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mix of American Family's auto, home, life, umbrella, business, health, and farm & ranch insurance, as well as retirement products. Located throughout our 19 operating states, American Family's independent contractor agents serve as local,

expert and trusted advisors to our customers. We support hundreds of diverse state and local events that help individuals and strengthen communities. They get to know you like family. Visit amfam.com to get all the facts, figures and moving

stories underscoring why people choose American Family Insurance over other insurance companies to protect their dreams.

❖ *Editorial provided by American Family Insurance*

How to Address Ceiling Stains

Many stains are instantly noticeable. But while a wine stain on a light-colored carpet or a gravy stain on a white shirt tend to jump out right away, other stains sneak past our radars every day.

Ceiling stains are one type of stain that tend to go unnoticed for long periods of time. But ceiling stains can be unsightly, and some are even indicative of a larger problem, so it pays for

homeowners to address stains on their ceilings as soon as possible.

Start with the source

Low kitchen ceilings tend to fall victim to oil stains, which are an unfortunate side effect of cooking. But not all stains can be so easily traced to their origins. Some ceiling stains, such as those in bathrooms, may be a byproduct of mold, while others may be indicative of plumbing

problems. Identifying the source of a stain is often the first step toward eradicating it.

Fix the problem

Once you have identified what's causing the stain, fix the problem as soon as possible. Ceiling stains are often indicative of much larger problems, and the longer those problems are allowed to fester, the bigger they become. Some water stains on ceilings result

from cracks or joints that have not been adequately sealed or caulked. Reseal or recaulk any cracks you suspect are leading to ceiling stains. If you have determined a leaky roof is behind your stained ceilings, then have the roof inspected for damage, and prepare yourself to finance a new roof if the inspector determines that's the best solution.

❖ *MetroCreative Connection*

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