but inside, the air conditioning feels more like a freezer. So think about bringing a beaded shrug, embellished pashmina or wrap as a cover up. They add lots of sparkle and presence as well as keep you comfy.

- ▶ **Reminder** ... Formalwear needs special attention after wearing. Under bright light, check the collars, cuffs, front and seat. Cologne and perfume can stain clothing if not identified, located, and removed.



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