

How to Care for Your Woollens so They Last for Years

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As winter wardrobes come out of storage and cooler weather sets in, proper care of woollen garments is essential to ensure they stay warm, soft and durable for years to come. Wool is a delicate natural fibre that can easily lose shape, soften excessively or shrink if not handled with the right care — but with some simple practices, these cozy favourites can stay in top condition season after season.

Wash with Care

Wool garments should ideally be **hand washed** or machine washed on a **gentle “wool” cycle** using **lukewarm or cold water** and a **mild detergent** designed for delicate fabrics. Hot water and harsh detergents can damage wool fibres and cause shrinking or felting. Avoid frequent washing — wool naturally resists odours and doesn't require washing after every wear.

Dry Correctly

After washing, woollens should be **laid flat to dry** rather than hung up. Hanging wet wool can stretch the fibres and distort the garment's shape. Direct sunlight and tumble dryers should be avoided, as heat can shrink and weaken fibres. Instead, dry flat in the shade or a cool, ventilated area so the garment keeps its form and softness.

Proper Storage

Good storage practices help wool garments stay fresh between seasons. Always ensure woollens are **completely dry and clean before storing** — trapped moisture can lead to mildew or unwanted odour. Fold sweaters and knitted pieces instead of hanging them, and keep them in **cool, dry places** away from damp corners. If using storage bags, choose **breathable cotton or muslin options** rather than plastic to prevent moisture buildup.

Avoid Common Mistakes

- **Too much washing:** Wool doesn't need frequent laundering; air garments out in open air between wears to refresh them.
- **Ignoring care labels:** Always check and follow manufacturer washing instructions.
- **Drying in direct heat:** Heat from dryers or the sun can shrink and fade wool fabrics.

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