How to Remove Stains on Vinyl Flooring

Vinyl flooring remains one of the most popular flooring options for consumers today. Vinyl floors trail only carpet in <u>terms of market share</u>. People keep coming back to vinyl flooring for a variety of reasons. Primarily, vinyl floors excel at being resilient. They are resilient against moisture and stains. However, stains do happen. Vinyl flooring is used in high-traffic areas of the home such as the kitchen and bathroom. These rooms have plenty of risks of spilling and staining the floor. Fear not, as there are many ways to remove stains on vinyl flooring. Many of the ingredients needed are found at home.

What is Vinyl Flooring?

Vinyl flooring is a type of floor that comes in many forms. Sheet vinyl flooring is a common choice. It comes in long, flexible sheets. Other forms of flooring include the increasingly popular luxury vinyl tile and luxury vinyl planks. They commonly resemble hardwood floors but can come in types that resemble ceramic.

Vinyl floors are notoriously resistant to liquids and moisture. Vinyl flooring, <u>if installed correctly</u>, is considered waterproof. Waterproofing is an advantage over vinyl's main competitor; laminate flooring. The waterproof aspect of vinyl makes it an ideal choice for rooms prone to spills like the kitchen and bathroom.

Vinyl is also durable and scratch-resistant. The durability depends on the thickness of the flooring. The thicker the flooring, the stronger the wear layer.

Vinyl floors are also an affordable option for the consumer. Vinyl ranks comparably to laminate flooring. However, both are significantly cheaper than hardwood and tile.

These waterproof and durable qualities make vinyl flooring a smart choice for the interior of any space. These qualities keep the floors looking new for longer. Eventually, wear and accidents can affect the way the vinyl floor looks.

What Causes Vinyl Flooring to Stain?

Stains on vinyl flooring will still occur on occasion. Most are preventable and are easy to clean.

Liquid spills like juice or wine can potentially leave stains on the flooring. If left unattended, the vinyl floor absorbs the liquid. To prevent this, wipe up the spills as soon as they occur.

The sun can also discolor the vinyl flooring after a while. If an area is exposed to consistently high heat the floor can fade. Rugs and curtains protect vinyl floors from sunlight.

Improper installation causes stains. Core damaging to the vinyl floor causes a yellowish-colored. This damage is permanent. Improperly installed vinyl flooring allows moisture to build up. Mildew can also build up as a result.

Professional installation is the best way to ensure the floors are installed perfectly.

Important Precautions

Vinyl floors are low maintenance and notoriously easy to clean. Water and a mop or cloth should always be the first step. Most likely that will cut it, but stubborn stains require cleaning solutions. Take a few precautions before tackling the stain.

A white cloth is always preferable over a colored one. A colored cloth can bleed through and stain the floor.

Try testing solutions in inconspicuous places to see how the floor reacts. This is helpful with strong cleaners like bleach or alcohol. Wipe a place that is out of sight like the back of a closet or under a piece of furniture.

Open up a window for ventilation. A lot of cleaning solutions are harsh and are potentially dangerous to breathe in.

Be gentle. Do not scrub hard into the stain. The solution should do most of the work. Deep scrubbing will only put the vinyl flooring at risk of getting scratched.

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Accidents do happen and the vinyl flooring could be the victim. There are plenty of solutions for cleaning up stains on the vinyl flooring. Many of these are household solutions. Although sometimes, vinyl-specific cleaners will be the best solution.

These methods work for all types of vinyl flooring. While sheet vinyl and vinyl plank flooring are different in some ways, they are cleaned the same way.

Vinyl Floor Cleaner

A cleaning solution designed specifically for vinyl floors is the ideal option to remove stains. There is no shortage of cleaning solutions on the market. Cheap vinyl cleaners can leave a visible residue. Those should be avoided.

Vinyl floor cleaners have instructions on the bottle, but they generally work the same.

Spray the stain thoroughly with the cleaning solution. Use a mop or clean rag to wipe up the stain. It is important to not leave the solution for very long as it can get sticky.

Be sure to use a clean mop or rag. The residue left on mop heads or rags can smear the solution and leave the floor looking hazy.

Water and Baking Soda

Baking soda is a versatile and beloved home cleaning ingredient. It is mildly abrasive and that will help cut through grime while not scratching the vinyl floors.

Mix baking soda with warm water to create a paste. Cover a clean rag with the paste and scrub the stain gently. It is important to be gentle with the vinyl floors so as not to leave scratch marks.

Vinegar

White vinegar or apple cider vinegar is another common household item that has wondrous cleaning properties. A vinegar cleaning solution is made with a cup of either type of vinegar and a gallon of water.

Soak a mop or cloth into the solution and wipe the stain.

Isopropyl or Rubbing Alcohol

Isopropyl alcohol is an effective solution for cleaning particularly stubborn stains. Isopropyl alcohol is a mild solvent. Solvents can dissolve certain substances. This makes it an effective cleaning solution.

Rubbing alcohol is a substitute for isopropyl. Rubbing alcohol is a less concentrated version. It can even be preferred as <u>a disinfectant</u>.

Rub the stain gently for a while. Rinse with water and check up on the stain. This process may take a few cycles for the alcohol to do its thing.

Dishwashing Soap and Water

Dishwashing soap is not exclusively useful for cleaning dishes. Dish soap can break down grime on most household surfaces.

Drop a few drops of dishwashing soap into a bucket of warm water. Mix the homemade solution and dip it in a cloth or sponge. Wipe the stain with a soapy rag or sponge. Rinse with water.

Bleach

Bleach is a powerful cleaning solution for any stain on any surface. Bleach is especially useful for stubborn stains.

Bleach is a good option if dishwashing soap and water could not remove the stain.

Never dump bleach straight out of the bottle onto a stain. Doing this will only stain the floor more. Dilute the bleach with water. Mix a cup and a half of bleach per gallon of water.

Wash the stain with dish soap and let it dry. Soak a rag in the bleach solution and leave it. Leave the wet rag for an hour to let the bleach do its thing. Rinse thoroughly afterward.

Preventative Maintenance

When it comes to a vinyl floor a good defense is the best protection. The top layer of vinyl flooring is known as the wear layer. It protects against scratches and stains. Taking care of the top layer of the flooring will allow it to stay strong against stains. Maintenance is easy and can be a part of any household cleaning routine.

Regularly sweep the floors with a broom and dustpan. The little bits of crumbs and crumbs can slowly break down the top layer of the vinyl flooring.

Use felt pads for the legs of furniture. The bottoms of furniture scratch the vinyl whenever it rubs against the floors. The felt pads protect against this damaging friction.

Welcome mats are a helpful tool for preventing outside dirt from entering the home. Fabric-backed mats are the best option. Latex and rubber mats can rub up against the vinyl flooring and are best left outside.

Clean up spills as soon as they happen. Doing this is the best way to ensure the liquids, no matter the type, do not get soaked into the floor.

Enjoy

Vinyl flooring is used by so many because it is a user-friendly option. The low maintenance quality of vinyl flooring and deep cleaning measures are a last resort. Water and a mop will clean up most stains on these floors, but it is helpful to know the alternatives. Take care of the vinyl floors so that stubborn stains are few and far between.

The best offense is a good defense when it comes to vinyl flooring.

How to Fix An LG Soundbar

So you went to binge a show and your worst nightmare has happened – your soundbar is not working. Whether you have just taken it out of the box or it has been ol' reliable you have noticed it has now disappointed you. LG sound bars are not cheap ranging from 100 dollars to thousands of dollars, so naturally, you expect the thing to work.

Fortunately, most of the reasons the LG soundbar would cut out are fixable yourself.

So, before you call this helpless object a series of obscenities and take to percussive maintenance consider following alone while troubleshooting these reasons why your LG soundbar may be cutting out.

There are many reasons why your LG soundbar is cutting out or not working entirely, varying from mechanical to technical issues. Problems include the fact that the issue could be the smallest wiring issue all the way to a fundamental flaw with your soundbar.

It is vital to **start small and work your way to more complex problems**. This will save you from the "oh, I'm an idiot" moment when you lunge to the most complicated conclusion when actually your cat loosened a wire. So, that is where we will begin.

Outside of checking whether the soundbar is even turned on, or plugged in then a loose wire or cable could be the culprit. Most people are not interested in proper cable management, so the back of your television probably looks like a nonsensical pit of snakes. It is possible that a cable got loosened and is not entirely plugged into the soundbar or the television.

Check that you have a solid connection. Be sure that every cable is where it should be. If you are unsure where exactly the cables should be inserted just **search the model of your LG soundbar + manual and you'll find clear instructions**.

Also, **check the integrity of the cables** that you are using. The cables that come with LG soundbars are good quality, but they may have been bent or frayed in the shameful mess of cords that we all tuck behind our entertainment systems.

If using old cables inherited from an older then upgrade to new ones.

This is the least you can check before moving on to see what else is causing the soundbar to keep cutting out.

If you primarily connect your soundbar by cable then skip this step.

If you connect your soundbar by Bluetooth and you find it is cutting out then there could be an **overload of Bluetooth traffic in your space**. Similar to when you try to make a phone call or send a text in a crowded area, like a festival, and the result is spotty. Your living room could be experiencing a similar issue.

Seemingly every device connects through the magic of Bluetooth these days from speakers to lightbulbs, so your connection to the soundbar specifically is competing with all the others. This can **cause a weaker connection** and the result is the soundbar will keep cutting out.

Try connecting your soundbar directly to the gizmo known as a cable. See if this stops the soundbar from cutting out.

The reason the soundbar keeps **cutting out could be the output settings on your TV.** It is possible that, for whatever reason, the output settings on your TV got changed or that when you first set up the soundbar you are playing the sound through a suboptimal setting.

One headache involved with combining soundbar and the television is that **every TV** is **different**, so there is no one way to describe how to toggle your settings. In general, going to the menu and going to any icon related to sound/speakers and **playing with output settings** is a decent start.

If the LG soundbar is not working at all, make sure to turn off your TV's audio output.

If the LG soundbar is still cutting out, **toggle your digital output settings**. A quick technical lesson in digital audio output will help make this clear. Essentially, in the settings, there will be two options, **auto, and PCM**.

PCM stands for "pulse-code modulation" and it is an uncompressed, interpretation of audio. It is **optimal if you play audio out of the speakers** of your TV which may have been the case before you moved to a soundbar.

In general, you do not want to use PCM if you are using a soundbar. PCM works best for outputs of less than two channels like TV speakers. LG soundbars are more than 2 channels, commonly 2.1 or 5.1 channels. So, make sure your digital output setting is set to "auto" to avoid cutting out and delays from your soundbar.

Gone are the days of simply plugging in a device and it just works until it does not. Seemingly every electronic needs to download some software before it does what it was born to do. The **LG soundbar is no exception**. Software updates help maintain quality, update features and provide security patches. We have traded instant convenience for quality at the expense of a twenty-minute inconvenience.

If your LG soundbar is not operating on updated software, the speaker is susceptible to bugs. Each model is different, so try each method if you do not know which is best for your soundbar

First, start with a **simple software update on the LG soundbar app** that you can control through your phone. Make sure you are using the most up-to-date update of the app.

If you are using the soundbar as part of a home theater system, like one connected with an LG TV, then **check for updates through the menu**

- Open the menu and go to settings
- In settings, scroll down and click "software"
- Click "update"
- Your system should let you know if you need to update and if it is up to date, skip to the next
- If you see that you need to update then follow the prompts and allow some time to download the update file
- Restart your system and check if that fixed the issue

If none of the above has worked, you will need to **update the firmware manually**. Updating the firmware on the soundbar will require some more effort, but will give you optimal performance.

In general, this is how you update your firmware. You need a USB stick, completely wiped, and the LG soundbar remote.

- Search for the Software/Firmware updates and the model number on your computer
- Make sure your USB is formatted with FAT32 system
- - here's a link on how to do that if you are unsure https://www.easeus.com/partition-master/format-usb-flash-drive-to-fat32.html
- Unzip the file on your USB
- Copy the file .*ROM file onto your USB
- Plug the USB into the back of your soundbar
- Turn on the soundbar and follow the prompts in the menu

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Full disclosure, **each model of the soundbar is different**. There is an incredible vastness of models of the LG soundbar and each year gets more sophisticated.

While there are plenty of universal methods, **not all models follow the same rules**. Some LG soundbars are connected to the internet, so they can perform updates automatically.

You need to research your specific model o pinpoint the precise update method.

Sometimes stuff just breaks. Your soundbar may have taken a fall without your knowledge and no method of home troubleshooting and maintenance can resolve the issue.

If none of the above has resolved the issue then it is up to you to weigh the options between getting it assessed by a tech expert and possibly buying a new sound bar outright.