

# Why a Poultice Needs to Dry Before Removal

**A stain removal poultice is designed to dry completely before it is removed.**

If the poultice does not dry out, it may not be able to effectively absorb and remove the stain.

Fred Hueston, Chief Technical Director of Surface Care Pros and Owner of [Stone Forensics](#) explains, “It is very important to let your poultice dry. If the poultice is removed while it is still wet it may not draw the stain from the stone. The drying action is what causes the stain to be removed. If you remove the poultice from the stain before it completely dries and the stain is gone, then you have only chemically altered the stain. There is a possibility that the stain may reappear.”

**Here's how you can determine if a stain removal poultice is dry:**

Have a look at the poultice. Does it have a hard, crusty surface? Does it appear lighter in color or more powdery in texture than when it was first applied? Are there small cracks on the surface? It is probably dry. Touch the surface of the poultice. Does it feel wet or moist? It is likely dry.

The instructions for using a stain removal poultice will often include a recommended drying time. If this time has passed, you can assume that the poultice is dry. If the allotted time has passed and you find that the poultice is not dry, do not remove it. Allow it to dry.

For more information, register to earn a [Stone Restoration Master Course Certificate](#). You'll learn how to restore natural stone floors, countertops, and walls, engineered stone, and granite floors, using the most efficient and

effective restoration procedures. Also included in this program is the Stain Care Pro course with a one-year subscription to the Stain Care Pro app and Understanding Sealers.

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