While summer winds down, many summer activities are still in full swing, involving green grass, ice cream cones, outside sporting activities, and barbecues—all of which can translate into unsightly stains on your family’s clothing. But those stains don’t have to mean the end of the road for your favorite pair of shorts or your daughter’s best summer dress. With a little help from us and Tide®, you’ll have help keeping your summer clothes spot-free. Meaning fewer clothes are relegated to the “play clothes-only” pile, but also money saved for your family. Here’s an expert guide to removing those difficult summer stains*.

**Sunscreen Slip-up**  
If you’ve glopped a blob of sunscreen on your workout clothes, and it’s caused a stain—no worries. To remove sunscreen stains from a colored spandex garment, try pretreating the stain with liquid detergent, and then washing it in warm water.

**Dirt Dilemma**  
How does one little kid get so dirty playing outside? We might never know the answer to that question, but we can help you get rid of the offending dirt from your child’s clothing. First, brush off the excess dirt with a soft-bristle brush. Rinse clothing in cold water to dilute the stain, and then wash in warm water with one use of Tide.

**Ice Cream Imperfection**  
You’re gliding along at the family reunion in your favorite linen dress, enjoying the beautiful day, when little nephew Mikey comes along with his ice cream-covered hands to give you a big hug. Uh-oh! To rid colored ramie, rayon, or linen* garments of ice cream stains, rinse in cold water to dilute the stain. Make a solution in a plastic bucket consisting of a half use of Tide per gallon of water. Allow the garment to soak for up to 30 minutes, weighting down the item with a white towel. After soaking, wash it in warm water. Allow the clothing to air dry, and repeat the procedure if necessary.

**Grassy Gaffe**  
If you have a little one in your household, grass stains can almost be a way of life. Detergent has come a long way in recent years, and a grass stain doesn’t always have to mean your clothing is ruined. To help remove grass stains from colored cotton, ramie, rayon, and/or linen clothing*, create a solution in a plastic bucket consisting of a half dose of Tide per gallon of water. Allow the garment to soak for up to 30 minutes, and again weight down clothing with a white towel to keep it submerged. Wash in warm water and let air dry. Repeat if necessary.

Now that all your summer clothing is clean, make sure your laundry room stays that way, too. Here are a few tips to keep your laundry room organized:

- Make sure you have adequate storage space for all your laundry products—don’t just leave them atop the dryer! It should be easy for you to find what you need, and you should be able to easily reach all your laundry tools. You might consider installing inexpensive shelving, if you don’t already have some.

- Put a wastebasket next to the dryer to easily dispose of lint buildup from the lint trap.

- Keep a box of Swiffer Dusters™ in the laundry area. Use the Swiffer Dusters to quickly dust the laundry area.

- Add a roll of Bounty® paper towels to your laundry room. Use Bounty to wipe up any liquid detergent drips or spills.

- Make space for your ironing board somewhere in your laundry area, as this is usually the next step after washing and drying. Look into attaching an ironing-board hanger to the wall. The board will be out of the way but easily accessible.

- If you don’t have room for a folding table, try attaching a fold-down shelf to the wall.
• Keep a small basket or bowl in the laundry room for “found” items, such as money, lipstick, receipts, and buttons.

• Hang a bulletin board where you can tack socks without mates.

* Before treating any garment, always refer first to the instructions on the care label. When washing colored garments, protect them by first pretesting the effects of stain-removal techniques on a hidden area of the garment.