



MORE PRESSING MATTERS

- ✓ Begin pressing/ironing with the garments or articles needing the lowest temperature setting and progress to the items needing the highest heat.
- ✓ Use:
 - lower temperatures for synthetic (man-made) fibers
 - medium temperatures for silks, wools, and permanent press finishes
 - higher temperatures for cottons and linens, unless they've been treated with a resin finish
- ✓ Using too hot an iron can soften some of the thermoplastic finishes with the results being that the finish transfers from the fabric to the bottom of the iron.
- ✓ The hangtag which comes with a garment should give an indication of the correct iron temperature to use. If not, use the temperature chart on the iron as a guide. If you're not sure, begin with a low setting and test for results until you have achieved the correct temperature for the fabric.
- ✓ Should you have any questions about temperature setting, test the iron on an inconspicuous part of the garment, such as an inside pocket or the hem. If the iron is too cool, the wrinkles will not be removed nor will the fabric stay in place. If the iron is too hot, the test part will wrinkle up, become glazed, or stick to the iron.
- ✓ Know the difference between ironing and pressing.
 - Pressing is an up-and-down lifting motion with the iron on the fabric.
 - Ironing is a back-and-forth sliding motion with the iron across the fabric.
- ✓ Always iron with the grain of the fabric, never sliding across on the bias. Avoid pulling or stretching the fabric also when ironing.
- ✓ Do not try to iron/press over rough objects, such as zippers, snaps, buttons, etc. These items can scratch the soleplate of the iron and cause damage.
- ✓ Start with the smaller areas of a garment first, such as collars, cuffs, yokes, and sleeves. Then progress to the larger area.
- ✓ Move the ironed/pressed surfaces away from you as you work. This eliminates further wrinkling from body contact with the article while you continue working.
- ✓ To press embroidered items, appliqués, monograms, etc., place the fabric on a towel and iron/press from the wrong side. Using a towel allows the raised effect of the design to remain intact.



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- ✓ Spray starch is designed for use on natural fibers—mainly cotton. To be effective it must be absorbed into the fabric, which can only happen with natural fibers. When used with synthetic fabrics, it becomes little white blobs on top of the fabric when ironed.
- ✓ Spray fabric finish is designed for use on synthetic fibers. It will not become little white blobs on top of the fabric when ironed. It is also equally effective on natural fibers.
- ✓ If you need to press an article but don't have an ironing board available, place a blanket or towel on a table top or counter top and cover with a smooth cloth. Sometimes a bed can be used safely for emergency pressing.
- ✓ The need for most ironing/pressing in the home can be eliminated by using the following laundry methods:
 - Use a fabric conditioner or softener
 - Remove clothing from dryer while it is still warm
 - Hang and/or fold properly immediately
- ✓ NEVER iron/press over a stain! Heat sets stains, and by doing so, the stain may be set into the garment forever.

