

GEN. EXT. DIV.

* WASHINGTON HOMEMAKER *

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State College - Wash.

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Time: Seven Minutes

Blue Washday
OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT: At this time we bring you the regular feature of Western Homemaker presented over Station _____ in cooperation with the State College extension service. She will talk to you today on Blue Washday.

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Is washday a blue Monday in your home? Have you discovered why? Modern laundry equipment is designed so that you housekeepers may face washday with high spirits. But even today the traditions of bending over washboards, and leaning over steaming boilers continues to exist.

Do you stand over a steaming boiler even if you do own a modern washing machine? Do you rinse and wring by hand when your washer could do a much better job? Then you are still persisting in letting tradition rule your washday; hence it is a blue washday. Forget about these traditions and let modern equipment and modern methods take their place.

Every step in modern washing is important. First, sort the clothes into separate lots. You will find it convenient to have a separate laundry bag for every member of the family. There should also be individual bags for soiled handkerchiefs, as these need boiling. In sorting the clothes before washing, separate silks, wools and sheer materials from the sturdier cottons and linens as they require different methods and may be washed another day. Separate the cottons and linens into white and colored pieces. But aside all the colors that might not be fast, and put the fast color clothes to be washed with the white clothes. Remove spots or stains that might not come out when washed. Pick out all noticeably soiled pieces and soak them for a half an hour or so. You could do this sorting and soaking the night before if you have the time.

Now, fill the washer with hot water. If you use hard water, use a water softener. Dissolve the softener thoroughly, then add the soap by running the machine until you have a good suds. Add the clothes a piece at a time if you

don't know how much of a load your washer will take. Don't over load the machine. For excellent results in washing, extract the water from the clothes after each process so that as little soiled water as possible will be carried into the clean rinse water.

Boiling is unnecessary except for sterilizing such pieces as handkerchiefs or diapers. When colds prevail, soak the handkerchiefs in a solution of one-half cupful of salt to a gallon of water for a half hour. Then boil in soap suds for 20 minutes. Then rinse thoroughly in hot water and in two or three lukewarm waters. You'll save time and money if you'll use paper handkerchiefs when colds are going through your family.

After the clothes have been washed and the water extracted from them in the dryer or wringer, rinse them. The first rinse should be the temperature of the wash water. Add the water softener to the rinse water also and dissolve well. Rinse the clothes for three to five minutes. Now extract the water again in the dryer or wringer and rinse again. The rinse water this time may be lukewarm. Two rinses may be ample if the first rinse is thorough. When using a wringer, be sure to fold the garments with buttons, so that the buttons will be inside the garment. This prevents breaking and tearing them off. Straighten all large pieces to avoid bunching or jamming the rollers.

If you are using blueing on your clothes, use a soap containing blueing in the wash water, or use it in the third rinse. Mix the blue thoroughly with the water before adding the clothes and keep the clothes moving so as not to streak them.

If you are bleaching your white clothes, use a chlorine bleach and follow the instructions on the bottle carefully. Avoid using too much or you will have a line full of yellowed, streaky clothes instead of the pure white clothes you wanted.

In starching, use just enough starch to restore the original dressing and give the fabric a smooth finish that will resist the soil and stay looking nice for a while. This is a matter of personal taste also.

Men's shirts are a problem to wash and iron and it would take much more of the time than I have to tell you how to make a shirt look well laundered. I won't take the time, but next week I'll tell you how to correctly launder, iron and fold a man's shirt to give it that professional look.