

Pillow Care Instructions

- **Pillow protector.** Using a good quality pillow protector will to lengthen the life of your pillow, as humidity and oils are the worst enemy's of feather and down. Be sure to wash your protector occasionally.
- **Fluff pillow daily.** After climbing out of bed, fluff your pillow. This will help the pillow to maintain maximum loft, and the pillow will last longer as it won't get matted down. Fluffing also makes the pillow "happy", which in turn will provide more sweet dreams to you!
- **Wash your Pillows!** All of our pillows are machine washable and easy to care for. The following are our recommended instructions on how to wash your pillows.

Machine wash your pillows in warm water, using a small amount of down washing detergent. Any mild detergent will work, however, any specially formulated down detergent is best, as it contains no wax or oil type agents. We recommend using a non-agitating commercial size machine and a gentle cycle. **DO NOT** use bleach or fabric softener, as they **WILL** leave a sticky residue. After the wash cycle is finished, be sure to run your pillows through at least 2 rinse cycles. This will guarantee all the soap residue is removed.

DO NOT LINE DRY! Tumble dry on high heat for about an hour. Add a couple of tennis balls or clean tennis shoes to help break up the large clumps of down and fluff it up. After an hour, remove pillow and fluff it up! If it still feels damp, return it to the dryer until completely dry. Drying will usually take a good hour depending on the density of the pillow.

FAQ's about the Pillows

Q. Why do I need to use a commercial or top loading machine?

A. Most home machines are agitating machines with smaller drums than a commercial machine. Even if you have a large capacity washing machine, it is most likely an agitator type. When the down gets wet (which is no small feat in a top loading machine to begin with, as the down will float on top of the water causing you to push it down and get yourself soaked in the process) it becomes VERY heavy. An agitator will push and pull on the fabric by moving it back and forth, thus putting a lot of stress on the material itself due to the weight. Therefore, using a commercial machine, which is a front loading or tumble type machine, there is no added stress on the material, or shell, and you get to stay dry, which is always a bonus.

Q. Why do I need to use down detergent?

A. You don't. It is however strongly advised that you use detergent specially formulated for down and feather because it lacks waxes and oils, which are pure evil for your pillows and comforters. You can use any type of "light" detergent you want to use, but please keep in mind that you don't want a residue left on the down or feathers, as it will break the natural fibers down a lot faster. Remember that down and feathers are a *natural* fiber and can't hold up to the chemicals in most detergents. If you do use a common "any brand" detergent, we suggest you get the **FREE** version with no added softening or perfume agents and also rinsing the pillows at least 3 times to make sure there are no lingering soap remnants in the pillow.

Comforter Care Instructions

- **Use a comforter cover!!!!** All of our comforters come in three colors. White, white or white. If you like the color white, we can provide a cover in that color. By using a cover, not only will the shell (or fabric) remain clean, but the down itself will remain cleaner. It is also easier to remove and wash a cover than the comforter itself. Ideally, when using a comforter cover, a comforter needs washing only once a year. We commend that you wash them no more than twice a year.
- **Fluff your comforter daily.** Like your pillows, by fluffing your comforter you are forcing air in between the plumes of the down and giving it “room to breath” (so to speak). By doing this, the fibers will be able stretch out instead of being compressed together.
- **Air it out.** If you have the opportunity, hang your comforter outside on a clothesline or drape it over your deck rail. This will allow the air to flow through the plumes of down and help maintain the natural loft by freshening up the down. If you just don't have the means to air it outdoors, then fluff it up by putting it in the dryer, with tennis balls, on the air fluff cycle. (Remember – no fabric softener sheets!!!)
- **Store your comforter properly!** NEVER store down or feather products in plastic!! Good for moisture and mildew – bad for down and feathers!!! Always store your products in a cotton bag, wrap, or cloth. Why? Because cotton breathes and plastic does not! Once mildew sets in, it is extremely hard to get rid of and you can pretty much say goodbye to your bedding, as it will never be the same.
- **All of our comforters are machine washable!** Let me say that again. All our comforters, toppers, featherbeds and pillow are machine washable. We have small children at home, so when we were looking for a manufacturer, we made sure it was easy to care for and user friendly! Our recommended washing instructions for our comforters, topper, and featherbeds are as follows:

Machine wash your comforter in warm water, using a small amount of down washing detergent. Any mild detergent will work, however, any specially formulated down detergent is best, as it contains no wax or oil type agents. We recommend using a non-agitating commercial size machine and a gentle cycle. **DO NOT** use bleach or fabric softener, as they **WILL** leave a sticky residue. After the wash cycle is finished, be sure to run your comforter through at least 2 rinse cycles. This will guarantee all the soap residue is removed. Caution – be careful when pulling the wet comforter out of the machine. It will be very heavy. Take it out a little at a time and try and lift it up as you pull. If you pull it out fast without lifting up on it will put a lot of stress on the material, and it will tear if it catches on anything.

DO NOT LINE DRY! Tumble dry on high heat for about an hour. Add a couple of tennis balls or clean tennis shoes to help break up the large clumps of down and fluff it up. We refer to that process as “the whacking of the down”. After an hour, remove the comforter and fluff it up!. If it still feels damp, return it to the dryer until completely dry. It is also recommended that you stop the dryer a couple of times during the cycle to rearrange the comforter, as the inside folds won't get as much heat as the outsides. Drying will usually take a good hour depending on the density of the comforter.

Comforter Care FAQ's

Q. What is a comforter (or duvet) cover?

A. A comforter cover is basically a giant pillowcase for your comforter. They can be easily

removed for washing and is much less work than washing the comforter itself. You can also change the décor of your bedroom (or sanctuary, as any parent would refer to it) easily by using comforter covers. We custom make comforter covers to just about anything you can dream up.

Q. Do I have to use a duvet cover?

A. No. We would strongly urge you to use one however, especially if you have children who like to snuggle or pets. By using a cover, you are protecting your comforter from natural body oils, dirt, and dust.

Q. Can I use dryer sheets or fabric softener when washing my down comforter?

A. No. Both will leave a sticky residue on the down and will cause it to become clumpy.

Q. Can I line dry my comforter?

A. Sure. But **only** if you want to stand outside and 'whack' it like your great-great grandmother did. Line drying does not force air into the down and the clumps will not break apart, (unless you literally 'whack' the stuffing out of it.) The down will remain in wet clumps and could develop mildew. This method of drying is **not recommended** unless you have both a lot of pent up frustration, which you need to dispel of, and a lot time. Even with both of these, we would recommend you beat on a rug instead.

Q. Why do I need to use a commercial or top loading machine?

A. Most home machines are agitating machines with smaller drums than a commercial machine. Even if you have a large capacity washing machine, it is most likely an agitator type. When the down gets wet (which is no small feat in a top loading machine to begin with, as the down will float on top of the water, causing you to push it down into the water and getting yourself soaked in the process) it becomes VERY heavy. An agitator will push and pull on the fabric by moving it back and forth, thus putting a lot of stress on the material itself due to the weight. Therefore, using a commercial machine, which is a front loading or tumble type machine, there is no added stress on the material, or shell, and you get to stay dry, which is always a bonus.