

**LAUNDRY QUANDRY KEY**

1. You'll have to use a strong solvent to thin the tar, but it may leave a stain. After the tar is out, pretreat the stain with concentrated detergent and wash it in cold water.
2. After the concrete has thoroughly dried, it will probably chip off the fabric. You will have to use a sturdy brush to remove the concrete dust, or residue, before washing.
3. The permanent marker will probably not come out. Be creative and cover the marker spots with cute patches or something decorative.
4. Rewash the whites with chlorine bleach before putting them into the dryer. Repeat the procedure, if necessary. It is better to wash them twice, though, than to put too much bleach in the laundry load.
5. To conserve energy, consider washing the shirt by hand and hanging it to dry.
6. Unfortunately, your rayon blouse will never again be the same size. If it's only a little bit smaller, try sending it to the dry cleaners and see if they can help. Otherwise, you will probably have to pass the blouse along to someone smaller than you.
7. After the wax has hardened, peel off as much as possible. Place several folds of paper towels under and over the waxed area and iron it to melt the wax. (The wax will be absorbed by the paper towels.) Use a light solvent to remove the remaining wax.
8. Leave the stain alone and take it to the dry cleaners as soon as possible, identifying the stain for them.
9. Don't automatically apply fingernail polish remover. First, put some remover on an inside seam or hem and see how the fabric reacts. If there doesn't seem to be a problem, apply remover to the stain. If the fabric reacts negatively, you'll have to be creative and find another way to hide the polish. Washing it and/or rubbing it will not do any good.
10. You could try redyeing the shirt with some navy blue dye. If the letters are vinyl or rubber, they won't absorb the dye. However, if the letters are fabric or flocked, they will absorb the dye. So, if possible, remove the letters first. Be sure to wash the shirt by itself at least once before putting it with another load.

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11. The bleach spots are there to stay. You could try redyeing the towels, but there will probably still be light spots in the bleached areas. Try to hang the towels so the bleach spots are in the back and be more careful next time.
12. Dissolve some baking soda in warm water. Pour the mixture into the washer filled with cold water. Let the diapers soak in this solution of baking soda and cool water for several hours. Then rinse them thoroughly and launder as usual. If the odor persists, add some white distilled vinegar to the rinse water.
13. Cover the holes with denim patches, stitching all around the patch. Cut the torn area out from the back of the patch. Be creative and cut the patches in fun shapes and use brightly colored thread to sew them on. Decorate pocket edges to match the patches.
14. Before the shirt is washed, restitch the top of the pocket so the rip doesn't get any bigger during the laundry process.
15. Pretreat heavily soiled areas with concentrated detergent. Wash the sheers in cold water and allow them to spin dry. Do not place them in the dryer. Rehang them immediately (while damp) and let them dry in place.
16. Sorry, but chlorine bleach and wool are not compatible. Your sweater is probably very stiff and, unfortunately, that's the way it will stay. You'll just have to replace the sweater.
17. Wash the bedding in cold water as usual, but add a little chlorine bleach to the wash water to disinfect it.
18. Remove the most inconspicuous button possible and replace it with a button that is the same size and color; maybe there's one at the waist under a belt. Or you could remove a button at the neckline and wear a pin there. Look inside the dress to be sure there aren't extra buttons sewn in.