

4-H Clothing Buymanship Tuesday

Week 4 Challenge

How to Care for Clothing

Get involved in doing the laundry in your household. Get some practice looking at care label symbols and knowing what they mean. When you change clothes at the end of the day, you need to decide what to do with them.

- Do they need to be laundered or can they be properly put away and worn again?
- Are they stained and need pre-treatment?
- Is there damage to the clothing item such as a tear or missing button that needs to be repaired?

For items that need to be laundered, follow care labels to keep your clothes looking great longer. A supplemental sheet from the American Cleaning Institute that explains the symbols on care labels is located at https://www.geary.k-state.edu/4-h/virtual_buymanship_lessons.html.

Different items require laundering after different amounts of wear. Here's a general guideline:

- Underwear and socks – after each wear
- T-shirt, tank tops, and camisoles – after each wear
- Outer clothes like dress shirts and khakis – can be worn a few times before washing unless it is hot out and you are sweating or they are visibly dirty or stained
- Jeans – can typically be worn 3 times before washing
- Leggings and tights – after each wear

How to remove stains from clothes:

- Deal with the stain as early as possible
- Pre-treat with stain remover, then let it soak into the fabric
- Launder according to fabric care instructions, using the warmest setting safe for the fabric
- If the stain remains, repeat the steps
- DO NOT put it into the dryer until the stain is removed

Questions to think about:

What do you find to be the hardest part about doing laundry?

Are you able to identify all of the care symbols and what they mean?

Why do you think it's important to do laundry correctly?

Laundry is one thing you can help out with around the house. What are other things you can do to be helpful in your household?

