

INSTRUMENTALISTS UNIFORM WASHING INSTRUCTIONS

UNIFORM: Take home entire uniform, garment bag, and raincoat to WASH and DRY. If there are ANY spots on jackets (from saxophone straps, food, etc.) please spot treat (e.g. Shout) before washing. Close all zippers. Turn jacket inside out so as to reduce stress on buttons. Machine wash all uniform pieces in COLD water on gentle cycle, including the gauntlets if they are dirty—put wrong sides of regular gauntlets together (place percussion gauntlets stacked front to back) so Velcro sticks and wash in a mesh "delicates" bag, if you have one. Lay gauntlets flat, separated, to dry. All other pieces can be tumbled dry on LOW HEAT. Hang IMMEDIATELY once dry to reduce wrinkles and the garment will not need to be repressed. Make sure pant hems are snapped back to pressed hem line. (You can count exposed snaps on inside snap-tape to make sure they're even.) If you must press hems, make sure to use a pressing cloth and lots of steam. (Directly ironing over the snap area will leave shine marks if you don't use a pressing cloth.)

This is also a good time to wash your gloves! Including pink gloves. Pink gloves will be returned with the rest of the uniform. You can keep black gloves or place them in your garment bag pocket.

Gauntlets should be stored FLAT in your garment bag pocket and NOT in your shako box.

RAINCOAT: Instructions are on a label inside, but briefly: the raincoats can be machine washed in cold water, gentle cycle, if they are dirty. Then they can be tumbled dry on LOW HEAT, or hung to dry—first INSIDE OUT, then right-side out. Do not place raincoats in uniform garment bags.

GARMENT BAG: Yes, these can also be machine washed in cold water, on gentle cycle, if they are dirty. Remove everything from bag pockets first (*especially the paper labels in the front clear pocket*) and close all zippers!

There should be two papers labels: one color label with the students name/number, and one white label with just the uniform number behind the color label. Do not wash garment bags with the paper labels still in the front clear pocket! They are removed/replaced from inside the bag. Replace paper labels after washing.

HATS: Remove Shako from hat box, wipe dry, and allow to air dry completely. Wipe out hat box if necessary. Once Shako is dry, place it flat top-side down in the hat box.

Sousaphone players may wash berets by hand or machine in cold water, and hang to dry.

SHOES: Remember to clean the mud off of your Dinkles! Dinkles are kept at home.

REPAIRS: If you notice that ANYTHING needs to be done to a uniform (replace buttons, re-stitch zippers, reinforce seams, mend snags, or patch holes, including on garment bags!) please send us an email at Uniforms@HamptonBands.org AND pin a note to the outside of the garment bag. Thank you!

REFITTING FOR SPRING BAND TRIP: We will offer several dates in late winter/early spring at which time students SHOULD try on their uniforms to see if they need to have a different uniform assigned or any alterations made BEFORE the band trip. Even if they don't think they've changed sizes, it's still a good idea to have them schedule a fitting appointment. We can't fix things once on the trip, and they will have to march in the current uniform they have assigned to them.