

Wash and Care - DuPont Personal Protection (Europe)



Wash and Care

Garments made with NOMEX® are made to last and are easy to maintain. They can be commercially laundered or dry-cleaned, using conventional methods without altering their ability to protect the wearer against heat and flame.

NOMEX® fabrics undergo minimal shrinkage (maximum 3 %) and maintain their original size and shape over the life of a garment. In fact, NOMEX® garments come out of the dryer ready to wear and rarely require ironing.

The following document will help you to take care of your NOMEX® garment, but in any case, it is strongly recommended to follow the care instructions of the garment manufacturer, since some additional accessories or material may need specific attention.

Some guidelines about washing and drying of NOMEX® garments

1. Temperature and duration of washing and drying cycles :

- ▶ It is adequate to wash NOMEX® garments at 60°C. Using a higher temperature may not bring any benefit, and indeed may simply contribute to overall energy consumption. Always observe the washing recommendation of the garment manufacturer.
- ▶ The washing cycle should not exceed 1 hour.
- ▶ It is important to include a rinse cycle that adequately removes residual soap and detergents.
- ▶ Drying can be done in a tumble drier and temperatures normally used are 60°C, or up to 90°C in industrial laundry environments. The important factor in drying is not to overdry. It is better to give the garments a shorter drying cycle and remove them while still slightly damp, than to remove them bone-dry. This is because excessive agitation can cause localised damage such as abrasion.

2. pH of soaps and detergents :

- ▶ Best is to use a liquid detergent with a near-neutral pH, certainly not exceeding pH 9.0. Liquids can be more easily handled than powdered soaps.
- ▶ If localised dirty oil stains are difficult to remove, they can be treated, before putting into the washing machine, with neat liquid soap applied to the locality of the stains and light rubbing to assist the action of the soap.
- ▶ It is known that particular attention must be given to pH of soaps used with garments in colours of navy blue, royal blue, greens and greys, and in these cases it is best to select soaps and detergents with pH of 8.0 or below.
- ▶ NOMEX® garments should never be bleached by any chlorine bleach or strong oxidising agent such as peroxide, and under no circumstances should caustic washing agents be used.