CARE SYMBOLS

Understanding what they mean

WASH • MACHINE MACHINE MACHINE WASH COLD WASH WARM WASH GENTLE MACHINE HAND WASH DO NOT WASH COLD BLEACH **BLEACH WHEN** DO NOT NEEDED BLEACH DRY TUMBLE DO <u>NOT</u> LINE DRY NPV TUMBLE DRY Ш DRIP DRY DRY FLAT DO NOT WRING IRON ••• • ... **IRON LOW IRON MEDIUM IRON HIGH** HEAT HEAT HEAT DO NOT IRON **DRY CLEAN**

DRY CLEAN



CLOTHING STAINS

General care tips

BLOT THAT SPOT

If you spill something on a garment, always **BLOT THAT SPOT**, and do not rub. Rubbing some fabrics, especially silk, breaks the surface fibres. You won't know it until you wash or dry clean the item that your rubbing had created a frosted or chalky appearance.

WINE AND AGE = GOOD, STAINS AND AGE = BAD

Age is your enemy with successful stain removal. A coffee stain that happens today will come out much easier tomorrow than it will next week or next month. The longer you wait, the greater the chance that the stain will be permanently set in the fabric. Some stains can break down cotton, linen, and silk fibres, causing thinning and even holes in the fabric.

TO SWEAT OR NOT TO SWEAT, THAT IS THE QUESTION

Most people don't realize that prolonged contact with deodorants and antiperspirants may cause permanent damage. Combined with the effects of perspiration, the damage can be extensive. The most frequent damage comes from overuse of these products, or infrequent cleanings. This leads to the build-up of a stiff, caked-up residue or to fabric damage.

To prevent chemical damage, do not overuse these products, and allow them to dry before dressing.

To remove residue on washable garments, wash as soon as possible after wearing, in the hottest water safe for the fabric. Soaking in a detergent containing enzymes or an enzyme pre-soak may be necessary. If the stain persists, try using 3% hydrogen peroxide or chlorine bleach (depending on fibre type or care label instructions). Always test for colour fastness before using additives.

GARMENT CARE GUIDE



GENERAL CARE

How to treat your clothing

Always read and follow Garment Care instructions carefully.

WASH

Empty pockets, unfasten buttons, and lift the collar before washing. Do <u>not</u> overload the washing machine. Do <u>not</u> wash at a very high temperature.

HAND WASH

Generally we recommend the use of lukewarm water. Allow soap or detergent to totally dissolve before adding the garment. Do <u>not</u> rub - gently squeeze only, and rinse thoroughly with clean water.

DRYING

Fold heavy garments to minimise losing their shape. Some garments tend to lose their shape in the wash – if this happens, reshape and lay flat to dry.

Prevent long exposure of your garments to direct sunlight or heavy winds, especially if they are coloured. Wash and dry inside out to avoid colour fading.

Drying indoors has many benefits, just ensure the area is well ventilated.

IRONING

Follow ironing instructions on the care label. See symbol clarification for more information.

Check the capability of your iron as some older irons do not have good temperature regulation.

FABRIC CARE

How to care for specific fabrics

WOOL

Will shrink if washed at a high temperature and can lose shape if hung to dry.

Good thermal material that breathes. Can have some natural moisture-absorbing properties.

Performs well when mixed with polyester to form a strong, durable and comfortable fabric. Responds well to steam.

 Fabric may pill once during the garment's life, but will return to normal function

COTTON

May have minimal shrinkage if washed in hot water.

- Fresh and comfortable material that breathes well. Responds well to warm/hot iron.
- Has some natural crease, and subject to fade if left in direct sunlight for too long.

POLYESTER

Adds stability when mixed with other fibres.

- Usually a crease resistant fibre which is resistant to fading.
- Polyester fibre on its own can be sensitive to heat. Must be washed in cool water and ironed at low temperature – please check your iron setting as a hot iron on polyester fabric will cause it to shine and, in the worst case, scorch the fabric.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Exposing garments to high temperatures is not recommended.
- Tumble-drying and extended exposure to direct sunlight can alter the performance of some fibres in fabrics.
- Never experiment with tough stains take stained garments for professional cleaning.
- Use a natural detergent for delicate fabrics.
- Dissolve detergents thoroughly and distribute evenly for best wash results.
- Drying coloured items in direct sunlight is not recommended.
- Constructed tailored garments should always only be dry cleaned.