

- Focus
- Health
- Living
- Arts & Fashion
- Bookshelf
- Food
- Parenting
- Travel & Adventure
- Mind Our English

**gooroo**

**Online tuition that works!**

- UPSR
- PMR
- SPM
- STPM



**gooroo.my**  
Education at a click

Sunday February 5, 2012

# Facts and fallacies

DRY cleaning is a misnomer, it seems. While the process got its name from the fact that it does not use water, a “dry-cleaned” garment actually does get soaking wet, explains Jeffrey Walmsley, owner and CEO of Jeeves Malaysia. It’s just that the fluid used is not water but rather, a solvent.

Another misconception is that dry cleaning is “better” than laundering. Not necessarily so, Walmsley says. “But it does have its advantages. For instance, it is very good for getting out oil-based stains while water, as you can imagine, is good for getting out water-based stains.”

Then there is the question of how often should a garment be dry cleaned, and is it really true that if you dry clean a garment often, it will “wear out”?

“That’s not true, it depends very much on the machine and solvent you use. It’s really all about balance. At the other extreme, there are people who clean a garment only twice in its life, not realising that oils and dirt and contamination from the air can damage it over time. And the longer those contaminants are there, the harder they are to get out,” he says, explaining that dry cleaners “love” to work on fresh stains.



Garments are inspected before being packed in acid-free tissue and a bag.

No, “fresh” doesn’t have to mean within the hour, it seems; anything less than a week is considered “reasonably fresh”, says Walmsley.

“The worst is when people have already tried to do many things to the stain. Like, when it has gone through three washes and been pressed with a hot iron. It’s so far gone by then. You really want to take your stain to a competent dry cleaner the first time. That’s the best chance of the stain coming out,” he says.

Meanwhile, what do you do if you spill something down the front of your favourite blouse?

Nothing. Well, almost nothing.

“The best thing you can do is to gently blot it dry – and don’t do anything else. No soda water, no milk, no white wine to get red wine out, nothing like that. Then send it to the dry cleaners. And never, ever rub silk. You can put that in underline in your story, because people make that mistake all the time. What’s the first thing you do when you spill food on that silk tie you are wearing? You get some water, grab a tissue, and then start rubbing. But that will cause abrasion damage and you’ll get a white patch on your silk tie,” he says.

As a (very) general guideline, structured garments like men’s suits should be dry cleaned. Garments that have lots of detailing and are difficult to finish should also be dry cleaned, as should silks, especially silk garments with more than one colour.

And remember, don’t cut the care labels off. More than 30% of care labels are inaccurate, but it’s still the first thing you (or your dry cleaners) should look at to serve as a guideline.

### Related Stories:

[Jeeves Malaysia - At your service](#)

### Dry Cleaning in Malaysia

Find a Dry Cleaner in Malaysia, Find Addresses, Phones, Maps  
[www.701pages.com/Cleaning-Service](http://www.701pages.com/Cleaning-Service)

### LG Home Appliances

Check Out The Top Range Innovative LG Washing Machine Now!  
[www.lg.com/Washing-Machine](http://www.lg.com/Washing-Machine)

### Laundry Machines / Dryer

High Quality Laundry Machine/Dryer Great Offer and Discount Prices !  
[www.foong-laundry.com](http://www.foong-laundry.com)

### Degreasing Equipment

Airless Vapor Degreasing Vacuum Vapor Degreasing  
[www.Serec-corp.com](http://www.Serec-corp.com)

AdChoices

Email This Printer Friendly SHARE [Facebook] [Twitter] [Email]

+1 0 Recommend 3

Source: **StarMag**

Contact Us

### More News

Lifeling Headlines [Go]

**Stops protease attack**  
**Repairs & Protects**  
baby's fragile skin

**Ezerra**  
extra gentle cleanser

For dry, itchy, irritated skin

- Most Viewed** | **Most E-mailed**
- Girls, not brides
  - More talk, more action
  - The fight against breast cancer
  - Jaspal jets off to Paris
  - Panasonic's beauty equipment
  - Music is her keys to happiness
  - Bridal bliss
  - Fighting the French anti-palm oil campaign
  - Dance conference
  - Tone and texture

**Latest Jobs** | Internship

- ✓ Assistant Architect
- ✓ Experience Draughtsmen
- ✓ Personal Assistant
- ✓ Purchasing Assistant
- ✓ Account Assistant

(Choose a field)

Latest from **Star PROPERTY**  
[www.starproperty.my](http://www.starproperty.my)

- Easing LDP traffic flow
- Houseowner committee welcomes DBKL's decision
- Legal tussle for Pusat Bandar Damansara buildings
- MBPJ's RM344mil budget
- Letter and permits on land-clearing tell different stories
- Bangsar residents crestfallen over commercialisation of Jalan Maarof
- Malton unit to develop Penang land
- Bumi Armada's green project

More | Property Search

**BEAUTICIAN SKILLED**  
BEAUTICIAN SKILLED in facial treatments, IPL & RF & Cavitation @ MidValley / LOT 10. Pleasant personality & sales skill. Basic + Com. Plan + ... [»more](#)  
**MyStarJob:** Jobs

**CHERAS TMN**  
CHERAS TMN Connaught Seri Cendekia 1150sf 3r2b nr UCST high return RM2xxk. 016-263 9089 / 92006100 E30555  
**StarProperty:** Apartments For Sale

**PULAU MERANTI**  
PULAU MERANTI Dengkil zoning industry, f/ h, Sepang 5ac for sale RM50psf. Interested call 03-58917061  
**StarProperty:** Land For Sale