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THIS CHECKED

CARE OF CLOTHING

Daily - Weekly - Seasonal

Extension Service
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Care of Clothing

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"I will take care of the things I have."

The alert has been sounded! It is now the obligation of civilians to pledge themselves to:

Take good care of things on hand.

Buy wisely.

Waste nothing.

At this time the intelligent care of clothing is patriotic, economical, and expedient. Not much emphasis has been made on the place of clothing in the war effort. However, conservation of clothing presents another way to help serve our country.

Our armed forces must be adequately clothed, and vital materials have been allocated to war industry. It has become essential for the consumer to relinquish his claims of prior rights as a purchaser. It's up to us to carry on with what is available.

The need today is to buy clothes that live—substantial materials, classically simple lines, basic colors. Planned selections of clothing carefully purchased make a well-assembled wardrobe.

Intelligent care of clothing precludes the knowledge of:

Fabric content.

Methods of cleaning, pressing, and removing spots.

Storing according to fiber content.

Fastness to sunlight; washing fastness of color.

Shrinkage and other special finishes.

These points of information should be secured from labels, clerks, or store buyers.

Day-to-Day Care of Clothing

1. Hang up garments as soon as taken off:
 - a. Coats, dresses, blouses keep shape best if hung on coat hangers that fit the garments.
 - b. Bias-cut skirts, or skirts with bias seams, sweaters, and other loose knits are best kept in boxes.
 - c. Cover garments seldom used with protectors.
2. Wear apron over dress at home.
3. Look over clothing before retiring.
 - a. Remove spots that need early attention.

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- b. Brush woolens and silks (brush with nap—silk cloth for silk).
 - c. Air in breeze (by window) or leave closet door open; sun occasionally.
 - d. Place undergarments in laundry bag (hamper in room keeps closet from retaining stale odor of soiled garments).
 - e. Make simple repairs (hooks, buttons, rips, new collar, and cuffs).
4. Rinse hose nightly.
 5. Wipe off shoes.
 6. Closet and dresser-drawer suggestions:
 - a. Window and electric light.
 - b. Hangers padded.
 - c. Others—

Racks	Garment covers
Boxes	Drawer pockets
Shelves	Shoe bags, boxes, or racks

Weekly Care

1. Mend clothing before laundering.
2. Darn stockings.
 - a. Darn on right side, smooth, diamond-shaped to permit stretching.
3. Tears in woolen, use unraveled thread or hair.
4. Spot garments—USDA bulletin “Spot and Stain Removal.”
5. Launder clothes.

Basic Rules for Laundering Better Garments.—Many fabrics in garments in the present-day wardrobe are washable if **basic rules** are followed. However some finishes are removed by laundering, and styles render garments difficult to iron.

1. Lukewarm soft water—98° F. Soft water should be used for laundering better garments. Tetrasodium pyrophosphate is a good water softener.
2. Neutral soap or sulphonated alcohol.
3. Quick, gentle handling (squeeze suds through garments); handle by lifting.
4. Rinse until water is clear—at least 2 rinses.
5. Remove moisture quickly.
6. Press with moderate iron.

Cotton.—Follow basic rules.

1. Most cottons are washable; read label for facts about color fastness.
2. Colored cottons need to be tub and sunfast.
3. Cottons should not shrink more than 2 percent to retain fit of garment.
4. Cottons that are **not** colorfast may “bleed” onto other gar-

ments as well as fade, so handle quickly, wash in warm water, do not soak, dry quickly. Place paper between folds to prevent further bleeding during drying.

5. There is no point in soaking clothes in salt solution to set color—
 - a. Waste of salt.
 - b. May **soak out** some of the color.
6. The Bureau of Home Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture recommends ways to keep cottons attractive after washing.
 - a. To restore crispness to voile, batiste, and organdy, dip in gelatine solution after washing. Buy cheap, unflavored, unsweetened gelatin. Soak 1 oz. in $\frac{1}{2}$ cup water to soften. Add $1\frac{1}{2}$ cup boiling water. If not dissolved, boil. Add a little borax if mixture is to be kept on hand. Add 1 part gelatin to 5 parts water. Dip fabric and dry. Dampen and iron. Do not use too hot an iron or too much pressure.
 - b. Sizing. One-third cup oil added to 1 cup starch and 5 parts water gives required softness and excellent finish. Turkey-red oil, palm oil, coconut oil, or cottonseed oil are all good.
 - c. Gum arabic can be used to size dark garments. Pour $\frac{1}{2}$ pint boiling water on 1 oz. gum arabic; let stand, stirring frequently, then strain.



Fine Fabrics.—Follow basic rules. Spun rayons can be treated like fine wools. Not all rayons and silks are washable. Observe label and washing instructions.



1. If washability is questioned, make color and shrinkage test.
2. Slight shrinkage can be overcome by stretching back to shape during drying and ironing.
3. When rolling in towel to blot moisture, protect contrasting colors by fold of towel. (Don't wring).
4. Crepes need stretching; jerseys need blocking.
5. Do not soak.

6. Dry on hanger or roll in towel.
7. Use moderately hot iron. Try first on back of hem.
8. Use lower temperature for acetates. Avoid pressing nylon. If it must be pressed, use a warm iron. Do not try to press vinyon ties.
9. Seams on rayon may fray; buy wide or finished seams, or finish them yourself.
10. Don't dry silks, rayon, or nylon in sunlight or over artificial heat.

Foundation Garments.—Worn next to the skin, these garments absorb perspiration which injures fibers and elastic.

1. Wash frequently to prevent deterioration and restore shape.
2. Follow basic rules for washing of fine fabrics.
3. Pull into shape after blotting out moisture.
4. Lay out flat or hang evenly to dry. Do not place near artificial heat.
5. Press only lace or fabric part with moderately hot iron.

Lingerie.—These garments are mostly made of rayon, silk, or nylon in plain, crepe, or satin weaves, or knitted jerseys.

1. Wash frequently.
2. Follow basic rules for washing.
3. Turn satins inside out to prevent fuzzing.
4. Be careful with colored bindings.
5. Knitted garments pulled into shape need no ironing.
6. Press lace over turkish towel.

Gloves.—Wash gloves, leather especially, before they become too soiled. Hard scrubbing will injure surface of glove.

1. Wash **only** those gloves marked or sold as washable.
2. **Do not wash leather** gloves that have been dry-cleaned.
3. Follow basic rules for washing for both fabric and leather gloves.
4. Wash leather gloves inside and out. Use sponge or soft brush on spots.
5. Avoid rubbing wool gloves.
6. A light suds rinse for doeskin and chamois. Otherwise rinse thoroughly.
7. Blow in gloves after rolling in towel to remove excess moisture.
8. Stuff glove with tissue if various colors are used on same glove.
9. Dry away from heat.
10. Before entirely dry, work leather with fingers.

Hosiery.—

1. Follow basic rules for fine fabrics.
2. Wash after each wearing.
3. Avoid rubbing woolen hose—dry on frame.
4. Roll in towel.

5. Rayon hose are weak when wet so allow extra drying time since they will not dry over night.

Press and Iron Garments.—

1. Iron dark colors and piques on wrong sides.
2. Iron cotton garments and hang on hanger to keep shape.
3. Brush and remove stains before pressing woolens. (Fine sandpaper followed by a soap-suds-and-ammonia rinse will remove shine.)



4. Use woolen pressing cloth on woolens.
5. Hang woolens to dry don't press completely dry!

Accessory Care.—

1. Save your shoes.
 - a. Have at least two pairs of shoes; don't wear the same pair every day. Nylon hose do not absorb perspiration but the leather of shoes does. They need time to dry thoroughly before wearing again.
 - b. Improve their good appearance with regular polishings. This also helps preserve and keep the leather soft.
 - c. Place shoe trees which do not stretch shoes out of shape, in shoes immediately after wearing.
 - d. Stuff shoes with paper when wet.
 - e. Dry wet shoes away from heat.
 - f. Wear rubbers and galoshes to protect shoes from rain or snow.
 - g. Use shoe bags and shoe racks to protect shoes from dust.
 - h. Watch soles for breaks. Resole only if the uppers justify the expense.
 - i. Retip soles before they are too run-down.
 - j. Have heels straightened as soon as they begin to wear unevenly. Run-down heels may twist shoes out of shape and shorten their life.
2. Brush hats (keep in covered box).
3. Stuff purses with paper.
4. Wash and starch collar-and-cuff sets and other lingerie touches.

5. Keep gloves neat.
6. Keep hankies spotless.

Seasonal Care

1. Inventory wardrobe to determine condition of clothing and changes needed that might involve:
 - a. Dry-cleaning.
 - b. Dyeing.
 - c. Remodeling.
2. Wash summer clothes
 - a. Do not starch or iron but fold or roll to store for winter.
 - b. Soft, crepe-like fabrics should be folded with layers of tissue paper and placed in boxes.



3. Winter clothing or woolens

- a. "Out flank" the moth.
 - b. Collect all winter items.
 - c. Inspect for soil, then dry clean, or launder.
 - (1) Two or three inches of soap suds increases efficiency of suds.
 - (2) Don't leave soap in woolens.
 - (3) Dry-clean garments. Air, but do not press when preparing for storage.
 - d. Brush and hang on line to air and sun, all garments not soiled enough to clean.
 - e. Clean felt hats before storing. Care as for woolens.
 - (1) Carbontetrachloride is safe to use as solvent.
 - (2) Store hats in separate boxes.
 - f. Shake fur trim, turn out pockets, turn up collars, inspect seams and hems, and brush or shake.
 - g. Pack carefully and lightly in mothproof box with large amount of paradichlorobenzine between folds.
 - h. Place in dustproof containers.
 - (1) The right hangers are important.
 - (2) Stuff sleeves with tissue.
 - (3) Tape folds of cardboard dress boxes.
 - i. Store in cool, dry spot.
4. Care of fur.
- a. Hang on hanger.
 - b. Don't perfume.
 - c. Wear away from neck.
 - d. Air frequently but not in strong light.
 - e. Clean frequently.
 - f. Storage in refrigerator vaults is best.
 - g. Gum camphor discolors fur.
 - h. Wet fur should be wiped with turkish towel along flow of fur.
 - (1) Hold hem and shake.
 - (2) Dry so air can circulate.
 - (3) If drenched take to furrier.

- i. Clean fur by:
 - (1) Sawdust, redcedar dust or sifted cornmeal mixed with solvent can be rubbed into the fur and then brushed out.
 - (2) Sprinkle fullers earth on garment and leave for 24 hours. Beat out. Glaze fur with water.
 - (3) Clean in naphtha and treat with paraffin.
5. Protect rubber clothing, overshoes, boots, raincoats.
 - a. Clean with soap and water.
 - b. Wash with clear water.
 - c. Dry thoroughly away from heat.
 - d. Never use oils or solvents.
 - e. Stuff overshoes and boots with crumpled paper.
 - f. Pack loosely in boxes.
 - g. Store in cool, dark place.
6. Care of leather

Increase wearing qualities by keeping articles clean, pliable, and water resistant.

 - a. Shoes should be cleaned, oiled, sunned, and dried before storing.
 - (1) Saddle soap or neutral soaps may be used on washable leathers.
 - (2) Waterproof dressings such as unsalted tallow or fat or recommended oils may be applied when the leather is dry.
 - (3) Clean good shoes with shoe cream.
 - (4) Soles may be oiled with castor oil to keep them pliable.
 - b. Calfskin belts and purses may be cleaned in the same manner.
 - c. Unlined leather jackets may be cleaned out-of-doors as follows:
 - (1) Dissolve 2 T. vaseline or 4 T. finely shaved paraffin in one pint of solvent Stoddards Specifications.
 - (2) Wipe smooth side with dry cloth, and brush unfinished side to remove dust.
 - (3) Use one-half of vaseline or paraffin mixture in solvent sufficient to cover coat.
 - (4) Soak one-half hour.
 - (5) Scrub inside and out with brush.
 - (6) Rinse in two solvent baths, each containing one-half the remaining solution.
 - (7) Blot solvent from coat.
 - (8) Put on hanger and dry. Polish when dry; brush nap side.
 - d. Clean kid gloves in same manner.