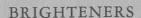
be
a better
buyer
of

LAUNDRY AIDS



DEODORANTS

DISINFECTANTS

FABRIC SOFTENERS

BLUINGS

University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service

WHAT'S HAPPENED TO WASH DAY?

Once upon a time a bar of soap and a wash board were all you needed on Monday morning to wash a basket of cottons and linens.



Any day is wash day. Automatic equipment saves your back. But over 70 textile fibers and finishes have brought need for new laundry methods and more washing products.

Fabric Softeners

This new type of washing aid has become popular in recent years. Do not confuse it with water softeners or conditioners

WHAT A FABRIC SOFTENER DOES

- Softens fibers and makes bath towels, chenille spreads, corduroy, wool sweaters, and other fabrics with nap more fluffy.
- · Makes diapers soft and easier to pin.
- Reduces static electricity in manmade fibers so that they lose their cling.
- Makes ironing easier because wrinkling is minimized.

HOW TO USE FABRIC SOFTENER

- Follow directions on labels for amount to use. Brands vary in strength; more of some is needed than others.
- Add fabric softener to the last rinse. Never add it to the wash water. Fabric softener must not be mixed with soap, detergent, water softener, or other laundry products.
- Skip the use of fabric softener once in a while (about every fifth time). If softener is used constantly without interruption, articles such as towels and diapers become less absorbent. Use only for items which need it.
- If garments are to be starched, use the softener before starching.
- If bluing is used in rinsing clothes, use fabric softener after bluing.
- Some models of washers have a special dispenser so that fabric softener is automatically injected at the right time in the rinse cycle.
- Do not expect fabric softener to take the place of poor laundry procedures.

Representative trade names of fabric softeners

Downy, Magi-Sof, Nu-Soft, Sta-Puf, Vano Fabric Fluffer, Final Touch.

Bluings and Brighteners

Bluing is used less today than formerly. Perhaps one reason is because the majority of allpurpose detergents used for the family wash contain a brightener.

Optical brighteners (fluorescent dyes)

Whiteness or brightness depends on the amount of light reflected by the fabric.

This type of brightener is actually a fluorescent dye which coats the fabric and converts a portion of the invisible light into visible light on the fabric. Then the fabric reflects more light than it would ordinarily. It looks whiter than before because extra light is coming from it.

The whitening ability of many brighteners is destroyed by chlorine bleach. Therefore it is desirable to delay adding bleach a few minutes to give the brightener time to fix itself to the fibers.

Most brighteners do a good job on cotton, but may or may not give comparable results with other fibers.

TYPES OF BLUINGS AND BRIGHTENERS

Туре	Trade names	When to add
Brighteners Granular or flakes	Blu-white La France	Put in wash water with soap or deter- gent.
Bluings Liquid	Mrs. Stewarts	Dilute and add to rinse water.
Cubes or pellets	Little Boy Blue	Dissolve in water and add to rinse.

For clarification, trade names of some laundry aids are listed. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products not mentioned.

Disinfectants

Hot water and soap or detergent cannot destroy all types of bacteria on elothing, towels, and bed linens. This is important to remember, especially in case of illness in the family and for baby clothes

Chlorine bleach is recognized as a laundry disinfectant, but it cannot be used on all fabrics, colors, and finishes. Bleach should be used in the wash water. Check the label for amount to use.

Other laundry disinfectants safe for use in home laundering include: quaternary, pine oil, and phenolic. Because the use of these products varies, it is important to check the label for the recommended amount and method.

"Sanitation in Home Laundering," USDA Home and Garden Bulletin No. 97, gives a more complete explanation of this problem and its solution. Your county extension office may be able to supply you, or you can obtain it for 5 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Representative trade names:

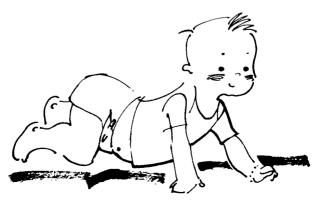
Quaternary disinfectants:

CO-OP Sanitizer available in certain supermarkets. Roccal, available from janitors', dairy, and poultry supply houses.

Liquid chlorine disinfectants:

Liquid chlorine disinfectants (bleach) should contain 5.25 percent sodium hypochlorite as the active ingredient. Available in grocery stores.

Hilex. Clorox. King (liquid) Bleach. Purex (liquid).



Pine oil disinfectants:

The label of a pine oil disinfectant should state that the product contains at least 80 percent pine oil. Available in grocery stores.

Fyne Pyne. White Cap.

King Pine.

Fyne Tex.

Pine-O-Pine.

Phenolic disinfectants:

Phenolic disinfectants are available containing approximately 3 percent active ingredient. Available in grocery stores.

Al Pine.

Pine-Sol.

Deodorants

Deodorants and other laundry conditioners are used along with a detergent or soap for diapers, athletic outfits, and any garments soiled in a similar manner. Some of these products include a "bacteria fighter," a chemical which prevents formation of undesirable odors due to bacterial decomposition. Bacteria which cause diaper rash, boils, and other infections may be checked also. This chemical attaches itself to the fibers and provides continuing protection against bacterial growth.



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