

For the Love of Laundry

Get a load of these gorgeous laundry rooms, then find some tips for your own!



PAINT
Teresa's Green
by Farrow & Ball

Room design by The Fox Group

space saver

Designer Allison Lind's client in Belfair, WA, had only one spot for a laundry area—right by the front door. "It's convenient, but it doesn't exactly say 'welcome to our home,'" Allison says. To make the most of the tight space, she built a shelf behind the machines and enclosed them in a custom cabinet.



PAINT
Kind Green
by Sherwin-Williams

SPREAD, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: SCOTT DAVIS; VIVIAN JOHNSON; WYNNE H EARLE; AVERY NICOLE PHOTOGRAPHY



PAINT
Black Pool
by Dunn-Edwards

clever hideaway

When it's not in use, the laundry area in this Portola Valley, CA, home looks like ordinary cabinetry. "Our plan was to have a place for everything, and everything in its place," says designer Sheila Kramer. In addition to cabinets for the machines, she installed a pull-out drying rack that slides behind closed doors.



PAINT
Funky Yellow
by Sherwin-Williams

bold color

"The cabinet company asked twice if I gave them the correct color," says designer Lindsie Davis of this lemon-hued project in Austin, TX. She tied in the cabinets with Schumacher wallpaper and floor tiles from Casa Vita Bella. "The room is only 8' x 8' so our mantra was 'small space, big impact!'"

smart drying

Designer Elizabeth Mathieson focused on creating plenty of air-drying areas for her Glen Ellyn, IL, client's laundry nook. The custom hanging racks roll in and out on casters at the top. "This is a great solution for a narrow space," she says. "Plus, the airflow is still good when you push the racks in, so you can dry your clothing quickly and neatly."

PAINT
Herb Bouquet
by Benjamin Moore



PAINT
Rose Dust
by Benjamin Moore

a home for hampers

Three little boys live and create lots of laundry in this Edina, MN, home: The family has four rolling hampers! To keep them out of the way, designer Andy Porter built open cabinets. He created a peaceful mood with muted pink paint and cloud-print Cole & Son wallpaper.

SPREAD, CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT: MARGARET RAJIC; SPACECRAFTING; JESSIE PREZA; DAVID PAUL BAYLES

counters galore

You can never have enough room for folding, so builder Cressa Campos incorporated plenty of counters into this Corvallis, OR, space. Because the area doubles as a mudroom, utility was key. "We wanted it to feel light and bright but also really functional," she says.

PAINT MATCH
Hardware
by Sherwin-Williams



big on built-ins

No bending is required in this Shorewood, MN, space. The homeowners worked with Amy Hendel to design cabinetry that raises the washer and dryer 28 inches, the perfect height for changing loads. Beneath each machine is a ledge that pulls out for laundry baskets.

PAINT MATCH
Blissful Blue
by Sherwin-Williams



TIME FOR A NEW WASHING MACHINE?

Check out four of the newest, coolest models.



AI-Powered

The built-in stain reader knows how to treat different types of dirt and wash delicate fabrics.

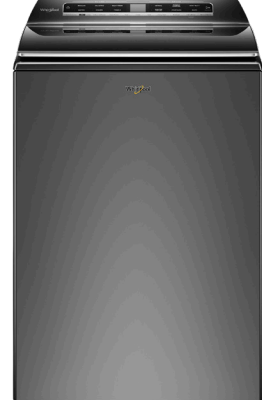
GE Profile Front Load 950 Series, \$1,549, geappliances.com



Super Speedy

A cycle takes just 49 minutes and there's a gentle tumble option with steam to reduce ironing needs.

WXR860 washer with IntenseWash, \$2,449, mieleusa.com for stores



Customizable

You can easily remove this model's agitator to give bulky items more space.

Washer with 2 in 1 Removable Agitator, \$1,259, whirlpool.com



For Pet Owners

This machine has two pet-hair filters to remove six times the hair and help reduce odors.

Smart Top Load washer with Pet Care Solution, \$1,049, samsung.com

PICK A FRONT LOADER IF...

- Energy- and water-efficiency are top priorities.
- Space is tight; front loaders are stackable.
- You want a deeper clean. Tumbling helps remove dirt.

PICK A TOP LOADER IF...

- You like to presoak your clothes.
- You're on a budget; these tend to be more affordable.
- You prefer the ease of loading from above.

Upgrade the Essentials



pocket folding ironing board
\$90, us.josephjoseph.com



that '70s catchall tray
Burner Babe, 6" x 10", \$18, urbanoutfitters.com



pilo 2 fabric shaver
\$65, steamery.us



reusable glass spray bottle
\$10, thrivemarket.com



stain brush
\$14, thelaundress.com



mobile canvas bin
20" tall, \$198, anthropologie.com



tropical sunset dryer balls
\$32 for 6, friendssheepwool.com



washing-up bowl
\$22, us.josephjoseph.com

How Laundry Savvy Are You?



Take this true-or-false quiz.

- 1** Hot water works best to remove oily stains. **T F**
- 2** You should let lint collect on the dryer filter until it's a thick sheet and easy to remove. **T F**
- 3** The heat from the dryer is the main cause of shrinking. **T F**
- 4** Wool, silk, and linen don't have to be dry-cleaned. **T F**
- 5** To clean your machine, you can add mild dish soap to the empty drum before running a cycle. **T F**
- 6** You should button shirts and pants before tossing them in the wash. **T F**
- 7** Using fabric softener can shorten a towel's life span. **T F**
- 8** Washing sheets with other clothes prevents pilling. **T F**
- 9** Washing machines have a lint filter just like dryers. **T F**
- 10** You can leave wet clothes in a washing machine for up to 12 hours before they need to be rewashed. **T F**

BONUS

Match the symbol to its meaning.

- Bleach as needed
- Do not dry-clean
- Dry flat
- Machine-wash hot (140°F)
- Tumble dry gentle cycle

- Tumble dry (140°F)
- Machine-wash hot
- Do not dry-clean
- Bleach as needed
- Dry flat
- Bleach as needed
- Tumble dry gentle cycle

ANSWERS

- 1. T** Hot or warm water is best for greasy and oily laundry—that includes sweaty workout clothes!
- 2. F** Even a little lint can create a big problem—it's combustible and dryers cause 14,000 home fires per year.
- 3. F** The main reason clothes shrink in the dryer is from tumbling—it's why you'll see "do not tumble dry" on labels.
- 4. T** Unless the label says "dry-clean only," most fabrics can be hand-washed or put in a delicate cold-water cycle.
- 5. F** Never add dish soap to your washer unless you want a mountain of suds. Instead, use distilled white vinegar—the acids dissolve minerals, grease, and grime.
- 6. F** You should secure zippers and Velcro, but skip buttoning clothes. A wash cycle can stress the buttons.
- 7. T** Fabric softener coats fibers, so while it makes towels fluffier, it also makes them less absorbent over time.
- 8. F** You should wash sheets alone so they won't rub against harsh fibers, plus they need room to circulate.
- 9. T** It's typically in the center agitator or the drum's top lip, and you should clean it several times a year. Check the manual!
- 10. F** If a load has been left for eight hours or more, give it another wash. Otherwise, it may start to smell!

HOW DID YOU DO?

1-3 POINTS Better luck next cycle.

4-7 POINTS Not bad, but you could use a boost.

8-10 POINTS You're a laundry machine!