

# Look good longer in your corporate uniforms

Corporate uniforms are worn every day unlike fashion clothes. Made of good quality fabrics they should last at least 2 years if you treat them carefully. Here are some hints to improve their life and keep them looking good.

## Common stains

Uniforms put up with a lot of wear every day and inevitably they will have all sorts of things spilled on them during their life. Here are some of the usual stain culprits and the ways they can be treated (*more great stain removal hints can be found in 'Spotless' by Shannon Lush and Jennifer Fleming*). Always check the label first and if in doubt take the item to a dry-cleaner to treat as they are specialists.



- **Coffee, tea or lipstick stains.** Place some glycerine on a cotton ball and rub into the fresh stain then wash in cold water. If dried then apply glycerine, wipe with white spirits and then wash in cold water.
- **Egg, blood and milk stains.** DO NOT use hot water. Rub with facial soap and wash in cold water. If dried then use glycerine on a cotton ball before washing.
- **Pen stains:** Place rotten milk solids over the normal biro stain and allow it to absorb the stain then wash. Other ink stains can be removed by applying white spirits before washing. Artline pen stains need to be treated with methylated spirits to both sides of the fabric before washing.
- Renegade tissues flecks can be removed by placing the item in the dryer on a low heat setting (only where label indicates this is possible) and then remove and give it a good shake. If any fluff remains use a lint brush.

## Easy care, wash and wear!

Care of uniform items is the same as caring for any quality garment. Here are some simple tips on how using the correct washing, drying and ironing will keep your clothes to keep them looking great for longer.

- **Separate whites** from other colours when washing and you will prevent discolouring or 'greying' of white and light coloured shirts.
- **Fasten zips, buttons and Velcro fasteners** before washing to prevent damage or catching on other clothes. This also prevents the fasteners from being damaged by other garments and needing to be replaced.
- **Turn print garments inside out** to prevent hard items scratching the prints. Never place printed items into a dryer as this may damage the print!
- **Dissolve washing powder** before adding to a top loader as otherwise it can cause discolouration on dark garments.
- **Carefully use bleach products** (example White King) as they can cause stains or fading of trims on dark fabrics or white garments with coloured trims, prints or embroidery.

Wash		do not wash		Machine wash cycle								hand wash									
Bleach		do not bleach		any bleach when needed				only non-chlorine bleach when needed													
Dry		do not tumble dry		do not dry (used with do not wash)		Tumble dry cycle															
Iron		do not iron		Iron-dry or steam																	
Professional textile care		do not dryclean		Dryclean-normal cycle																	
Wash	do not wash	normal	permanent press/wrinkle resistant	gentle/delicate	hand wash	do not wash	normal	permanent press/wrinkle resistant	delicate/gentle	line dry/hang to dry	dry flat	any heat	high	medium	low	no heat/air	drip dry	in the shade	no steam (added to iron)	any solvent except trichloroethylene	petroleum solvent only
Bleach	do not bleach	any bleach when needed	only non-chlorine bleach when needed	any heat	high	medium	low	no heat/air	drip dry	in the shade	no steam (added to iron)	any solvent except trichloroethylene	petroleum solvent only								
Dry	do not tumble dry	do not dry (used with do not wash)	normal	permanent press/wrinkle resistant	delicate/gentle	line dry/hang to dry	dry flat	any heat	high	medium	low	no heat/air	drip dry	in the shade	no steam (added to iron)	any solvent except trichloroethylene	petroleum solvent only				
Iron	do not iron	200C (390F) high	150C (300F) medium	110C (230F) low	no steam (added to iron)	any solvent except trichloroethylene	petroleum solvent only														
Professional textile care	do not dryclean	Dryclean-normal cycle								any solvent except trichloroethylene	petroleum solvent only										

**Read the washing instructions inside each garment and wash ONLY as directed. Dry in dryer (only where allowed) and then hang to reduce the amount of ironing required. Check our guide for the most common care symbols.**