

How to Clean that Art Stain

Washable Markers:

Rinse stains from the fabric with cold water until no more color is being removed. Place fabric on paper towels and saturate with rubbing alcohol using a cotton ball to blot the stain. Replace the paper towels as often as needed. Wash in hot water with laundry detergent and bleach for colored clothing and rinse in warm water.

Watercolor Paint:

1. Before laundering, rinse the stain from fabric with hot water until no more color can be removed.
2. Wash in hot water with laundry detergent for about 12 minutes (heavy soil cycle). Do not put the garment in the dryer.
3. Soak in a solution of OxiClean or Clorox 2® according to the instructions on the container for one hour. Let the garment air dry.
4. Repeat laundering should remove any residual stains. Do not heat-dry between washings.

Crayons:

Scrape off as much crayon as possible. Apply liquid dish soap and work into the stained area. Let stand for a few minutes, rub fabric under warm water to remove the stain. Machine wash using the heavy soil setting and the hottest water the fabric will allow with OxiClean or Clorox 2. Allow to air dry. Repeat as needed.

ALTERNATE SUGGESTION: Amodex Ink & Stain remover should be used per the manufacturer's directions. Available by calling 1-800-624-7367 or www.Fahrneyspens.com or Amazon.com.

Dryer Drum: Wipe the stained area with paper towels to remove as much crayon as possible. Use Mr. Clean Magic Eraser per the manufacturer's direction. Clean, dry rags can be placed in the dryer and ran through a cycle to remove any remaining stain. Repeat as needed.

Acrylic Paint:

Option 1: Arrange your stained clothing over a sink or basin.

1. Pour isopropyl alcohol directly on the stain, so the liquid soaks through and drips into the basin below.
2. After soaking the stained area, use a spoon or blunt knife to scrape the paint. Try to get as much off as you can at this stage. Scrape back and forth, both with and against the grain of the fabric.
3. Rinse the stained area, removing the alcohol.
4. Examine the stain for any lingering paint flecks.
5. If the paint is gone, wash the clothing in your washing machine as usual.

Option 2:

1. Arrange your paint-stained garment over a sink or basin.
2. Spray hairspray thoroughly over the stained area, soaking the fabric.
3. Check the paint to see if the hairspray has softened it enough that you can peel an edge off the surface of the fabric.
4. Work quickly to peel away as much of the softened paint as possible.
5. Rinse the garment in cool water.
6. Check to see if any paint flecks remain. You might be able to scrape these remaining bits away with your fingernail.

Tempura Paint

Get rid of any excess from the garment

Once you have removed as much paint as possible with a spoon, go over the area with a clean cloth to remove any remaining particles. If you cannot reach all the paint, use a toothbrush to brush off the rest of it.

Pretreat the stain with heavy-duty liquid detergent

Wet the stained area and apply a small amount of heavy-duty liquid detergent to it. Scrub it with your fingers or an old toothbrush, then let it sit for 10 more minutes.

Soak fabric in a dilute solution of all-fabric powdered bleach

If your clothes are white or a light color, you can use all-fabric powdered bleach to get out tempera paint stains. It's important to check the label on your clothing to make sure that it is safe to use bleach.

If is not safe to use bleach, blot the stain with white vinegar

Pour vinegar directly onto the stain and allow it to soak for several minutes then add more vinegar if necessary to completely cover the stain. Reapply vinegar until all color is removed.

Wash as usual

Launder the garment using the hottest wash temperature as instructed on the garment care label.

Pens/Permanent Markers

Place the stain face down on clean paper towels. Sponge rubbing alcohol into the area around the stain, and then apply it directly to the stain. Continue sponging the stain with alcohol, transferring as much ink as possible to the paper towels, and replacing the towels as needed. Rinse thoroughly and launder.

Clay

Place the stain face down on clean paper towels. Sponge rubbing alcohol into the area around the stain, and then apply it directly to the stain. Continue sponging the stain with alcohol, transferring as much ink as possible to the paper towels, and replacing the towels as needed. Rinse thoroughly and launder.

Oil Pastels

Scrape off as much oil pastel as possible. Use ice cubes to chill the oil pastel making it easier to scrape away. Saturate a cotton ball with rubbing alcohol and blot the stained area. If stain persists, rub liquid dish soap into the stain and wash as normal.