

LAUNDRY SAVVY

The task of washing and ironing is anything but pleasurable. Cure your washroom blues with a few minor adjustments to your laundry space and routine. A dreary laundry can make the task even more tedious so paint the room a bright and cheery colour, and dress it up with a wicker hamper and a cute and quirky ironing board cover. Place a CD player or MP3 player near the laundry area so you can tune in and sing along to your favourite tunes to pass the time.

To pro-long the life of your garments, sort your laundry according to each item's fabric, colour and sturdiness and don't forget to check the pockets - nothing wrecks havoc on a load of clothes like a forgotten lipstick or ballpoint pen!

Invest in a high-quality environmentally-friendly washing machine and try using laundry detergent powders rather than liquids. Tests by consumer watchdog Choice have proved that laundry detergent powders perform better than liquids, and concentrates are the best to use.

Treat stains immediately. The faster you treat them, the easier they will be to remove. Treat with stain remover or alternatively try using lemon juice on white clothes, and hanging them in the

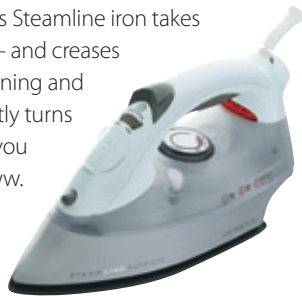
sun. Both the lemon juice and the sun will work as bleaching agents. Another wives tale is to rub white vinegar into shirt armpits to remove sweat stains.

To help minimise wrinkles don't overstuff the washer and hang permanent-press garments while they are still slightly damp to allow wrinkles to fall out naturally. Give them an extra boost with a mist of wrinkle-releasing spray.

Invest in a high-quality iron and ironing board. Ironing board covers are just as important as the board itself. Choose a cover with a foam padding that's adjustable for a snug fit to provide a smooth surface for a better iron.

Beat the crease

Kambrook's Steamline iron takes the worry – and creases – out of ironing and conveniently turns itself off if you forget. www.kambrook.com.au



Cute n' Quirky

Dandi ironingboard cover, available in prints of holly berry, olive branch chocolate and pistachio. www.dandi.com.au



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