

Fashion, Shopping & Care™

The 3-Minute Newsletter for Men, Women & Teens!

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CLOTHING CARE
... with Steve

Stain School - Special Stains

Let's see ... last time out, we talked about lipstick and assorted cosmetics, and how they wash off our hands and face easily enough, but not so easily from our clothing. And most need to be "lubricated" to remove.

We also stated that many of these stains should be left to your drycleaner, especially when the stains are on "dryclean-only" clothing.

One such stain is *Pollen*. With all the pollen floating around this time of year (people with allergies will attest to this), and corsage season in full swing, here's some prudent advice ...

Problem

Pollen, which usually has a yellow-powdery consistency, is something we generally brush off our clothing. But, in most cases, we often drive the stain deeper into the fabric.

Do not use water to remove pollen. The yellow paste that forms can cause permanent staining.



Answer

If you catch the stain early, you may be able to use a blow dryer to remove most of the powder. Pollen can stain light and dark clothing, so if the garment is delicate or special, then *do not rub* the fabric, point out the stain to your drycleaner, and give them the first shot at removal.

Shopping Savvy - Saving Time ...

Buttons occasionally fall off and often break. When you shop, always check the sewing on each button and ask for extra buttons at the time of purchase, because three months later it will be too late to get more!

Steve Boorstein is an author, clothier, drycleaner and radio show host.

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FASHION & STYLE 411
... with Pascale



Building a Wardrobe: Men's Corner

Last issue we began a foray into men's clothing, beginning with the "Dark Suit," the always-popular crisp, white shirt, and the French cuff shirt for special occasions.

For the 30 to 40-something man, and with Spring upon us, it's time to think about the "casual" shirt as a statement. Men are wearing striped and printed shirts, with unbuttoned cuffs and shirt tails out (squared-off at the bottom). Don't be afraid to try it, be adventurous!

Ask for Help
If you don't see yourself dressing this way, then take your better-half shopping with you!

Men's Spring Trends 2005

Inspired by the Mediterranean, the color palette this Spring includes sun washed brights and lots of pristine white mixed with touches of Ethnic influences. Think sun-drenched beaches, swaying palm trees, and not a cold day in sight. Now that's a slice of paradise!

Trade in your rain galoshes for some flip-flops and just fly away! Men's fashion this season is all about an exotic holiday in the South of France, Ibiza, or Morocco.



► **Prints Charming** - Guys, go for bold native prints (from florals to batik prints). Look for strong patterns to show up on anything from shirts, to jackets and even pants. The rule is not to go overboard mixing patterns. Use complimentary solid colors to break up a really strong pattern. If the pattern is bold and bright, opt for neutrals to balance things out.

More on men's next issue. In the meantime, take your man shopping!

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