

Cleaning the Marching Uniform

The only parts of the marching uniform that can be cleaned at home are the jacket snap-in collar, your gloves, and your shoes. The jacket and pants should be sent to a dry cleaner.

Allow at least four days of lead time to clean your uniform. If the band performs on Friday, for example, the LATEST you should take it to the cleaner is MONDAY.

Jacket Cleaning Instructions:

1. Remove the white snap-in collar from the jacket before taking it to the cleaner.
2. The snap-in collar can be machine-washed at home, using warm water and detergent. However, the collar should be AIR DRIED only. If the collar is dried in a dryer, it will shrink and will no longer fit the jacket.
3. Check the inside pocket before cleaning, as well as the front snaps and shoulder epaulet buttons. If the snaps or buttons are loose or missing, inform one of the official uniform moms at your next performance. Arrive early enough so that we can fix it.
4. Take the jacket to a reliable dry cleaner, along with the pants. Verify the pick-up time, and REMEMBER TO PICK IT UP☺!
5. Store the jacket and pants on the uniform hanger. Leave the garment bag unzipped to allow the uniform to breathe.
6. DO NOT STORE YOUR UNIFORM IN YOUR CAR!
7. Do NOT press your jacket with an iron.

Pants Cleaning Instructions:

1. Some suspenders are permanently attached to the pants, while others are buttoned in. *If you are issued button-in suspenders, PLEASE REMOVE THEM* before sending the pants to the cleaners. If you forget, the cleaning solution and heat used by dry cleaners will permanently damage the suspenders.
2. Alert the cleaner to any spots on the pants, especially around the bottom where mud can splash.
3. When the pants return, be sure to button the suspenders back into the pants.
4. Hang the pants on the uniform hanger by aligning the leg creases. Make sure the legs are straight, and then slip them on to the hanger. You will need to pull the pant legs so that they hang lower than the upper portion, since the weight of the suspenders will cause them to slip on the hangers.
5. Check with uniform moms regarding the suspender adjustment after you've cleaned your marching pants.
6. Do NOT press your pants with an iron. Hang them up carefully to prevent wrinkles.

Gloves and Elastics:

1. The cotton gloves and elastics are machine washable, but must be AIR DRIED or they will shrink.
2. Gently re-shape the gloves after laundering to help them fit properly.