

Five tips for environmentally sound laundry care

1. The right care contributes to preserving the T-shirt's value so that it can ideally be washed and worn more than 44 x. For this purpose, the care instructions in labels should be observed and textiles should be washed & dried accordingly.

2. The T-shirt should be washed preferably at low temperatures to avoid unnecessary energy use. For the hygiene of the washing machine, a bleach-containing heavy duty detergent in solid form (powder, granule, tab) should be used for washing at 60°C at least once a month. Only solid heavy duty detergents contain bleaching agents.

3. If the washing machine is loaded as full as possible, it works particularly economically.

"Loaded as full as possible" means the following for a washing machine with a 7 kg loading capacity:

- With a cotton programme – 7 kg of dry laundry.
- With an easy-care programme – a maximum of 4 kg of dry laundry.
- With a wool programme – a maximum of 1.5 kg of dry laundry.

If different items of laundry are combined with each other, they should be washed with the programme and detergent type for the most sensitive laundry item.

4. Follow the dosing instructions on detergent packs. The amount of detergent needed depends on the degree of soiling, load of the washing machine and water hardness.

- Avoid over- and underdosing of the detergent.
 - Choose the right detergent for each type of laundry (heavy duty detergent, colour or easy-care or wool detergent).
 - Information about the water hardness range can be obtained from water suppliers or landlords
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5. Laundry should preferably be dried outdoors. If this is not possible due to weather conditions, drying in an unheated, well-ventilated room is recommended. Good ventilation is important to avoid mould formation.

Source: PRESS RELEASE „The lifecycle of a T-shirt – an eco assessment“ of 4 December 2019 (Original: German)
<https://www.ikw.org/ikw-english/home-care-topics/detail/the-lifecycle-of-a-t-shirt-an-eco-assessment-670/>

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