



How To Remove Powerade From Carpet

Professional cleaners ultimate guide



Removing Powerade stains from carpets and upholstery can be particularly challenging due to the intense food dyes it contains, such as Blue 1 and Red 40.

These artificial dyes create the drink's vibrant, neon hues but also have a tendency to penetrate deeply into carpet fibers and upholstery fabric. Once absorbed, the dye molecules bind tightly to the material, making the stain highly visible and difficult to lift.

The longer the stain sits, the more likely it is to set permanently, so prompt action is crucial to preserve the appearance of the carpet or upholstery.

PRODUCTS

Actichem CTR

As Powerade contains vibrant synthetic dyes like Blue 1 and Red 40, you'll need a product specifically formulated to tackle dye-based stains. We highly recommend using Actichem CTR, a high-performance formula designed to neutralize and remove challenging stains caused by dyes and beverages.

This professionally developed solution combines advanced low pH compounds and reducing agents, making it highly effective at breaking down and lifting dye stains, as well as addressing other beverage marks and discolorations on carpets and upholstery.

EQUIPMENT

To remove powerade from carpet, you will need:

- Absorbent white terry towel
- Carpet Spotting Brush
- Actichem CTR
- Carpet Extraction Machine.



PROCESS

1. Apply Actichem CTR

Begin by generously applying Actichem CTR directly to the stained area. This high-performance stain remover is specially designed to break down and neutralise synthetic dye stains like those found in Powerade. Ensure even coverage, saturating the fibres to tackle the stain effectively.

2. Agitate the Area

Using a spotting brush, gently agitate the treated area by tamping (pressing and lifting the brush, rather than scrubbing). This helps to work the solution deeper into the carpet fibres or upholstery fabric, ensuring thorough contact with the dyes. Avoid excessive scrubbing to prevent spreading the stain or damaging delicate fibres.

3. Allow for Dwell Time

Let the Actichem CTR sit on the stain for approximately 10 minutes. This dwell time allows the active compounds to penetrate the fibres and loosen the dye molecules, making them easier to remove during extraction.

4. Extract & Rinse

Using wet extraction equipment, thoroughly rinse and extract the treated area. This step removes both the stain and the cleaning solution, ensuring no residue remains.

5. Treat Remaining Stains with Conquer O2

If any traces of the stain remain, repeat the process using Conquer O2, a powerful oxygenated stain remover. Apply Conquer O2 to the affected area, agitate gently, and allow it to dwell for 5–10 minutes. Then, rinse and extract again to remove the solution and stain residue.

6. Address Stain Shadows

If a faint stain shadow persists after the second treatment, reapply Conquer O2 to the affected area. Instead of extracting, gently blot the spot with a clean white cloth to remove excess moisture. Leave the area to air dry, allowing the oxygenated formula to continue breaking down the stain as it dries.

FURTHER NOTES

Alternative Step 1: Using Conquer O2 First

In cases where dye stains are particularly vibrant or difficult, Conquer O2 can be used in Step 1 instead of Actichem CTR. Conquer O2's oxygenated cleaning power works effectively to loosen and lift synthetic dyes like those found in Powerade. Follow the same procedure: apply the solution, agitate, allow dwell time, and extract. Actichem CTR can then be used in Step 5 for any remaining stains.

Using a Hot Oxyboost Solution for Synthetic Fibers

For synthetic carpets or upholstery, a hot Oxyboost solution can provide an extra boost of cleaning power. To prepare:

1. Mix 15g of Oxyboost into 1 liter of hot tap water.
2. Add 10–30ml of your chosen prespray solution and stir thoroughly.
3. Apply the mixture to the stained area immediately to prevent the solution from cooling.
4. Allow it to dwell for 10 minutes, giving the solution time to break down the stain.
5. Finish by thoroughly extracting and rinsing with wet extraction equipment.

This method is ideal for synthetic fibres, as the heat enhances the stain removal process without risking damage to the material.

Tackling Stubborn Stains with Actichem Red Fix

For particularly tough stains that resist initial treatments, Actichem Red Fix is highly recommended. This advanced stain remover is formulated specifically for persistent dye-based stains, ensuring even the most challenging Powerade marks are addressed. Use Red Fix as a follow-up treatment if other methods fail, applying it carefully and following the manufacturer's instructions.

Gentle Cleaning for Delicate Fibers and Fabrics

When treating delicate fibres or fabrics such as silk, wool, or fine upholstery, avoid spraying cleaning solutions directly onto the surface. Instead, dampen a clean white absorbent towel with the chosen spotting solution and blot the stain gently.

This method prevents overwetting and minimises the risk of damage or discoloration while still delivering effective cleaning results. Always test in an inconspicuous area first to ensure compatibility with the fabric.

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FURTHER RESOURCES

- [Actichem CTR PDS](#)
- [Oxyboost Plus PDS](#)
- [Conquer O2 PDS](#)
- [Actichem VDS PDS](#)
- [Spotting Guide](#)
- [Knowledge Centre](#)