



Laundry Guidelines

Do up the laundry tabs of any nappies with Velcro fastenings. Remove all solids by knocking off the fleece liner into toilet. Place nappy in wet bag for storage. To prevent stains & smells, please wash no later than on every 2nd day.

STEP 1 PREWASH: This rinses the majority of the wee and surface soiling, draining it away with the dirty water at the end of the cycle. You may find that you only have a handful of nappies in the machine for this wash if you are doing it part time.

- Load 1 or 2 days worth of the nappies and wipes into the machine.
- Select a SHORT hot wash eg. 30minutes at 40/60 degrees
- Use half a dose of detergent
- Either follow onto Step 2 for main wash, or store in a dry pail to add to another prewashed load to bulk up for a larger main wash.

STEP 2 MAIN WASH: gives the nappies a thorough clean in fresh clean water after a prewash

- Load either 1 or 2 prewashed nappies into your machine, and bulk out the machine with small clothing to fill. The machine should be no more than $\frac{3}{4}$ full when dry.
- NEVER use any fabric softener. It coats the fibres, and makes them waterproof, so they repel liquid!
- Use the recommended dose of detergent on the pack (commonly powder rather than liquid detergent) and the amounts should be checked in relation to the size of your washing machine drum against the detergent label. Ariel bio original is the recommend detergent to use.
- Use an intensive wash cycle at least 2 hours long, not a quick wash or an "eco" setting (nappies need a lot of jiggling around and friction to ensure they are clean AND properly rinsed). A cottons wash is usually the best option to choose.
- Wash at either 40 or 60 degrees. Always wash at 60 if your baby is under 3 month, your baby has repeated or unusual nappy rash, your baby is unwell at all and/or you have more than one baby using the nappies.
- If you notice that the machine still has an excessive amounts of bubbles towards the end of the cycle, or if the nappies felt 'soapy' when you removed them, do a short rinse after, and reduce the amount of powder slightly when you next wash
- When you take the nappies out of the machine, they should smell of nothing – clean, with a hint of powder, but not an overwhelming soapy fragrance, and certainly not whiffy!
- If at any point you are struggling with the wash routine, please contact the Library for troubleshooting.

STEP 3 DRYING

- Please air dry the nappies. Sock-peg hangers are very useful for inserts, liners & 'bits'. An open window in the winter, an airing cupboard, a dehumidifier (if you have one), an ordinary desk fan, or a heated airer, are all useful ways of cutting down drying time.
- If you still have some staining, time and the sun is a great to get rid of these.
- Highly absorbent nappies are slow drying (hemp can take up to 2/3 days). Cotton and flat nappies are faster drying.

Please Remember:

- Never tumble dry anything with PUL (Wraps, AIOs, pockets). (PUL is polyurethane laminated waterproof fabric.)
- Never place anything with PUL directly onto a radiator. Radiator racks or hangers above radiators are fine.
- Never add bleach, white vinegar, essential oils, most sanitisers/stain removers, Ecoeggs, soapnuts, home-made laundry detergent or laundry 'boosters' to the wash. The kit will be sanitised in between hires and any stains treated.
- Never wash hotter than 60.
- Never use fabric softener

You are welcome to text or email us with any questions at any time - there are NO "silly" questions, as we were all new to cloth nappies at one time! (Email: newforestnappylibrary@gmail.com)