



PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS

How to clean urine

Urine consists of 95% water, some trace minerals and non-soluble salt crystals. It's the salt crystals that cause the odor and stain and present the challenge in cleaning. Initial cleaning removes the water from urine, but the crystals bond to most surfaces. Without proper treatment, the stain will remain and the smell will persist.

What works best?

Many urine cleaning products simply mask the smell with perfumes. Once the fragrance wears off, the odor returns.

The most effective products to remove the smell and stain permanently involve two very different processes.

1. Enzyme neutralizing products, such as *Allsclean's* Breakdown, acts on the odor source by breaking the crystal bonds, allowing the odor and stain to be washed away. Enzyme based products work well on most—but not all—organic odors and stains. Most of the time they do a **satisfactory** job on urine. Enzyme based products serve a good **general purpose** stain and odor remover. Some, like Breakdown, can be added to a cleaning solutions to help deodorize urinals, diaper pails, toilets, trash receptacles, boat and RV bilges, septic pipes and other organic odors, such as odors from fecal matter and food.
2. A few highly specialized products, such as *Allsclean's* Urine Contamination Treatment (UCT), are formulized to chemically alter or change the urine bonds. (In other words, these products change urine chemicals into different chemicals.) This type of product works exceptionally well on all urine problems, but don't work well on other odors or stains. UCT is recommended for **urine contamination only**. If the problem is **only** urine odors and urine stains, UTC or products that change the chemical bonds are the solution.

Many commercial grade urine treatment products are concentrates. Read the manufacturers instructions.

General guidelines for cleaning urine

The faster you clean urine, the easier the task will be and the less likely that the urine will stain.

Generally, soak up urine by blotting with a paper towels. Don't rub, especially on a carpet as it may damage carpet fibers. Blot from the outside of the mess and move inward. Once the mess is contained and removed, go back and clean the area surrounding the initial stain. This will help ensure that you remove more of the sources of odor.

Liquid messes seep downward and outward so be sure to clean the area surrounding the visible stain.

On carpets and heavy upholstery: Follow the manufacturers directions, especially if it calls for **testing** the product before application. To absorb urine deep in carpet, step on towels or place a heavy object on towels. (You can also use a wet vac.) Blot area with paper towels. Replace wet towels with dry ones, as needed. If you can, lift carpet to get urine underneath. Trapped urine may result in mildew or carpet rot.

On clothing: Enzyme based products do not work well when added to laundry. UTC is formulated to be added to laundry. Separate urine soaked clothes from general laundry. Add laundry detergent and fabric softener as needed. Add one ounce (small capful) of UCT or two ounces for heavily soiled clothes. Wash clothes as soon as possible.

On walls: Spray with treatment and wipe clean. Paint will generally act as a barrier preventing urine from seeping into the sheetrock of the wall. However, sometimes it will soak into the wall or seep behind molding, causing the odor to remain. If this occurs, enzyme based products generally do no work. Spray with UTC and let it soak in. Reapply the spray and let it sit for 10-15 minutes. Rinse with water.

On concrete: Because concrete is porous, it absorbs liquids, making it difficult to remove urine and other odors. After cleaning up the urine, spray with enzyme treatment and let it soak in. Reapply the spray and let it sit for 10-15 minutes. Rinse with water. If the odor remains, repeat the procedure or use UTC.