

How To Care For Your Sweaters
August 24, 2015.
Megan Chase
Publisor

You're adorned with adoration for having some seriously fancy sweaters, just remember that after wearing them a few times, you'll need to clean them without losing the new look and feel! Dry-cleaning may be convenient but the chemicals they use can strip the natural oils from the materials, causing it to lose softness and luster over time. Here are some of the best ways to care for your sweaters, keeping them clean and pristine.

1. **Use your hands.** Even if your washing machine has the right cycle, it's suggested to wash the items by hand. Fill a clean bucket or sink with cool water, add a few squirts of gentle cleanser (such as a wool and cashmere shampoo or baby shampoo), mix and add your sweaters. After 30 minutes, rinse under the tap until water runs clear, and press out the excess water – never wring your clothing!
2. **Dry it right.** Sweaters should be laid flat to dry, draping them over something like the back of a chair will cause the article to become misshapen. A collapsible sweater rack allows you to dry multiple sweaters at a time, and when they're completely dry, store them neatly folded. Do not hang them on hangers, which can stretch out the sleeves.
3. **Maintain their appearance.** If your sweater begins to pill, just gently skim the surface with a sweater stone (a pumice-like rock) in one direction instead of the small electric shavers, as they snag or puncture the fabric. The tailor at your local dry cleaner is usually capable of handling repairs on your fancy sweaters, while they prefer to use the extra thread that originally came with your sweater.