

Lifetime of FR Safety Clothing & Washing Instructions

FR Safety Clothing doesn't ever expire, but it does have a maximum service life. Unlike the "best before" date on food items, you won't find an expiration date anywhere on your equipment, or in a related Workplace Electrical Safety Standard. But nonetheless, an in-depth assessment and possible replacement does need to take place after 2 years of use.

The most common reason FR Safety Clothing is taken out of service is when damage is identified during pre-use inspection. It is important to inspect the clothing before use, checking for rips, tears, holes, visible contamination, smell it for fuel and other flammable substances. How frequently the clothing is used, washed and how it is maintained, will play a big part in when it'll need to be replaced.

To see the full portfolio of FR Safety Clothing, visit our website: <https://shop.wurth.ca/safety-supplies-first-aid/arc-flash-fr-ppe/fr-ppe>

Refer to the information below on the washing requirements for FR Safety Clothing:

FR safety clothing:

Avoid the use of fabric softeners, chlorine bleach, hydrogen peroxide and dryer sheets in all your wash cycles when washing your FR safety clothing. The chemicals in these products can interfere with the FR performance of your FR safety clothing.

Startech™ reflective tape:

Make sure to never directly iron over your Startech™ reflective tape. Always cover the tape before ironing or turn the garment inside-out before ironing. Follow the instructions on the garment's wash care label for temperature settings. Avoid using fabric softener, starch or abrasive clothing in the same wash cycle as your Startech™ taped Pioneer/Ranpro safety wear. Line drying your garments may extend the life of your Startech™ reflective tape.

PU & PVC Rainwear (FR & non-FR):

You can give your soiled PVC or PU rainwear a good hose-down when it's dirty or simply wipe clean. Check garment wash care label before washing your PVC or PU rainwear to make sure the garment is machine washable. Do not tumble dry your PVC or PU raingear – always hang to dry. Air dry your PVC and PU raingear once you are indoors to keep your garments fresh and free from mold and mildew.

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Industrial Laundering and Wash Care Recommendations

General Guidelines and Protocols

Pioneer FR-Tech[®] fabric is made from 88% premium cotton blended with 12% high-tenacity 7 oz (240 GSM) nylon. This fabric is engineered to be tough, durable, and compatible with industrial laundering. Proper care and maintenance of your Pioneer FR-Tech[®] work wear will ensure that it maintains its safety properties and will prolong the product's longevity.

Following the procedures outlined below will ensure the optimum cleaning and longevity of your Pioneer FR-Tech[®] work wear.

Preparation:

Always check that the zippers on your garment are completely closed and that all pockets are emptied prior to laundering. It is also recommended that you turn your garment inside out to prevent the StarTech[™] reflective tape from being damaged by sharp objects such as zippers from other garments in the same wash cycle. Do not soak your Pioneer FR-Tech[®] work wear in detergent prior to washing.

Like Colours:

Always wash your garment with like colors to prevent dyes from transferring onto your Pioneer FR-Tech[®] work wear from other garments in the same wash cycle. Care should also be taken to ensure that heavily soiled garments are not washed with lightly soiled garments. If your garment has contaminants or is heavily soiled, it is recommended that you wash it separately.

Temperature:

The water temperature in the washer should be under 104 °F or 40 °C, i.e. lukewarm to warm.

Detergents:

A variety of detergents are available on the market. However, care should be taken to select an appropriate cleaning agent that will not damage the FR properties of your Pioneer FR-Tech[®] work wear. It is recommended that a synthetic liquid detergent be used; this detergent should be intended for removing heavy-duty soiling and have an alkaline pH value of no more than 10. Using a detergent with a higher pH value may result in colour loss and/or excessive shrinkage. Always ensure that you DO NOT USE detergents containing bleach or animal fat. Thick, sticky soap or soap curds must never be used in the wash cycle as these detergents are difficult to rinse off and may leave residue on the garment which could interfere with the protective properties of the garment.

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Bleach:

Chlorine (sodium hypochlorite) bleach and/or hydrogen peroxide bleach must never be used in the wash cycle. Any detergents with bleaching or whitening properties must not be used to clean your Pioneer FR-Tech[®] garment.

Softeners and Starch:

Pioneer FR-Tech[®] 88/12 Flame Resistant Protective Clothing is made of premium cotton and high-tenacity nylon and has a soft handfeel. It is recommended that you avoid using softeners and starch to treat your Pioneer FR-Tech[®] work wear during the laundering cycle. Fabric softeners and/or dryer sheets must not be used as these can leave a coating or residue on the garment.

Tough Stains:

It is recommended that you not pre-soak your Pioneer FR-Tech[®] work wear to remove heavy soiling and tough stains. However, liquid detergent can be applied directly over the stained/soiled region and hand rinsed prior to industrial laundering to remove excessive dirt and grime from your garment.

Load Size:

When loading garments into the industrial washer, please be mindful to not overload the machine. Overloading will prevent the garments from being washed and cleaned thoroughly. It is recommended that you follow the load instructions specified for the particular washer being used as well as ensure that there is enough room for garments to freely move around in the wash to get a thorough and optimum cleaning.

Drying:

Pioneer FR-Tech[®] work wear may be ironed, tumble dried, tunnel dried or hung to dry. However, in order to prevent colour fading and shrinkage, please ensure that drying conditions are ideal and that the StarTech[™] reflective tape is covered before ironing. Drying temperature should not exceed 149 °F or 65 °C. Use the normal cotton setting for drying your Pioneer FR-Tech[®] garment. Drying for too long a time or at a very high temperature could cause excessive shrinkage of more than 5%. It is recommended that you not use starch while drying.

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