



Care of Your Down/Synthetic Sleeping Bag

Stuffing:

Many customers ask us if it is better to stuff or to roll their sleeping bags. We suggest stuffing, that way the bag's insulation is pushed and fluffed differently each time. Unzip the bag, grab a corner and push it firmly into the bottom of the stuff sack. Keep grabbing and stuffing until the sleeping bag is completely into the stuff sack. Unstuff as soon as camp is set up or the trip is completed.

Storing Your Bag:

This is one part of sleeping bag care that can definitely affect bag performance. Synthetic bags keep their loft longer when properly stored. Your goal is to store the bag in a "relaxed" state as possible. Stuff sacks are only meant to keep the bag manageable and dry during trips. They are not meant for permanent bag storage. One of the best ways to store sleeping bags is in breathable storage sacks specifically designed for that purpose. These storage sacks keep the bags clean and allow the insulation to expand and maintain its lofting ability. Sleeping bags can also be stored loosely folded on a shelf in a cabinet or a closet, or they can be hung upside down by the seam loops (provided on most models). Your sleeping bag should not be stored near heat sources or in overly warm areas such as an automobile (especially during hot weather). Overly hot conditions can harm the loft in synthetic bags by altering the lay of the fibres. Your bag should be kept dry, non-compressed, as clean as possible and safe from excessive heat

CLEANING:

DO NOT DRY CLEAN YOUR BAG. The manufacturers of our synthetic and down fills inform us that solvents and fumes used in cleaning may be retained in the insulation, and if inhaled, could produce skin irritation, allergic reaction, or possibly serious physical injury.

Machine Washing & Drying:

We suggest washing the bag in a front loading (non-agitator), heavy duty, commercial washer. Use a **mild** detergent. We suggest using 1/2 to 1/4 as much detergent as instructed on the container, depending on how soiled the bag is. **Do not use bleach.** Use cool or cold water setting, delicate or gentle cycle. For best results, run the bag through one or two extra rinse cycles **without detergent.** Remove from washer carefully in a bundle. Dry in a commercial dryer at low heat or AIR setting (must be less than 125°F). Excessive heat will damage fabric and insulation. Remove promptly and lay flat until cool. The bag may also be lined dried after being sufficiently spin dried to remove most of the water.

Hand Washing & Drying:

Place bag and mild detergent in a clean bathtub. Fill the tub enough to cover bag sufficiently with cool water and massage the detergent throughout the bag until thoroughly cleaned (be prepared to spend 12 to 15 minutes of messaging here). Lightly scrub the outside of the shell with a soft brush if there are any extra-heavily soiled areas. Drain the dirty water and gently press excess dirty water out of the bag. **Do not wring the bag.** Refill with clean water, massage again, kneading the clean water throughout. Drain, press out excess water and repeat if necessary until water runs out clear. After final rinse, remove bag from tub **carefully** (if too much water is left in the bag, strain may be placed on the insulation's stitching) and place on flat surface (floor or ground) on towels or old sheets to keep bag clean until it air dries. As bag begins to dry, turn occasionally, and when bag nears complete dryness, shake periodically to restore loft.