

# Care & Storage of Garments

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# Care of the garments during wear and taking off clothes

Following points should be adopted:

- Do not struggle much while putting on or taking off the clothes.
- Always open the buttons and fasteners before putting the dress over the head or legs.
- Always remove all the pins, jewellery and belts before changing the clothes. These may cause holes and tears in the garments.
- The buttons and fasteners should always be closed or opened with care.
- Take off shoes before changing the garments.
- Loosen the shoe-laces before putting on or taking off the shoes. This will maintain their shape for long period.
- While it is raining, always wear a raincoat or use an umbrella to prevent the clothes from being spoiled by water or soil.

# Care of the garments after wear:

1. Brushing
2. Hanging
3. Airing
4. Mending
5. Storing

# **Laundering of Cotton Garments**

## **1.Pre-preparation for washing:**

**i) Mending & Stain Removal**

**ii) Sorting**

**iii) Steeping**

**2. Washing**

**3. Rinsing**

**4. Bleaching**

**5.Stiffening and blueing**

**6.Drying**

**7.Ironing**

**8.Folding and storing**

**9.Seasonal storage**

## ***Washing of special cotton fabrics:***

Organdie, velveteen and flannelette are other fabrics which differ from ordinary cotton fabrics in yarn type, weave and finish applied. Hence they require different type of care during laundering.

**Organdie:** It is a stiff and transparent fabric woven from fine long staple, highly twisted cotton yarn. It is white, coloured or printed. Organdie can be washed like coloured cotton and generally does not require any stiffening as its natural stiffness is restored when ironed damp. If any stiffening is required, dilute boiling water starch is used. Gum water is used for very expensive organdies.

Velveteen: it is a pile cotton fabric which resembles velvet. It is also washed like coloured cotton . Velveteen are not very colour-fast therefore, these should be washed quickly and kept apart from other clothes. These should be washed by kneading and squeezing method. Suction washing is even better. Acetic acid should be added in the last rinse to revive colour. After rinsing, the garment should be hung to allow water to drip down. Do not squeeze. It is better to hang the garment in front of the heater with the wrong side of the fabric facing towards it. The steam thus produced will pass into the fabric and help in raising the pile and restoring its fluffiness. If heater is not available, steam ironing can be done on the wrong side.

Flannelette: It is a cotton woven fabric but the weave is such that gives it soft, fluffy surface. It is laundered in the same way as coloured cotton. It holds lot of moisture therefore it should be wrung thoroughly. It is ironed with moderately hot iron when nearly dry.

- Flannelette is very flammable due to its texture, therefore, it should be immersed in solution of borax and boric acid for some time so that
- the solution penetrates the fabric thoroughly. This treatment makes it
- non-combustible. It is then squeezed out well, dried and finished in the usual way.

# Laundering of Woollen Garments

## 1. Pre-preparation for washing:

- i) Shaking & Brushing
- ii) Mending & Stain Removal
- iii) Outlining the garment on paper
- iv) Steeping

## 2. Washing

- i) Preparation of wash solution
- ii) Washing

## 3. Rinsing

## 4. Removing excess water

## 5. Drying

## 6. Finishing

## 7. Folding & Storing

## 8. Seasonal storage

Care For Pashmina Shawls: Pashmina shawls are of fine and soft texture and need great care during handling. These should also be washed in luke reethanut solution using kneading and squeezing method and then rinsed several times in water at the same temperature as the wash solution. Lemon juice and glycerine should be mixed in the ratio of 2:1 and added to last rinsing water. After squeezing, the shawl should be pressed in towel to remove excess moisture. These should be dried in shade and then steam ironed to bring back their lusture. The shawl should be folded only lengthwise to the fold size of hanger's width and hanged in the closet

# Laundering of Silk Garments

## 1. Pre-preparation for washing :

i) Mending & Stain Removal

ii) Sorting

iii) Steeping

## 2. Washing

i) Preparation of wash solution

ii) Washing

3. Rinsing

4. Stiffening the silk

5. Drying

6. Finishing

7. Folding and storing

8. Seasonal storage

## ***Washing of special silk fabrics***

Special silk fabrics such as weighted silks, chiffons, georgette, crepe, velvets should be dry-cleaned because weighted silks are likely to crack when friction is applied. Chiffon is too delicate to rub. Georgette and crepe shrink during washing and need stretching during drying for which calendaring finish is required on them. Velvet is a silk pile fabric and the soft pile gets spoilt by wetting.

Silk fabrics with zari work should also be dry-cleaned. If these are to be washed, these should be washed separately to minimize wrinkling. Inside should be turned out before washing. Neutral soap or synthetic detergent should be used as it can remove water soluble soil better and cause least damage to zari. Stain removers should not be used on zari as it gets corroded and becomes dull. Tarnish stains if any, should be removed merely brushing with a stiff brush. Use hot iron very carefully on zari. If it is woven in the fabric, it is better to steam it from the wrong side and iron from the right to remove wrinkles.

# Storage of clothes

## Considerations or steps while storing clothes

1. The clothes should be dust free. They should be brushed, pocket should be emptied out and should be exposed to sun before storing.
2. The garments that require washing should be washed before storing. Those require dry clean should be dry cleaned
3. Airing should be done of boxes or cupboard as well as clothes before putting them away.
4. Clothes should not kept in damp condition. Moisture causes mildew which may damage clothes. So storage can be done in dry condition.
5. The cupboard or storage box should be lined with paper or old clean cloth sheet.

6. The storage space should be sprayed or dusted with an insecticide to prevent damage from insect, moths etc.

7. Repellents such as tobacco, dried neem leaves etc. can be used in the storage. Nephthalene balls and Odonil etc are quite effective. Even camphor is considered useful.

8. Newspaper can be used for wrapping woollens as moths dislike printing ink.

9. Fumigation (smoke) with poisonous gas like hydrocyanide is also useful. Though it kills moths but very dangerous and requires specialist handling. This is done on large scale.

10. Clothes should be packed up tightly in one area for example coats, overcoats at one place, cardigans and pull-over at one place, sarees at different place etc.

11. New white cloth should be wrapped up so as to avoid yellowing, if they are to be stored for long time.

12. If clothes are to be stored for long time, one must keep changing their folds as some clothes can crack at folds.

13. It is better to pack each article of clothing in polythene bags separately before storing.

14. Never store starched clothes for a long time.

15. Store sparingly used articles in on topmost shelves . Place very heavy ones in the lowest shelves, for comfort in handling them.

16. Drawers can be placed in sunlight occasionally to remove moisture and all insects.

17. Soiled clothing items should never be stored, for it has many disadvantages. The stains may be set and permanent, it is more easily attacked by moths, insects and mildew.

18. Mending of all tears before storing to prevent tears from becoming larger.

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