

## Waterproof Clothing Care Advice

by www.muddyfaces.co.uk

Performance Fabric — Nylon
Hydrophilic MVP (Breathable) Coating
Teflon ® proofed
Care Instructions
DO NOT STORE DAMP, DRIP DRY
DO NOT DRY ON A RADIATOR OR HEATER
DO NOT USE FABRIC CONDITIONERS
DO NOT LAUNDER IN BIOLOGICAL
WASHING POWDER
Do not allow coated material to come into
contact with insect repellent, hair spray or alcohol
based products
Hand or machine wash at 40°c
Tumble Dry Briefly on cool or Hang to Dry

## **Waterproof Clothing - Care Advice**

Waterproof clothing, that is maintained in the correct way, should last for a long time, giving good value for money. You can very quickly reduce the effectiveness of waterproof material, so it is important to understanding the clothing and how to care for it correctly.

## Caring for your waterproof clothing is a bit of a balance.

Dirt and residue can build up on your waterproof clothing, affecting the garments breathability and waterproof efficiency. Washing the garments too frequently, reduces the effectiveness of waterproof clothing. In our experience at Muddy Faces, incorrect washing is the most common reason for waterproof clothing failure.

## Clothing is better left muddy than machine washing

Even if you are following care guides exactly, the waterproofing of a garment will be reduced each time they are machine washed.

We have set out below washing and care guidelines for waterproof clothing. **PLEASE REMEMBER** to refer to the care labels for each specific garment and carefully follow instructions.

**CLEANING** - The way you clean your waterproofs can make the difference from them lasting a few weeks to lasting a few years.

I try not to wash my waterproofs in the washing machine at all. I leave them muddy and brush the mud off when it dries or I use the bucket cleaning technique - see below. The clothing rarely looks as clean as it did when brand new but I want my waterproofs to last for as long as possible.

**BUCKET WASH** - Fill a bucket with cool water. DO NOT ADD ANY DETERGENT. Before washing the garment, brush off any loose mud or dirt. Close zips, velcro fastenings and flaps on jackets and trousers. Put the waterproofs into the bucket and slosh around. Two buckets may be necessary if they are particularly dirty. Hang up to dry in a position that allows air movement.

**DETERGENT** - Waterproof clothing should never be washed using ordinary detergent or fabric softener. The chemicals in detergent can break down the composition of the fibres with each wash and strip the fabric of its waterproof coating.

**MACHINE WASH** - Washing waterproof clothing in a machine, even if following care instructions carefully, can reduce their waterproof lifespan. If you are washing in a machine make sure the detergent compartment of your washing machine is clean of any detergent or softener. If you run a hot wash program whilst the machine is empty, prior to washing the waterproofs, it will clear any residue from detergent or softener.

Remember to always check the label of your garment for exact care details.

After washing the garment hang up to air dry or tumble dry on a low or medium heat, **IF** garment care instructions allow.

**LOW HEAT**- Heat can affect waterproof materials. Most garment care labels will state NO HOT WASH AND NO TUMBLE DRY. Heat can delaminate certain types of materials.

**STORAGE**- Make sure all waterproofs dry before storing away, to avoid them becoming moldy or musty. Avoid storing in direct sunlight.

If you notice that the fabric of your jacket or trousers is absorbing rather than repelling water you may also need to re-waterproof your garment.