Principles of pre-spotting

For all kind of pre-spotting chemicals

primus
laundry equipment

PrimusSoftWash.com

Required materials

- Pre-spotting table in stainless steel with two areas :
  - Operation area
  - Aspiration area
- Water gun (for rinsing the chemicals)
- Air gun (for drying the fibres)
- Steam gun (for heating the chemicals)
- 3 silk brushes with short bristles (in different colours : blue - yellow- green)
- A spatula with rounded borders

3 categories of stains

Stains are classified into 3 main categories, according to their origin:

- Human or animal stains
- Plants or grass stains
- Chemical and synthetic stains

Some exceptions occur when the stains originate by a combination of any of the 3 categories above***

The different stains

+ Animal

- Blood
- Sweat
- Urine
- Sperm
- Milk
- Eggs

+ Vegetable

- Grass
- Fruits
- Coffee
- Tea
- Tobacco
- Flowers
- Red wine
- Chocolate
- Cocoa
- **Some inks*****
- **Ketchup*****
- Curry
- Rust

− Synthetic

- Oil
- **Make-up*****
- Fat
- Ink
- Paint
- Glue
- Chewing-gum
- Pencil
- Candle
- Graphite oil
- Wax
- Pen

+ : reacts positively with water
- : reacts negatively with water

The chemicals

A complete range of commercial spotting products (Seitz, Kreussler, Bufa etc)

- Ammonia
- Perborate
- Hydrosulphite

Basic chemicals are divided into 3 groups according to their pH level, and are differentiated by the **colour.*****

Blue = pH >7
Yellow = pH < 7
Green = “solvent” based

Organizing the chemicals

BLUE: ALCALIN (Ph>7)

- Product N°1=

  corresponds* to blood, regardless of the chemical makers (Seitz, Kreussler, Bufa)**

- Product N°2 =

  Ammonia*

  (if the ammonia is 12%, it is **required*** to mix 200ml of ammonia + 300 ml of water)
  (if the ammonia 25%, it is **required*** to mix 100ml of ammonia + 400ml of water)

Organizing the chemicals

YELLOW : ACID (Ph<7)

- <u>Product N°3:</u>

  corresponds* ** to coffee, regardless of the chemical makers (Seitz, Kreussler, Bufa)

- <u>Product N°4:</u>

  corresponds* ** to rust regardless of the chemical makers (Seitz, Kreussler, Bufa)

Organizing the chemicals

GREEN : solvent based

- Product N°5:
  corresponds* to varnish, oils and grease

- Product N°6:
  corresponds* to ink

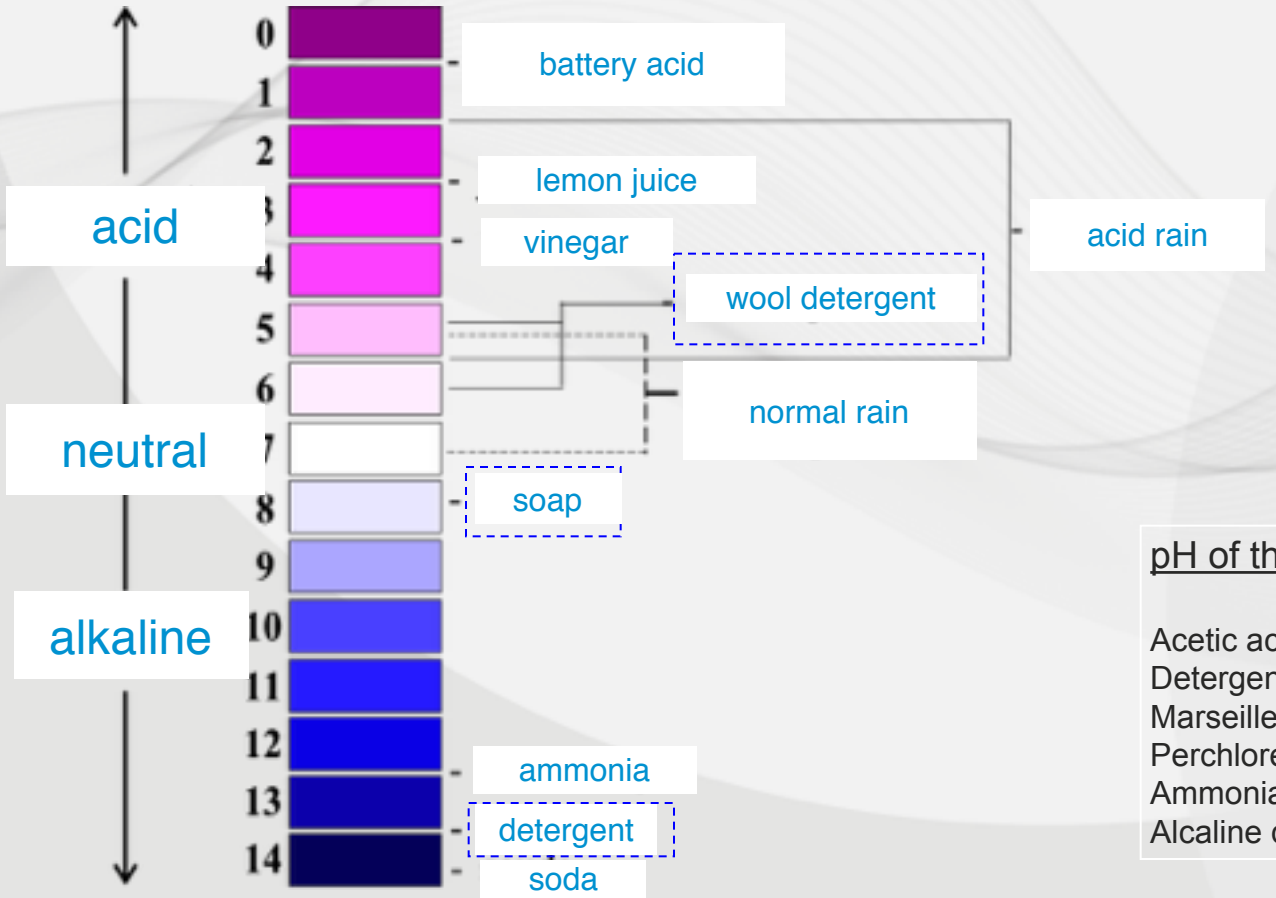
Example of product range***

1 Blood
2 Ammonia
+ blue brush

3 Coffee
4 Rust
+ yellow brush

5 Grease
6 Ink
+ green brush

The pH scale***



pH of the products in use

Acetic acid	→ pH	2
Detergent for wool	→ pH	5,5
Marseille soap	→ pH	7
Perchloréthylène	→ pH	8
Ammonia (alcali)	→ pH	12
Alcaline detergent	→ pH	13

The Procedure

- Pre-spotting requires **patience and perseverance**. **Rushing*** ** does not bring always the desired result.
- Mechanical action needs to be avoided. With proper use of chemical action from the different stain removers, very good results **can be*** ** obtained without damaging the fibres.
- Mechanical action may "break" the fibres (silk, viscose) or **damage*** ** "the spacing" between the fibres.
- Never leave a stain remover to dry on a textile more than 15 minutes, otherwise it may leave traces on the garment.
- In each situation it is necessary to carry out a preliminary check
  - ✓ Type of fibre on which there is a stain (natural - artificial - synthetic). Some chemicals are not compatible with some fibres.
  - ✓ We must pay special attention to **coloured*** ** garments made of natural fibres (cotton, linen, silk) or artificial fibres. The risk is **fading of the fabric*** **. It is necessary **to test on*** ** a hidden area of the garment.

The Procedure

In case of stain of unknown origin :

1. Wet the stain with water
2. Use the blue products with the blue brush

If the stain does not disappear

3. **Rinse the stain with water**
4. Use the yellow products with the yellow brush
5. Heat the stain with the steam gun (>40°C)

If the stain is still there

6. **Rinse the stain with water**
7. Use the green products with the green brush
8. Heat the stain with the steam gun (>40°C)

ATTENTION : Rinse well before using the next product ***

Different products / different applications

- **The “blue” range** works very well and is very economic

Product 1: possible to use on all fibres

Product 2: not to be used on wool

- **The “yellow” range**

Product 3: possible to use on all fibres

Product 4: works well on mineral stains (rust, copper, metallic, etc)

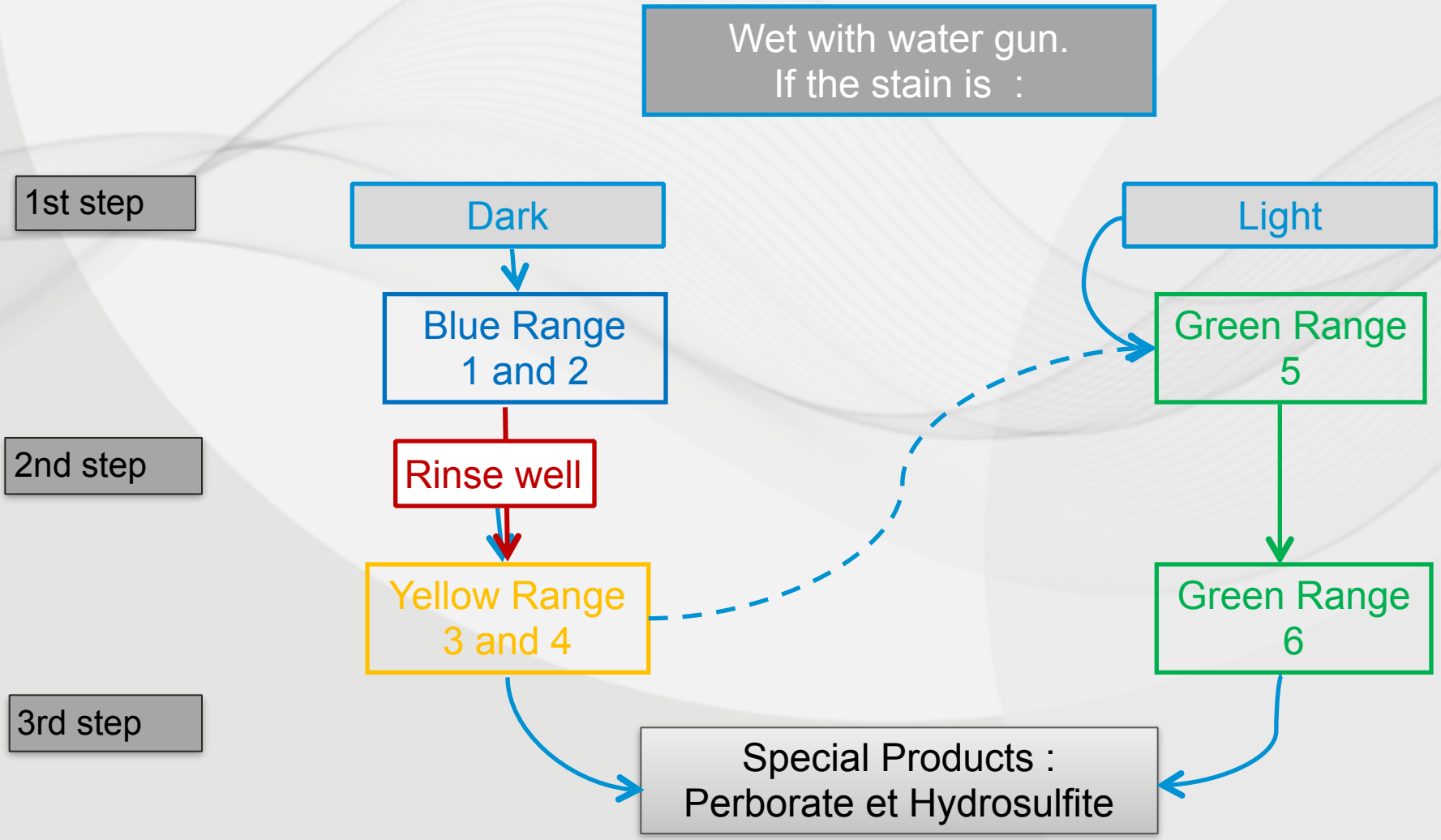
- **The “green” range**

Product 5: do a preliminary test on acetate, as it might contain acetone

Product 6: works well on ink stains. Possible to retrieve it with absorbing paper

In general, products 5 and 6 are not to be used on acetate or triacetate.

Pre-spotting scheme



Special Products

- **Hydrosulfite** whitening agent. To use in case of colour transfer.
- **Perborate** tannin stains on white garments.
- **Acetic Acid** can be used in order to lower the pH of the bath and to limit the colour transfer

Example of Seitz specific products

- **Ruol** reducing agent for bleaching.
- **Blankotex** for removing vegetables stains
- **Burlanaol** to remove running colours
- **Lipassol L** for blood and albuminoids and old greasy stains that **have become*** ** oxidized
- **Colofix** fixing and equalizing strong colours, colours stabilizer, protecting colours from graying

How to use Hydrosulphite

Whitening agent

Use in case of a discoloration garment.
It allows to recover situations of colour transfers in 80% of the cases.
Dosage : 5 to 10 gr per litre of water.
Packaging: 1kg jar

How to use it:

Use a bowl of 15 l (to leave space for the garment to be comfortable) and let the garment soak with hot water >40°C and one glass of hydrosulfite.

Leave it a few minutes and check the reaction. If it is only the spot of colour transfer that comes away, leave it **soaking for longer*****. In case you notice that the colour of the garment seems not to be stable, ******remove** the garment immediately and soak it with warm water.

How to use Sodium Perborat

A little-known Oxygenated bleach agent***

How to use it:
Test before. Wet, put some powder on the **area*****,** leave, spray, rinse and dry.
In case of spots of **tannin******* on white garments:
Place some perborate powder over the stain, add steam to increase temperature, work out the stain with a spatula, leave it.
Rinse out and check.
Repeat the operation if necessary.

Warning:
Perborat removes all the natural colour. Do not use on wool.
If **paint is found******* on acetate then use perborat in a basin of hot water for 1 day.

Special fibres

Special fibres require to be handled with special care

- Polypropylene : special attention to this fibre because it contains a softening agent which has a tendency to disappear with time and cleaning (2 or 3 years). This will create noticeable shrinkages
- Moiré textiles in natural fibre (silk) and viscose, are not suitable to be pre-spotted with water
- On textiles with metal fibres incorporated, do not apply acid chemicals or **anti-rust*****,** and avoid mechanical action.
- **Beware of***** waxed garments (fishing or hunting garments): **can lead to a partial**** or complete removal of wax by products containing solvents (acetone, amyl acetate etc.).