

ISU Extension—Home and Family Clothing and Textiles Resources

The following can be ordered online at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/store/>. Those that indicate .pdf may be downloaded and printed.

Protective Clothing

Resources and information on pesticide safety, farm safety, and sun safety.

Family Pesticide Safety series

- Understand Label Precautions, Pm-1663a, Revised June 2000
- What to Do When Clothes are Soiled, Pm-1663b, Revised June 2000
- Wear the Right Gloves, Pm-1663c, Revised June 2000
- Wear Coveralls and Aprons, Pm-1663d, Revised June 2000
- Use Eye and Lung Protection, Pm-1663e, Revised June 2000

Safe Farm series

- Learn About Pesticides and Clothes, Pm-1265f, 2002
- Keep Gloves Handy for Pesticide Work, Pm-1518e, 2002
- WPS--New Rules for Agriculture: Sources..., Pm-1563b, 1995

Sun Safety

- Is It Time to Change Your Hat? Pm-1683, 2002
- Remember Sun Safety in the Field, Pm-1518h, 2002
- Shirts and Stuff for Sun Safety, Pm-1862, 2002
- How Shady is Your T-shirt? Pm-1916, 2002

Clothing Care and Stain Removal

Successful stain removal depends on the fiber content of the garment, whether it is washable or dry cleanable only, the type of stain it is, and how long it has been there. Many stain removal guides give advice that is more complicated than necessary. In the stain guides with this site, stains are classified so that most of the stains in the same class can be removed by the methods indicated. There are always circumstances that alter cases, so methods recommended here should be used with some caution. It helps to remove stains quickly, but doing the wrong thing first may lead to permanent staining that cannot be removed.

For a more comprehensive coverage of stains and suggestions for removing them, the Quick & Easy Stain Removal publication is now available as a pdf file. You can download the pdf version, or you can contact ISU Extension Publication Distribution and request a copy from them.

Stain Removal

- Quick 'N Easy Stain Removal, Pm-858, 1997 (pdf)
- Stain Removal Tips
- Stain Removal - Frequently Asked Questions from Answer Line

Clothing Care

- Consumer Choices: Getting Better Laundry Results, Pm-1664, 1998 (pdf)
- Family Pesticide Safety: What to Do When Clothes are Soiled with Pesticide, Pm-1663b, 2000 (pdf)
- Washing Soot Damaged Clothes - 2001 (pdf)
- Washing Wool Sweaters - 2001 (pdf)

Browse other frequently asked textiles and laundry questions on the FAQ page, or in ISU Extension Answer Line's FAQ database.

Some of the publications linked on this site are Adobe Acrobat pdf files. For more information about pdf files or to download a free copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader, please consult the pdf help section.

Clothing for Special Needs

Explore the series of publications that offer useful information for people with special needs: children, the disabled and elderly, and for farm safety. Publications are accessible in pdf format or can be ordered from the ISU Extension Publications office.

For more information about pdf files or to download a free copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader, please consult the pdf help section.

Children

Consumer Choices series:

- Selecting Clothes for Toddlers, Ages 1-3, Pm-1105 (pdf)
- Selecting Clothes for Preschoolers, Ages 3-5, Pm-849 (pdf)
- Selecting Clothes for Schoolage Children, Ages 6-9, Pm-848 (pdf)
- Selecting Baby's First Clothes, Pm-1582 (pdf)
- Shopping for Children's Clothes and Shoes, Pm-895 (pdf)
- Keeping Babies Warm in Winter, Pm-1655 (pdf)
- Clothing Ideas for Special Needs Children, Pm-1911 (pdf)

How to Wash Cloth Diapers

Follow these suggestions to maintain white diapers:

1. To remove solid waste, rinse diapers in toilet bowl. (Be sure to hold onto the edge of the diaper so that it does not get flushed and clog the plumbing.)
2. Collect the day's soiled diapers in pail. Use cold water soak detergent, borax, or two tablespoons of liquid chlorine bleach per gallon of water to control odor.
3. Launder diapers daily or often enough to control odor.
4. Pour diapers and soak solution into washer and spin.
5. Next, use detergent with presoak cycle and spin.
6. Wash in hot water with detergent and dilute chlorine bleach to sanitize and kill germs.
7. Bleach only once or twice a week to prolong wear.
8. Rinse thoroughly.
9. Fabric softeners reduce absorbency if used too often.
10. Use regular dryer setting or line dry.

Dispose of single use diapers in an environmentally safe way -- Feces or solid waste should be removed from single use diapers and flushed down the toilet. Diapers should be folded up with the soiled side inside when they are put in trash.

Disabled and Elderly

- Consumer Choice: Clothing ideas for people with special needs (pdf)
- Clothing Ideas for People with Back Irregularities (pdf)
- Clothing Ideas for People with Breast Cancer (pdf)
- Clothing Ideas for People with Incontinence (pdf)
- Consumer Choices: Selecting clothes for older people in your care (pdf)
- Clothing Ideas for People with Arthritis (pdf)
- Clothing Ideas for the Mobility Impaired (pdf)

Farm Safety

Family Pesticide Safety series

- Understand Label Precautions, Pm-1663a (pdf)
- What to Do When Clothes are Soiled, Pm-1663b (pdf)
- Wear the Right Clothes, Pm-1663c (pdf)
- Wear Coveralls and Aprons, Pm-1663d (pdf)
- Use Eye and Lung Protection, Pm-1663e (pdf)

Safe Farm series

- Learn About Pesticides and Clothes, Pm-1265f (pdf)
- Keep Gloves Handy for Pesticide Work, Pm-1518e (pdf)
- Cover Up with Coveralls and Aprons, Pm-1518h (pdf)
- WPS--New Rules for Agriculture: Sources..., Pm-1563b (pdf)

Historical Clothing and Textiles

An Introduction to the Costume and Textile Collection

The Costume and Textile Collection in the Textiles and Clothing Program at Iowa State University is preserved for educational purposes. Items in the Collection are seldom displayed for the public but are used in teaching historic costume and textile classes.

The University of Iowa Historic Costume Collection was given to Iowa State when the Home Economics Department at the University of Iowa was dissolved by the State Board of Regents. Items from this collection were integrated into the ISU collection with notation as to origin.

Donating to the Collection

If you have items that you are interested in donating to the Costume and Textile Collection, please review the Textiles and Clothing Program Web site at Iowa State University.

Available Publications:

- Caring for Quilts, CL 954 (pdf)
- Conserving Old Clothing Treasures, CL 955 (pdf)
- Family Apparel--Sketches of the Past, PM 1661 (pdf)

Audio-Visual Resources

Family Apparel: 150 Years Iowa Style 1846-1996, a slide set with 52 slides and script, is available on loan. This set was produced to help celebrate the Iowa Sesquicentennial in 1996. Contact Susan Torntore for more information about the slide set.

Clothing Selection

Explore the series of publications that offer useful information on smart shopping and purchasing clothing for winter. Publications are accessible in pdf format or can be ordered from the ISU Extension Publications office.

For more information about pdf files or to download a free copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader, please consult the pdf help section.

Smart Shopping

- Consumer Choices: Finding Your Best Fit - PM 1648 (pdf)
- Consumer Choices: How to Complain and Get Results - PM 716 (pdf)
- Consumer Choices: Understanding Apparel and Furnishing Textiles - PM 734 (pdf)
- Consumer Choices: Using Textile Labels - PM 733 (pdf)
- Consumer Choices: Buying Home Sewing Machines PM 1581 (pdf)
- Consumer Choices: Shirts and Stuff for Sun Safety - PM 1862 (pdf)
- Is It Time to Change Your Hat? - PM 1683 (pdf)
- Teen Choices: Planning Clothes for Prom - PM 1910 (pdf)

Apparel Choices for Winter

- Buying a Warm Coat - NCR 131 (pdf)
- Dress to Meet the Cold (bilingual Spanish/English) - NCR 197 (pdf)
- Keeping Babies Warm in Winter (bilingual Spanish/English) - PM-1655 (pdf)
- Buying a Warm Coat - NCR 131 (pdf)

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