



FABRIC CARE GUIDE

Plant Fibres

| | Hand Wash | Machine Wash | Dry-clean | Dry Flat | Iron | Dryer | Line Dry | Bleach |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------|----------|----------------|--------------------------|----------|----------------|
| Coir | Hot water | n/a | n/a | Yes | n/a | n/a | Yes | Yes |
| Cotton | Hot water. Separate colours | Hot water | Yes | Yes | Hot with steam | Yes. Can cause shrinkage | Yes | Yes |
| Hemp | Hot water | Hot water | Yes | Yes | Hot with steam | Yes | Yes | Yes, with care |
| Jute | Hot water | Hot water | Yes | Yes | Hot with steam | Yes | Yes | Yes, with care |
| Linen | Any temperature | Any temperature | Yes | Yes | Hot with steam | Yes | Yes | Yes, with care |

Linen

About Linen

Linen comes from the flax plant and is often mixed with cotton to provide a cheaper alternative to pure linen.

Common Linen Fabrics

Pure linen, linen and cotton mix, linen and silk mix.

Recommended Uses

Linen is used for shirts, dresses, trousers and skirts. Garment design is usually very simple and loose fitting, as there is no stretch to a linen fabric. Household linen, tarpaulins, tents and curtaining are also popular.

Properties

Linen is 'hard', stiff and crisp to touch, and can also sometimes have a soft lustre (shine). Flax is one of the strongest natural fibres, especially when it's wet. Like cotton, it has very little stretch and will go "baggy" over a long period of time (at the knees for example). It wrinkles easily and has little drape. Wrinkling is part of linens character!

Linen has good durability, and is less likely to shrink than cotton, but it can shrink when it's first laundered. Like cotton, it absorbs moisture well and is very comfortable in hot climates; drying very quickly and keeping you cool (a good conductor of heat).

Care

Wash in any temperature and line dry when the garment is wet to save excess ironing. Use a hot iron with steam. Linen can be dyed, bleached (with care) and dry-cleaned.

INFORMATION REFERENCED FROM: *Textiles for Modern Living. 5th Edition. By E.P.G Gohl*