



GORE-TEX® Technical Garments

Care and Maintenance

HOW TO WASH A GORE-TEX® TECHNICAL GARMENT?

Follow the garment manufacturer's care symbols inside the garment. Close garment zippers, and close and cover all Velcro® fasteners to prevent deposits of foreign matter or textile damage. Protective clothing should be washed separately. This stops possible contaminants from spreading to other clothing. For optimum cleaning results, wash protective clothing right-side out (reflective strips outwards). Use any commercial detergent with pH value when machine or hand washing and rinse thoroughly. Do not use chlorinated detergent. To ensure all detergent residues are removed run an additional rinse cycle in your machine after the wash cycle.

USE OF FABRIC CONDITIONER

Do not use fabric conditioners. Fabric conditioner cannot harm the waterproof properties of a technical garment but it can accelerate the depletion of the water repellent treatment on the fabric's outer surface. This water repellent finish allows rain water to bead and easily run off the garment.

TUMBLE DRYING A GARMENT AFTER WASHING

Protective clothing can be dried in a tumble dryer. This method is recommended for maintenance of the garment's durable water-repellent treatment. For tumble drying, clothing should be right-side out (reflective strips outwards).

IRONING PROTECTIVE GARMENTS

This is acceptable on a medium heat with no steam. Place a cloth or towel between the garment and iron to prevent the fabric becoming shiny and to protect reflective strips.

CAN STAINS BE REMOVED?

Yes, use a commercial stain remover product and rinse well. The waterproof GORE-TEX® Membrane is resistant to chemicals, therefore check the outer fabric content label and select a product for the particular stain. To ensure colourfastness test the stain remover on a hidden part of the garment. Finish as instructed on the care label inside the garment.

CAN GORE-TEX® TECHNICAL GARMENTS BE DRY CLEANED?

Specialist dry cleaning is recommended for badly soiled protective clothing and Gore recommends cleaning with perchloroethylene (PER) or hydrocarbon. This method is particularly effective for soiling that is not water-soluble such as oils, grease, and bitumen. It's important to always check the garment manufacturer's care label as other components in the garment might not be suitable for dry cleaning and might need removing where ever possible. When taking garments to a professional dry-cleaner it is important to advise them not to pierce the fabric with any pins as punctures will lead to water penetration. We do not recommend dry cleaning soap on our products.

HOW TO CLEAN CONTAMINATED GORE-TEX® TECHNICAL GARMENTS

The care label should be followed at all times. When a garment becomes dirty or contaminated with chemicals, greases or such like, the garment should be cleaned as soon as possible. Failure to do this will mean that the dirt and contaminants will become ingrained into the filaments of the yarns in the woven textile. When this occurs it is not always possible to remove all dirt which can result in staining. Excessive staining can impact the compliance to ANSI 107 and conspicuity.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED WHEN A GORE-TEX® TECHNICAL GARMENT LOOKS WET AND FEELS HEAVY IN THE RAIN?

It has temporarily stopped repelling water on the outer surface. Restore the water beading effect by using the heat in a tumble dryer or a steam iron (Follow instructions on the care label). In time it will be necessary to re-treat the outer surface (see below). Remember that GORE-TEX® Fabric is not dependent on the water repellent coating to retain its waterproof properties.

HOW TO REPROOF THE OUTSIDE OF A GORE-TEX® TECHNICAL GARMENT

Use non-silicon based water repellent spray. For best results ensure the garment is clean before spraying. Please note it is only necessary to reproof the garment when heat fails to restore the water beading effect.

WHAT TO DO WHEN A TECHNICAL GARMENT IS TORN

GORE-TEX® Technical Garment manufacturers can assess any damage or tears to a garment. No one else can seal a repair effectively. Gore also supplies Rip Kit Sets for home use. For further information ask a Supplies Officer for contact details or ring FREEPHONE 0800 833 357. Please note a home repair could seriously affect the garment's performance.

WHEN WATER GETS INTO GARMENT POCKETS

It is impractical to guarantee external pockets against water entry on any waterproof garment. Pockets are designed to be opened and closed. When pockets are not in use they should have the flap fully closed to avoid ingress of water. The garment's waterproofness is not compromised and you will remain dry. Some GORE-TEX® Technical Garments are designed with an internal pocket which will keep water out.

WILL SALT WATER CONDITIONS DAMAGE A GORE-TEX® TECHNICAL GARMENT?

Salt water does not contaminate, clog the pores or harm GORE-TEX® fabric in any way.



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