

# UNIFORM LAUNDRY INSTRUCTIONS

*Thanks for volunteering to launder band uniforms. These instructions should be followed carefully to avoid possible harm to any piece.*

*READ all the way through instructions first.*

Prior to taking the uniforms off the hangers, take the sheet we give you and write down jacket #, pants # and gauntlet # i.e. *Madert J128 / P154/ G172*, and double check it against the sheet we give to you with the correct information. (Mix-ups **DO** occur, especially with capes. Capes should have the **same #** as the matching jacket. Please **circle note any discrepancies on your sheet\*** and let us know upon return of the uniforms. Then you may separate the clothing items into the correct color load.

**\*Do this first and every time so you know which items go back with the ones they came to you with, we will reorganize discrepancies back in the closet. Note any changes or issues on the line below the students name.**

1. Now remove uniforms from their hangers. Remove cape from jacket and any shoulder cord from the uniform. Keep the hanger, cape, shoulder cord, and gauntlets bags together in the garment bag. Leave in the Bounce sheet for odor protection 😊.
2. First, launder the pants separate from the jackets. A large washing machine can handle ten (10) pairs of pants. Launder in **cold** water with **cold** rinse. Use a liquid detergent as powders can leave white dots on the uniforms if not totally dissolved.

## **DO NOT USE:**

- a. Liquid fabric softener
  - b. Detergent containing bleach or color-safe bleach.
  - c. Dry cleaning solutions
3. Dry the pants completely using only 1 dryer sheet in medium heat dryer. Hot dryer settings will remove the permanent press. Do not allow the pants to remain in the dryer after the end of the cycle or they will wrinkle. Remove the pants, fold on creases, and place on the uniform hanger using the pants bar to secure them.
  4. You can launder as many as 5 (five) jackets in a single load. Unsnap the white sleeve of the jacket and use a spray-on pre-wash such as Spray-N-Wash or Shout® to treat the inside of each collar and cuff-ends every time you launder the uniforms. You can spray the blue sleeve cuff, but keep the snaps in place to use as a guide for where to re-snap the white sleeve. Use the pre-wash on any food or other stains as needed. Wash in **cold** water with a **cold** rinse. \* See note on gauntlets.
  5. Dry the jackets using medium heat. Please allow the jackets to dry completely and do not allow the jackets to remain in the dryer after the end of the cycle or they will wrinkle. Hang jacket on the wooden hanger with the curve forward (as if slouched shoulders) and the jacket zips up the back, over the pants. There should be a large black X on the back of each hanger—make sure that the jacket zips up the back to the X and over the pants. This way the hangers will all be facing the same direction when placed back on the uniform racks. Also make sure the shoulder pads lay open over the hanger.

6. Next wash the capes separately. Pretreat any stains specifically looking at the bottom of the capes since they are longer, they drag on the bleachers when sitting. Wash up to 10 in **cold** water, remove promptly from washer and dry on medium heat also removing promptly when done. Re-attach the cape and any shoulder cord on the right shoulder (blue sleeve). (Section leaders are highlighted on your washing sheets.) Make sure to note any differences from your given sheet of numbers. **\*\*\* No need to wash capes unless dirty. But if they are sweaty and have an odor please wash.**
7. Assemble the pants and jacket in appropriate combinations (attaching the cape snapped on at least 2-3 snaps each shoulder), and place them together with the bagged gauntlets in the garment bag. Zip and hang. It has been my experience that this process for 10 (ten) uniforms will take a couple hours, start to finish.
8. Gauntlets must be laundered each time. The Gauntlets may require some pre-wash treatment. The normal Gauntlet pairs can be laundered simply by opening up both and then attaching one to the other making sure the hook side of the Velcro is covered with the opposite Velcro so it cannot pick on the other fabric. Please wash them separately from other items, but the gauntlets may all be the same wash load, (or even in with the jackets). Wash in **cold** water. Make sure the Gauntlets are **completely dry** before putting them back in their plastic bags or they will mildew. It might be easier to do them first and then set the standing up afterward to make sure they are dry and then bag them last.
9. At the end of the marching season, the garment bags will need to be washed. **Prior to** washing, **please remove the paper name tag** from the clear pocket but don't throw it away, re-insert **after** washing. The garment bags should be washed separately from the other items, but 10 may fit in one wash load at one time. Please take out of the dryer immediately and hang. You can put them in at medium heat dryer too.
10. If you find any spots that do not come out, please do not dry the garment and call me to work through it or get to me to work on.

Uniforms should be returned to the Uniform Room when you drop off your child for the a rehearsal. If you cannot make this time, please contact Chrissy Rabayda to make other arrangements.

**Thanks again for your help in keeping the WTW Marching Cavalier Band looking its best.**

Please make any notes about these directions because we just wrote them and you will tell us if they are worded well and work practically this way.

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