

FASHION, SHOPPING & CARE™

The 3-Minute Newsletter for Men, Women & Teens

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CLOTHING CARE ... with Steve

FASHION & STYLE 411 ... with Pascale



Stain School – School Clothing

It's back to school, so let's talk clothing care and kid's stains. French fry grease on the front of cotton shirts, bike grease on the lower leg of jeans and cords, food spills ...

If you want your kid's clothes to last, remember the rudiments: Water-based stains are removed by water, and oil-based stains (fries, bike grease) are removed by either special homemade stain removers or, better yet, by drycleaning. For better clothing, always use your drycleaner.

Basic Rules of Stain Removal

- Take 10 seconds to identify the stain before you react.
- Water-based stains usually have an outline around the edge. Oily stains usually have no outline and often look blotchy, especially after washing.
- Water and club soda can help to remove a water-based stain on kid's clothing, but you should never put water or club soda on *oily* stains.
- If the stain looks stubborn, then wash the item and air dry it. Do not put the garment in the dryer, as heat sets stains.
- Be patient: If the stain improves, then repeat the process.
- Bleach does NOT remove oily stains, so please don't try.

Shopping Savvy – Saving Real Time

Shopping for Kid's Clothing

- If you want to keep kid's white clothing white, make sure that the garments can be washed as well as drycleaned.
- When buying clothing with buckles, hooks, clasps and zippers, be sure to look closely at the quality and test them before leaving the store. Kids can be tough on such items!

Steve Boorstein is an author, clothier, drycleaner & radio personality

Building a Wardrobe: Back to School

School Clothing

Yep, it's already that time of year. So, put away your sunscreen and get ready for Fall's must have list. When it comes to gearing up for back to school shopping, you should have a clear plan.

Rule #1

Avoid Shopping on Holiday Weekends. If you loathe gridlock in parking garages and can't deal with huge crowds, then stay away from the mall on holiday weekend. You'll be miserable and will have pretty grumpy kids on your hands.

Many stores open early or close late, so use the same rules of the beach: "Go early, stay late!" Places like Target open at 8:00 am and close at 10:00pm. Wal-Mart stays open until 11:00 pm. The other option is to head to the mall on a regular weekday, when the stores are pretty empty.

Rule #2

Make a list in order to stay on schedule before you head out. Also, consult with your school about any special supplies, dress codes or uniform needs your child may have. Many stores now have an in-house "uniform" department where you can find generic white shirts, cardigan sweaters and khaki's.



Back to School Must-Haves: Girls

Bohemian Rhapsody: Yes, the bohemian vibe is back for Fall. Think broomstick skirts, lots of embroidery, poncho's, patchwork and peasant looks.

Corduroys Rule! From pinwale to wide Wales, corduroy is shaping up as the hottest fabric for back to school.



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