

# Leon Grant Taking Care of your waterproofs

How to keep your waterproofs doing what they should, keeping you dry and comfortable.

The garments first barrier against water penetration is the DWR (durable water repellent) coating on the outside of the fabric, allowing water to bead up and roll off rather than soaking into the garment 'wetting out'. Proper care and treatment can help restore the DWR coating and its properties to increase the garments performance which will extend its life. Always remove sludge. loose dirt and heavy soiling with a bucket of cold water and a sponge, gently stroke across the fabric with a very wet sponge.

## How to Clean your Waterproofs

1/ The first thing you will need to do, is prepare your washing machine for your garment, you will need to clean your machine of all detergents, fabric softener, bleaches and anything perfumed, these contain surfactants, which are designed to draw water into your garments which will damage the waterproof ability of your garment by removing the DWR coating. If you want to make double sure your washing machine is clean, run the machine through a hot wash programme with a couple of tea towels in to give it a final clean.

**Always read the wash care label on your garment.**

2/ Now your machine is ready, remove the tension in any draw cords before putting into your machine, fasten all Velcro's and zips. Wash on a 30 degree cycle with a suitable cleaning aid, we recommend using Grangers performance 2 in 1 cleaner and water proofer, as it will remove odour whilst maintaining the garments water proof ability, if you decide to use washing powder it must be a non biological powder. Do not Dry Clean, do not iron faux suede or embroidery without a cloth over first.

3/ *How to dry your garment.* The best way to dry your garment and reactivate the DWR coating is to dry it in a tumble dryer for around 30 to 40 minutes on a low gentle setting to reactivate the DWR treatment, if you don't have a tumble dryer it can be left to drip dry in a warm room or dry on a washing line. To check if your garment is fully dry, drop a few droplets of water on to the garment, if the water beads up and runs off it is ready to use.

4/ If you did not use a cleaner and proofer, your garment will probably need to be re-proofed, it does not need to be done every time you wash your garment but if it starts 'wetting out' then it's time to re-proof it. This can be done with a rewash in Granger performance proofer or treated with Granger performance repel spray.

, 30 degree wash, do not bleach, tumble dry low heat, Iron on low heat, do not dry clean, non biological powder only,

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