

# Uniform Care

The *Cesario* collection of band uniforms is performance wear made for easy care, comfort and durability. Proper care is imperative with any garment.

**\*\*\* PLEASE READ CAREFULLY! \*\*\***

## Laundering

It is suggested to have a committee that takes care of garments. Divide the garments to be washed among several parents who will use **the same washing procedure** to ensure correct care. It is **not** necessary to wash uniforms before wearing them.

All garments are washable, unless otherwise stated. However, this does not mean that careful care and repair are not necessary.

## Jackets and Bib Pants:

- **Always wash whites with whites and darks with dark colors.**
- **Avoid washing bib pants and jackets together! Never wash in hot water!**
- Jackets and bib pants are made of completely washable polyester-gabardine. Machine wash and dry on the gentle / knit cycle, but **do not overload machines**. Launder 4 to 6 pieces at a time.
- **Do not use liquid fabric softener on Cesario band uniforms!** If a softener sheet is required, use only one (1) sheet per dry load (see drying directions below.)
- If a stain does occur, sponge with water or treat with an appropriate product before it has time to set and before laundering. **(See stain removal “Quick Reference” Guide)** You may use “Spray and Wash” and other **non-chlorine** stain removers when washing. **Use only non-chlorine detergent!** Many detergents are harsh and have a bleaching ingredient that will cause even colorfast fabric to migrate.

**NOTE: Always test wash one garment before doing the entire set. Water in different regions of the country can sometimes react differently in combination with different detergents and the fabrics.**

- **A multi-colored jacket must be washed with care!** As a precaution, color can be set and bleeding prevented by soaking two-color garments in salt water (1/4 to 1/2 cup per wash load depending on load size) or white vinegar water the **FIRST time the garments are washed**. Or, use Carbona’s “Dye Magnet,” a dry treated material. This product which may be found at most drug stores, fabric centers, and supermarkets picks up any excess color. Follow manufacturer’s instructions.
- If discoloration should occur, Carbona’s “Color Run Remover” or Rit Dye’s “Rit Fabric Treatment Color Remover” will help remove migrating color. After using one of these products, wash the garment again and this generally will remedy the problem.
- **Dry garments completely before storing.**

- **Caution: Do NOT use a hot dryer setting!** A hot dryer setting will remove the press. Use a cool setting. When dried on a cool setting, uniforms will require very little touch up. **Remove them from the dryer and place on a hanger immediately. Steam pressing shoulders and collars is required to retain their proper shape and appearance to renew the heat bonded interfacings.** Touch up pressing on pants may be desired occasionally, or the **pants** may be professionally pressed after several washings and drying.

#### **Garments or Pieces with VELCRO:**

- Make certain the hook side of the Velcro is **not** exposed when laundering uniforms to avoid a 'picking' of the fabric. If a jacket has both the hook (hard side) and loop (soft side) of Velcro, **hook pieces together evenly so the hook side is not exposed.**

#### **Extended Shoulders (Wings) and Collars:**

- Fold back extended shoulders or wings onto the shoulder during washing and drying. Also do this when transporting uniforms. Folding allows them to hold their shape much better.

#### **Baldrics and Gauntlets:**

- **Hand wash** baldrics and gauntlets made from specialty or **unique fabrics** (i.e. sequin, luster chrome, luster brass, etc.). These **must be hand-washed** in cool water then towel dried to remove excess water. They should lie flat to dry. Wash sequin as little as possible and **always** wash in **cold** water.
- Wash ploy gabardine baldrics and gauntlets on a gentle cycle and dry on a permanent press setting in a dryer observing all laundering instructions previously provided for this fabric type. **Make sure to hook the Velcro closure together when laundering in a machine to avoid picking of fabric.**

#### **Vest and Cinch Belts:**

- All back belts on vests and cinches have a six-inch elastic with a layer of stretch fabric. These items are to be **hand washed and then flat dried** because continued drying in a dryer will eventually destroy the elastic.

#### **Cleaning / Maintenance:**

- Launder pants with snap tape left in place so length sizing does not have to be repeated each time uniforms are laundered.
- At the end of the season, store pants clean with hems unsnapped.

## General Precautions and FYI:

### Precaution:

- **No** perfume, deodorant, or hair spray should be sprayed on or next to garments. The residue from these items will cause a build up on the fabric or sequins causing them to lose their luster. Excess friction of velcro or sequins against the fabric may pick the fabric. 'Picks' are easily removed with an electric beard trimmer or tool designed for this use.

### Dry Cleaning:

- Can garments be dry cleaned? No. Colors remain brighter with machine washing and chemicals used in dry-cleaning can often affect the material from which the uniforms are made
- **Never dry clean sequins, metallic dot fabric or laminated fabrics.**

## Care of Unique Fabrics:

### Sequins, Metallic Dot Fabric or Laminated Fabrics:

- **Do not under any circumstances ever iron any of the sequin, metallic dot, mylar, or laminated fabrics.**
- **DO NOT pull loose threads or sequins from sequined fabrics. The entire row of sequins could come loose. Sew loose threads and sequins to the backing.**

### Mylar Stripes or Overlays:

- Take care in folding or the storage of garments with mylar. Mylar will crease if folded over or abused.

### Lumina Metallics and Tackle Twill:

- FJM's new Lumina metallic fabric is washable. If it is sewn into the uniform itself, it may be washed with care.

## Storage:

- **Never stack or store a garment wet from either water or perspiration.**
- Do not place wet or damp garments in a plastic bag.
- Proper hanging and drying of garments after each time they are worn is imperative.

# Quick Reference Stain Guide

## Helpful hints for care and maintenance of Uniforms

REMEMBER – Washable uniforms, like all clothes, can get stained. It is important to remove the stain as soon as possible. This list is enclosed to help you with difficult and unusual types of stains.

### **BLOT STAINS WITH WATER, SOLVENTS, AND CLEANING AGENTS! Do not rub!**

- A. PRE-TREAT STAINS BEFORE WASHING** (apply stain treatment and scrub with a toothbrush or other like tool before the item is placed in the washing machine.)

Use regular laundry detergent (without chlorine or reads safe for colors)

- B.** “Lestoil” – will take out most stains
- C.** “Simple Green” – For hard to remove grass stains or dirt rings on collars and sleeves. (This product is found in automotive department) We prefer the spray type.
- D.** “Carbona” – Has a variety of removers called “Stain Devils”. Listed below are the different removers.

“Stain Devil” – Make Up and Grass Remover “Stain Devil” – Blood and Milk Remover “Stain Devil” – Coffee, Tea and Cola Remover “Stain Devil” – Chewing Gum and Glue Remover “Stain Devil” – Ink and Crayon Remover

- E.** “Whink” – For removing rust stains
- F.** Aerosol hair spray or rubbing alcohol will remove ballpoint ink stain.
- G.** Waterless hand cleaner like those used in the garage or automotive environments can be used as a pre-treat for grease, oil, tar, or paint. This product dissolves the oil-base stain before it is set in. **However, this must be used BEFORE ANY WATERBASE treatment.**

# Headwear

Proper care and cleaning of your hat ensures the longevity for which it is designed. Please note the size conversion chart to assist in the correct distribution of headwear for marching unit members.

1. Hand wash all parts of the hat with a mild liquid cleaner diluted with cold water. There are many products designed for such purposes such as Woolite or mild dishwashing detergent.
2. Scrub soiled parts gently with a toothbrush to remove dirt particles.
3. Allow the hat to drip dry. **Do not place in a dryer or near artificial heat.**
4. Clean vinyl and plastic materials with a non-abrasive polish to restore the original luster. Use Armor All, Pledge, or other products specifically designed for polishing vinyl and plastic.
5. **DO NOT dry clean,**
6. **DO NOT use any spot-cleaning chemicals.**
7. **DO NOT bleach** any part of the hat.