



# The Whitehursts'

## Dry Cleaning News

Ready to Wear. Every Time. Guaranteed!

MARCH 2023



Mark and Family David and Sherry

## Spring Cleaning Tips – Truth and Consequences

“Spring” is not a dirty word except when it's used with “Spring Cleaning.”

Spring means there is work to be done around the home. We have some tips to help you remove the dirt and stains in the Spring, starting with Upholstered Furniture and Draperies.

### Upholstered Furniture

Since the fabric covering your upholstered furniture can't be removed, you must clean the fabric while on the furniture. Cushions can sometimes be removed from their covers and cleaned. However, re-inserting the cushions may result in an improper fit.

Upholstery fabrics are made from numerous varieties of fibers or fiber blends, and many include latex or similar coatings on the reverse side. Such coatings give the fabric extra body, stabilizes the weave, and prevents shallow seams from unraveling during use. Each of these factors can affect how effective your cleaning efforts will be.

Knowing how to clean a fabric-covered couch means knowing how to remove stains. You can use a commercial cleaner, or you can make your own cleaners from natural ingredients you have in the kitchen. A home remedy for removing fabric stains from upholstered furniture is to mix 1/4 cup vinegar, 3/4 warm water and 1 tablespoon of dish soap. Put in a spray bottle. Mist the soiled area. Scrub with a soft cloth until the stain lifts. Use a second cloth moistened with clean water to remove the soap. Dry with a towel.

When trying a new stain removal formula,

always test an inconspicuous area of the upholstery before using any of the methods to test for colorfastness. Also the above suggestions do not apply to leather and synthetic furniture.

### Draperies

Draperies are often left hanging for years before they are cleaned. Since draperies serve as an air filter inside the home, over time soil and dust will accumulate in them. Outside atmospheric dirt and gasses can also soil the drapes. To help with this, replace your HVAC filters regularly.

One way to protect your draperies from airborne contaminants is to vacuum them using the upholstery attachment at least annually.

There are three main challenges when cleaning drapes:

**Fabrics degradation** – Determine if the drapes, including the lining, can withstand the cleaning process. Exposure to sunlight, moisture, and changing temperatures lead to fabric damage in the drapes. Careful inspection and slightly stressing the drapes can usually answer that question. Slightly pulling on two sides of the fabric and lining about six inches apart will give you a good idea about the fabric strength.

**Water stains** – These result from condensation on the window, humidity, or even spilled liquids causing the soils to disperse, leaving a stained area. Moisture can also displace drapery sizing. After the moisture evaporates, a ring or streak may be

noticeable because solvent-soluble soils will be removed.

**Yellowing** – Over time drapes will yellow throughout or sometimes only in certain areas. Most fibers have a natural tendency toward slow oxidation and yellowing both from aging and from atmospheric exposure. Fabric used to cover a window is exposed to both direct and indirect lighting causing discoloration. Some fabrics are treated with sizing or finishes to impart body. These treatments may cause the fabric to oxidize and yellow with age.

We can often get water stains out of drapes, but only if the drapes can withstand the process. Removing yellowing and discoloration are possible but requires skill and a little luck. Allow us to inspect your drapes to determine if stain removal is possible (even if you want to clean them yourself).

The TRUTH is, you can try to remove stains and discoloration in these household fabrics but be careful because there are CONSEQUENCES. At the same time, we can't remove all stains, but if anyone can, Champion Cleaners can.

*David*

Any comments? Email me at [David@ChampionCleaners.com](mailto:David@ChampionCleaners.com)



## “Did You Know Where This Saying Came From...”

### CAN'T DO SOMTHING TO SAVE MY LIFE



**Meaning:** “Can’t do something to save your life” is a hyperbolic way of saying that you’re completely inept at something. It’s typically used in a self-deprecating manner or to indicate reluctance to carry out a task requested of one.

**Example:** “Don’t pick me – I can’t draw to save my life.”

**Origins:** Anthony Trollope first used this expression, in 1848 in Kellys and O’Kellys, writing, “If it was to save my life and theirs, I can’t get up small talk for the rector and his curate.”

### TURN A BLIND EYE



**Meaning:** To “turn a blind eye” to something means to pretend not to have noticed it.

**Example:** “She took one of the cookies, but I turned a blind eye.”

**Origins:** Interestingly, this expression is said to have arisen as a result of the famous English naval hero Admiral Horatio Nelson, who, during the Battle of Copenhagen in 1801, is alleged to have deliberately raised his telescope to his blind eye, thus ensuring that he would not see any signal from his superior giving him discretion to withdraw from the battle.

### FAT CHANCE



**Meaning:** We use the expression “fat chance” to refer to something that is incredibly unlikely. Bizarrely, and contrary to what one might expect, the related expression “slim chance” means the same thing.

**Example:** “We might win the Lottery.” “Fat chance.”

**Origins:** The origins of this expression are unclear, but the use of the word “fat” is likely to be a sarcastic version of saying “slim chance”. A similar expression is “Chance would be a fine thing”, which refers to something that one would like to happen, but that is very unlikely.

### CHAMPION CLEANERS

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## FREE DRY CLEANING AND LAUNDRY PICKUP AND DELIVERY

### Service Options (within our service area)

- Regular Twice-A-Week Pickup and Delivery
- One Way Service (you drop off and we deliver - or vice versa)
- On Demand - Call us for a pick up and we do the rest

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#### Rocky Ridge Cleaning Center

2548 Rocky Ridge Road Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

205.824.7737

#### Greystone

5363 Highway 280, Hoover, AL 35242

205.408.2797

#### Calera Cleaning Center

4204 Highway 31 Calera, AL 35040

205.668.4727

#### Crestline

42-A Church Street, Mtn. Brook AL 35213

205.871.2962

## St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day commemorates the life of one of Ireland's patron saints and many Americans with Irish ancestry remember him on March 17th.

St. Patrick's Day celebrations concentrate on Irish themed parties, drinks and food. People celebrate often wear green clothing and many consume food and drinks dyed green. Irish pubs often hold special events or promotions. Big cities celebrate with parades, while other cities dye their water green.



St. Patrick's Day is not a federal holiday in the U.S. Schools and businesses are open. Most common symbol of St. Patrick's Day is the shamrock or four-leaf clover. This is associated with good luck.

St. Patrick's Day falls on Sunday, March 17, 2019.

### WE RECYCLE HANGERS

**Did you know that there is a  
hanger shortage in the USA?  
And did you know that we  
recycle hangers?**

Rather than throw them out to be taken to the land fill, please return your unneeded hangers and we will reuse your hangers. We would appreciate if you would sort them into like kinds to help with this conservation effort.



**WE ARE AN  
OFFICIAL  
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ATHLETICS**



2548 Rocky Ridge Road  
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United States



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## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2023

### Beside the normal stuff, we also clean:

- Wedding Gowns
- Area Rug Cleaning
- Suedes and Leathers
- Purses, luggage and backpacks
- Ugg Boots
- Wash Dry & Fold
- Alterations

### And we do...

1. We are a Wedding Gown Specialist
2. We restore textile, electronics, art, and collectibles when by damaged by smoke, fire, water, and mold.
3. Home and office dry cleaning pickup and delivery
4. Wash Dry & Fold service - including Champion Hamper service

## St. Patrick's Day Jokes

▶ **Tom:** What do you get when you cross a four-leaf clover with poison ivy?



**Pee Wee:** I don't know.

**Tom:** A rash of good luck on St. Patrick's Day.



▶ **David:** Mom, I met an IRISH BOY on St. Patrick's Day.



**MOM:** Oh, really?

**David:** No, O'REILLY!



▶ **Jack:** On what musical instrument did the showoff musician play his St. Patrick's Day tunes?

**Ally:** I have no idea.

**Jack:** On his brag-pipes.

▶ **Joe:** Why shouldn't you iron a four-leaf clover?

**Bob:** Tell me.

**Joe:** You might press your luck!



## Time To Do This...

- ✓ Dig out and remove rotted or damaged fence posts, mailbox posts, overgrown shrubs or damaged shrubs.
- ✓ Remove winter-worn branches from trees and shrubs.
- ✓ Make your first application of spring fertilizer. Spread seed.
- ✓ Schedule small engine tuneups or perform tuneups after buying spark plugs, air filter elements, crankcase oil, two-stroke oil, gas stabilizer, fresh gasoline, lawnmower blade, string trimmer blades or line.
- ✓ Sharpen your shears, hoe and shovel, then pump up that wheelbarrow tire.
- ✓ As soon as the weather permits, by all means open your windows and start painting inside.
- ✓ Tidy up behind and under the dryer, then clean the dryer vent.
- ✓ Make room to store winter equipment and clothing by taking advantage of wasted spaces in attics, crawlspaces, closets and garage.
- ✓ Clean your coffeemaker with vinegar or scale-removal product sold at hardware stores.