

# THE STYLISTICIAN

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## **Learn laundry symbols.**

No matter how much you love clothes, we assume it wouldn't be too much of a stretch to guess that you don't love doing laundry. Whether you don't have the time, energy or simply the interest, we encourage you to discover and focus on the positives of laundering. So, how do you recognize the positives? By acknowledging the huge conveniences of modern washing. One of these conveniences is laundry symbols. These symbols (located on tags within your garments) are the best place to start when attempting to make your laundry life easier. The only catch is you need to understand them.

Often ignored and overlooked, laundry symbols are created in our best interest. The manufacturers of our clothes have tested and carefully written out instructions for us to follow so that we can keep our clothing looking fresh, new and in the best condition possible.

### **What's The Best Ways To Learn Laundry Symbols?**

## OUR VERDICT

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### Pros

- **Laundry symbols are convenient instructions on how to keep your clothes in the best possible condition.**
- **Laundry symbols tell you exactly how to keep your clothing looking fresh and new.**
- **Once you get accustomed to the “laundry language” taking care of clothes will be straightforward and more gratifying.**

### Cons

- **Looking at laundry symbols can be like looking at a foreign language.**
- **Patience is needed, a load of laundry means deciphering a lot of laundry symbols.**
- **Symbols may contradict the enticing option to just dump it all in, cross your fingers and hope for the best.**

1. We suggest you get well acquainted with them. [Tide](#) has an in-depth guide on how to read laundry symbols.
2. Print out a laundry symbol cheat sheet card and keep it near your laundry. You might want to laminate it or put it in a water-resistant pouch just in case it accidentally falls in with a load.
3. Use them as guidelines rather than law, and follow them at your own discretion. Only you know if it's worthwhile to follow the manufacturers exact care instructions.

Ok, so now that you've mastered your laundry symbols there are other aspects of this washing chore that are causing you to grumble. Just like hair, laundry is going to have its bad days too. You've heard the horror stories and seen the token laundry scene in the movies, where the one red sock weasels its way into a load of pure white linens. Its crude hue contaminates the entire washing machine and gives everything a pink tinge, leaving you with an unintentional monochromatic look. If you live in a big city like New York, you may be forced to lug your clothes to the nearest laundry mat. If you live in an apartment with a “shared” laundry you may have come back to find your clothes passionately thrown out of a machine. You may not have the time or the energy after a long day of work to come home and try to launder and locate the socks to all of your odd pairs.



What you think laundry symbols mean...



What they actually mean...

Just remember laundry isn't a bad thing, it's not your enemy. If you can, try to see the best in it and embrace the positives of laundry day. Whether it's having laundry symbols accessible on your garments, or just simply having access to a washer and dryer (at home, in a laundry mat or a "shared" laundry). Your clothes want to look the best for you, so take care of them. Just think the more you take care of your clothes, the better they'll look on you and the more you'll want to wear them. It may just initiate a virtuous cycle. Laundry pun intended.

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