

Pesky Permanganate, impossible Iodine, and resilient rust

Stains the bane of your life!

Try these helpful tips below.

Acidifying hydrogen peroxide really works well on potassium permanganate stains, even on plastic bottles. It doesn't need much acid, just a few mls mixed with any leftover hydrogen peroxide to give the *Magic effect* on plastic dropper bottles but can also be used to rejuvenate stained glassware including volumetric flasks.

I have used it with leftover 10 vols or 20 vols hydrogen peroxide that is past its best and so long as it still has some life left in it works almost instantaneously.

I also usually use a wee touch of Oxalic acid for rust stains on glassware Again doesn't take much just a spatula or two in an ice-cream tub full enough to cover the test-tubes but needs to sit for a while, to get best results leave overnight and then rinse.

We also use weak sodium thiosulfate for iodine stains. I just keep a wee bottle of the really dilute stuff on hand for this. Again, it can be a good use for old stock left over from experiments.

