

# Garment Dry Cleaning Care Tips

1. Please take note of care label inside your garments.

The care instructions are important for use in directing the dry cleaner how to best maintain your garments. It also gives you valuable information in dealing with the cleaner. Proper care will help maintain the beauty of the garment throughout its lifetime. Do not assume the cleaner will automatically know just how to clean your garment (without a care label).

2. To maintain the color of your garments clean like items together.

Clean items from the same fabric group together for the best color retention or at least in the same manner (i.e. If you have to dry clean the jacket, then dry clean the pant even if it can be washed). This is the best practice to ensure the colors stay vibrant and continue to match.

3. Do not attempt stain removal on fine fabrics such as silk.

This can set the stain or cause harm to fiber surface. It is best to dry blot the stained area gently without rubbing, and take it to a professional for cleaning. The blotting helps remove any of the excess spill preventing it from spreading further into the fabric. Also don't leave the garment for long periods before taking to be cleaned. Chemical reactions over time can further work to set the stain.

4. Report any stain or spill when clothing is dropped off or picked up for cleaning.

Normal practice is for a counter agent at the cleaner to tag the garment with a special tag explaining what kind of stain or issue the garment may have for pre-treating or special press instructions. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!** The cleaning technician may not always see a stain before cleaning and stains need to be pretreated for best removal. Note: Tagging your garments with this type of information is a best cleaning practice; cleaners who do not tag with this type of information are not doing their job correctly. You may want to try another local cleaner.

5. Be picky about your garments and the cleaning they receive.

YOU are paying for the refurbishment of your garment and the service it involves. Your whites should not be dingy. If this is the case, bring it to the attention of the attendant—they should re-clean the item at no charge. It is possible to get whites clean without discoloration; do not let them tell you otherwise. The same comments apply if your items have a strong odor after cleaning. The equipment used in dry cleaning has filtration systems, which should remove odor from the garment. If there is a strong odor present please mention it to the counter person and ask that garment be re-cleaned. Properly cleaned garment should not have an offensive odor.

6. Beware if your garment has shiny seams after cleaning.

It is best to caution the counter person that you do not want a hard press. Once gar-

ment is shiny-it seldom can be corrected. Do not let the cleaning associate tell you the shine of the seams is due to the fabric type and is un-avoidable. Garments which come back after cleaning with seam impressions and shine have been pressed with too much heat and or pressure.

7. Remove items that may cause damage, or may be damaged, in the wash.

Glass buttons are an added value and should be removed prior to cleaning since they cannot be protected from breakage. (A good cleaning establishment will offer this service as a routine.)