



The Fabric of Fashion

with Gemma Sheppard

Gemma Sheppard is an international celebrity fashion stylist. For Miele, Gemma is Director of style.

From the front row at fashion shows to backstage at award ceremonies, working the red carpet and styling pop videos, Gemma has travelled the world styling VIP clients and reporting on fashion and beauty trends. She is also screen stylist for the Fox TV series, Man Up.

Here are Gemma's top tips for laundry care to help you look after the fashions in your fabrics.

Sort & separate.

As your laundry accumulates, make life easier by pre-sorting it into designated baskets for lights, darks and whites. That way, the loads will be ready and waiting whenever you have a spare minute to pop them on. Why not use stylish baskets to store it all too? That way, your laundry will look far more attractive — and far less daunting! If all that sorting sounds like a bit too much trouble though, the Miele Mixed Items Programme is on hand to help. Just tell the machine which items you are washing, switch it on and it will take care of the rest

Bag it.

This might sound rather old-fashioned, but I always use a laundry mesh bag. Fair enough, it takes an extra five minutes to separate the small items, but it protects your underwear, keeps your socks in pairs and prevents tights from tangling.

Don't overwhelm your machine.

It's true: less is more.

Don't overload your washing machine or dryer. Give your clothes space and they'll come out much cleaner and less wrinkled.



Detergents rule.

The most important element of washing and caring for your garments is to use the correct detergent for the fabric. The enzymes in the detergent are an essential ingredient and often, people do not choose correctly – giving poor results and even damaging garments. The beauty of my Miele is the TwinDos feature, which automatically dispenses the right detergent, in the right quantity, at the appropriate time during the wash process. All the clothes come out perfectly clean and smelling divine.

Stain, stain stay away.

Act quickly. Speed is of the essence when it comes to stain removal. To remove oil or make-up, carefully apply washing-up liquid to the area and leave it to absorb into the stain. Then, carefully rub before washing. Grass stains? These can be tackled using lemon juice. Scorch marks? Try rubbing them with a cut, raw onion. Following any of these treatments, just wash as per the care label instructions.

Remove laundry promptly.

Leaving laundry in the machine for long periods of time will cause excess creasing, which can affect the life and appearance of a garment.

Wash the machine that washes your clothes.

It sounds obvious – yet most people still don't do it. That's why they end up with musty washing. Once a month, run your machine with a few dishcloths in the drum and a non-bio detergent on the hottest programme. Don't worry if you're forgetful, a Miele machine will tell you exactly when it requires a service wash.

Know your labels

Washing



You can wash this item in washing machines.



Wash on a delicates or minimum iron programme when there's a single bar under the tub.



Do not wash! Take to a

professional cleaner only.

Wash with a delicates, silks or woollens programme when there's two bars under the tub.

Bleaching



You can safely bleach this item.



Do not bleach this item.



You can wash this item in washing machines to the maximum temperature shown in the tub. If there is no bar under the tub, you can wash it using a normal programme.



Wash in a Miele washing machine using either the woollens hand care or the silks hand care programme, or by hand at up to 40° C.

Drying



You can tumble dry this garment.



Dry at a normal temperature.



Dry at a lower temperature.



Do not tumble dry.



After a short spin, hang the garment on the washing line to drip dry.

Ironing



Do not iron.



You can use a hand or rotary iron up to 110° C. Do not use steam.



You can use a hand or rotary iron up to 150° C.



You can use a hand or rotary iron up to 200° C.



Linen:

Washing

- Wash white and bleached linen at a maximum of 60°C
- Wash coloured garments at a maximum of 40°C
- Use a detergent for coloureds that contains no optical brighteners
- Spin briefly or not at all as linen creases very easily

Drying

- Pull into shape and hang on a washing line
- Dry thoroughly because linen is very susceptible to mildew

Ironing

- Iron inside out to stop it becoming shiny
- Avoid shiny patches by placing a damp cloth on top of the item
- Use a hot iron

Silk:

Washing

 Use the Miele Silks programme – the Miele honeycomb drum is particularly gentle on delicate items, and the Silks programme is gentler than hand washing

Drying

• Drip dry on a coat hanger

Ironing

• Iron inside out using the coolest setting, while still damp



