

HOW TO SAVE MONEY

When Doing Laundry



*A guide to cut costs when doing laundry
without reducing the effectiveness of the
wash*

BY TOR RYDDER



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The Scary Math

It may surprise you that an average American family that only does three loads of laundry a week will spend over \$90 a year to run the electricity required to power a washer and a dryer.

If you think this number is high, remember that they still have to buy detergent, which on average costs just shy of \$200 every year. On top of that, there is fabric softener (\$80), bleach (\$50), water, and potential maintenance costs for their washer and dryer.

As you can imagine, there is lots of room for improvement here.

“Once you start taking advantage of these tips not only your wallet will thank you, but so will your clothes, your washer, and the environment.”

About Me



Hi, I'm Tor Rydder, your enthusiastic home-organizing blogger and YouTuber hailing from Norway.

Thank you for signing up for my newsletter and downloading my cheatsheet on saving money when doing laundry.

I have condensed all the best money-saving tricks for laundry day from Organizing.TV into this little cheatsheet. Feel free to test them out individually or implement them all simultaneously.

If you want more information about the individual tips, there are tons more information coming in my newsletter. You can also check out the YouTube channel if you want to see what I'm all about.

Tor Rydder



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When it comes to detergent, it may surprise you to learn that less is often more.

2 Cold Water is Often Better

While hot water is more effective at removing stains and killing bacteria, that not the whole story.

3 Wash at Dusk, Dry at Dawn

It may seem strange, but you will learn that dusk is the best time to do laundry.

4 Laundry Detergent Boosters

A list of the most powerful laundry detergent boosters you likely have laying around your home.

5 Moving Forward

Time to implement what you have already learned, and further step up your laundry day routine.



01 The Benefits of Less Detergent

Using less detergent (or eliminating it altogether in some cases) may seem like a disgusting thought to many. Still, the truth is that you are wasting tons of detergent due to genius marketing from detergent manufacturers.

For starters, the cups, spoons, and ready-measured packets that come with detergents usually contain twice the amount of detergent you need to remove regular stains and clean your clothes.

You can usually get away with using even less detergent if you have a HE washer or soft water.

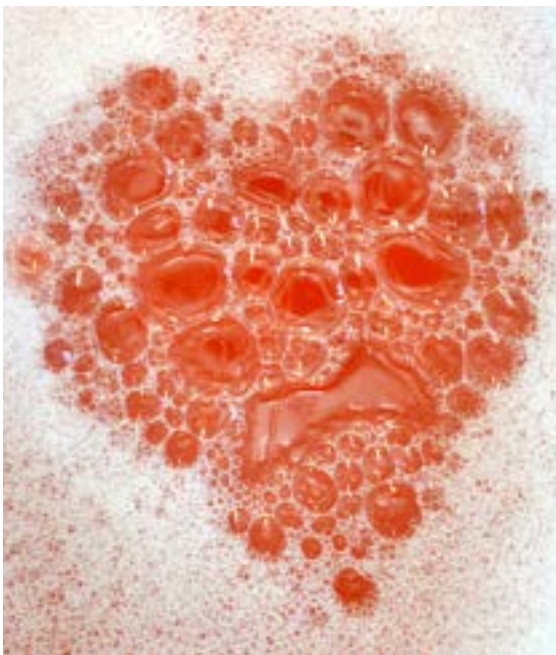


Don't Use More Detergent To Get Rid of Tough Stains

While it can be tempting to dump a massive amount of detergent in the washer to get rid of a tough stain, anything over what the manufacturer recommends will usually lead to detergent stains, itching, and a thinner wallet.

Later in this cheatsheet, we will look at some great laundry boosters you can find around your home to eliminate those pesky stains.

And while it may not be advisable to do this for every wash, if your clothes don't smell like sweat and have no stains on them, it is perfectly fine to forego detergent entirely from time to time. Implement this step, and you have already saved yourself a cool \$100 every year.



In Short:

- 1** Measure up half the detergent that you usually would. Two tablespoons are generally plenty.
- 2** Never use more detergent than what the manufacturer recommends.
- 3** Forego using detergent on stain-free, neutral-smelling clothes.

02

Cold Water is Often Better Than Hot



Did you know that about 90% of the average washing machine's electricity use is spent on heating water?

Turning down the temperature setting on your washing machine will save you a decent amount of coin over the year.

Did you know that about 90% of the average washing machine's electricity use is spent on heating water?

Using the family that washes clothes three times a week as an example, they will spend on average \$26 a year to keep the washing machine running alone.

Turning down the temperature can easily cut this cost in half. And frankly, some clothes will last longer because of it.

Let's take a look at what clothes to wash at what temperature.

Keep the Hot Temperature on Your Whites

Since white clothes will get stained by everything between heaven and earth, we need to wash them with hot water to get rid of all the dirt on the fabric. Therefore, wash your whites at 120 degrees Fahrenheit (50 degrees Celsius).



Cold Water on Colored Clothes

You should wash anything with dye in cold water. Not only does this save on electricity, but it will also preserve the dye in your clothes longer. 60-80 degrees Fahrenheit (15-30 degrees Celsius) is optimal.



Even Colder Water on Black Clothes

For everything with black dye, you want to drop the temperature to the lowest temperature setting possible. Generally, 60 degrees Fahrenheit (15 degrees Celsius) is as low as washers will go. Also, opt for a short program when washing clothes with dye to save the dye, and reduce washing costs even further.



Always opt for the coldest alternative when mixing different colors. And always wash your clothes on an appropriate program. E.g., delicate for delicates.



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Wash at Dusk, Dry at Dawn

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Wash your laundry in the evening and hang it to dry over night to save on electricity.

Do Your Laundry at Night

Electricity prices vary significantly from area to area, But it also varies depending on the time of day.

You will often find that doing laundry a few hours before bedtime can significantly cut power costs.

Using our family that does laundry three times a week as an example again, and assuming that electricity price at night is half of the daytime prices after 10 PM:

The family can cut the electricity cost of doing laundry from \$90 to \$45 over a year by doing their laundry at night.

You must note that you should never let the washing machine or the dryer run while you're out or sleeping. It is a fire hazard.

So how do we find time for both washing and drying before bedtime?

We have three options.

Your 3 Options:

- ✓ Run a short washing cycle, then toss the laundry directly in the dryer afterward. This way, you should be able to fit it all before bedtime.
- ✓ Start the washing cycle early since running the dryer is significantly more expensive than running the washer: \$26 for washing vs. \$64 for drying over a year, using our example.
- ✓ My favorite: Start line-drying your clothes. See the next page for more information.



I strongly recommend starting to line-dry your clothes instead of using the dryer. A drying line will only set you back \$7 on Amazon, or if you want to dry clothes inside instead, a simple drying rack costs as little as \$25.

While hanging your clothes to dry outside is the best option, weather and living conditions won't always allow it.

If you hang dry clothes inside, make sure the room is well-ventilated to avoid getting mold over time.

Considering that our example family will spend \$64 over a year drying their clothes, a \$25 investment is very reasonable. If they only dry half their clothes on a line and the rest of the time you use the dryer, they will be able to save \$32 every year.

It is also very convenient to wash clothes at night, hang them, and go to bed. When the weather allows, hanging them outside the morning after washing is also a fantastic option.

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*The objective of cleaning is not
just to clean, but to feel
happiness living within
that environment.*

- MARIE KONDO



Laundry Boosters



Vinegar

Add up to 4 oz after regular detergent is gone for softer and better smelling clothes.

Baking Soda

Baking soda is a great booster. It removes odor, stains, and helps soften clothes.

Bleach

At a 6:1 ratio, bleach is a great laundry booster when washing your brighter clothes.

Borax

While extremely toxic, borax is also very effective at removing certain stains.



To avoid hurting yourself, your washer, and your clothes: Tap the brown boxes above to read more about the different laundry boosters before you start using them.

Conclusion

Moving Forward

While it may seem like quite an adjustment, once you start taking advantage of these tips, not only will your wallet thank you but also your clothes, your washer, and the environment. You can do it!



If you're interested in learning how to organize your clothes like a master: I've created a 14-Day Wardrobe Organizing Challenge to help you through the entire process of getting organized. And you're invited!

[TAP HERE TO SIGN UP](#)

If you have any questions, feel free to shoot me an email or drop a comment over on YouTube. I'm always happy to hear from readers, and I'll do what I can to help.



tor@organizing.tv
www.organizing.tv